

A brief guide to the key updates to the Academic Regulations and Procedures for 2018-2019

Student and Academic Services August 2018

Information for students and staff

This is a brief guide to the key updates to the academic regulations for 2018/2019. Please refer to the [Academic regulations and procedures](#) webpage for the complete document. Other useful information about the regulations is available on the [Academic Advice](#) webpages.

The changes outlined in this document are presented as follows:

- **Change** – a change to an existing regulation.
- **Update** - updates on procedures, deadlines and terminology.

Presentation of the regulations

Volume 1 - The Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught Academic Regulations have been streamlined for the 2018/2019 academic year. Only the regulations will feature in the main document. Associated policies and procedures (for example, personal circumstances) will be signposted to from the regulations.

The entire document has been renumbered.

Volume 2 – The Postgraduate Research regulations and procedures will form part two of the documentation.

Change - calculation of Masters Awards

The previous Masters Degree calculation determined the final differential level of award by using the lowest mark from two criteria:

- the final dissertation/project or,
- the total weighted mark from the best 120 credits.

The new calculation will just use a weighted mean of the best 120 credits to determine the final differential level of an award.

N3 Masters degrees

A **merit** will be awarded where a weighted average of at least 60% has been achieved across any combination of modules at level M totalling 120 credits.

A **distinction** will be awarded where a weighted average of at least 70% has been achieved across any combination of modules at level M totalling 120 credits.

Change - Number of attempts at Masters Dissertation modules

Previously, students were entitled to one attempt by right at Masters Dissertation modules (an attempt has one sit and one resit). The new regulations enable students enrolling on Masters Dissertation modules as of September 2018 to have two attempts by right.

D1 Masters Dissertation type modules

A student has the right to two attempts. Within each they have one sit and one resit.

Change - Posthumous awards

A deceased student will now be granted the target award on which they were registered, irrespective of how much of the programme had been completed prior to their death. For example, a student on Level 1 of an honours degree will be awarded the degree, a student on a Masters award will be awarded the full Masters.

A posthumous degree will be granted with honours, but will be unclassified if a student did not complete their studies. Any other type of award will be undifferentiated unless there was enough information from the final level to make a calculation on an outcome possible. If a student completed their studies, then the award will be classified/differentiated as normal.

M2 Posthumous awards

A deceased student will be granted a normal award posthumously if registered at the time of death and they completed all the required assessment.

A deceased student will be granted an unclassified or undifferentiated aegrotat award posthumously if registered at the time of death but they did not complete all the required assessment. The student will be granted the award on which they were registered

Update – missed assessment / removal of mark application deadlines for 2018/2019

- **Postgraduate Dissertation modules (for students completing their award)**
14:00 on 19 October 2018
- **Health and Applied Sciences (November 2018 exam boards)**
14:00 on 09 November 2018
- **Modules completed by the end of assessment period 1**
14:00 on 8 February 2019
- **Health and Applied Sciences (March 2019 exam boards)**
14:00 on 22 March 2019

Modules completed by the end of assessment period 2

14:00 on 7 June 2019

- **Modules completed by the end of assessment period 3**

14:00 on 2 August 2019

Modules completed by the end of assessment period 4

14:00 on 16 August 2019

Update – suspension of studies deadlines 2018/2019

C6. Programme start date

September 2018

January 2019

April 2019

Suspension of Studies deadline

07 April 2019

04 August 2019

10 November 2019

Change – postgraduate research regulations

Postgraduate Research Regulations (prefixed PGR)

Re-presentation of, and updates to, the Postgraduate Research (PGR) Degrees regulations. The changes this year are minor with a small number of regulations becoming procedures and some amendments have been made to reflect current practice. PGR15.1.3R has been renumbered as PGR15.2.1R, PGR15.11.7R has been renumbered as PGR15.2.2R as per the Graduate School handbook.