



UCL Academic Manual 2017-18

Chapter 8: Derogations and Variations

Master of Laws (LLM) Scheme of Award 2017/18

The LLM Scheme of Award applies to all new and continuing students enrolled on the 2017-18 academic session.

Power and Discretion of the Board

- 1) Subject to the requirements of Chapter 4 of the Assessment Framework for Taught Programmes of the UCL Academic Manual (hereafter 'Chapter 4'), the Laws Postgraduate Board of Examiners, which is re-constituted each year, may amend these principles and exercise its discretion in their application according to the circumstances of each candidate.

Award Requirements

- 2) For an award of Master of Laws (LLM), a candidate must have completed modules consisting of a total of 180 credits, including an Independent Research Essay (IRE) worth 60 credits and 120 credits of taught modules.
- 3) Subject to paras. 34 and 35 below, the following interim qualifications may be awarded:

- (i) a Postgraduate Diploma in Law (Diploma), for which a candidate must have completed 120 credits of taught modules and met or surpassed the standard qualification PG Dip learning outcomes as required by para. 12.11.3 of Chapter 4.
- (ii) a Postgraduate Certificate in Law (Certificate), for which a candidate must have completed 60 credits of taught modules and met or surpassed the standard qualification PG Cert learning outcomes as required by para. 12.10.3 of Chapter 4.

Marks

- 4) The final mark awarded for each module shall be a whole number out of 100.
- 5) A student passes a module if awarded a final mark of 50% or above.
- 6) A module is 'passed' when a candidate has been academically assessed in all of the examined components relating to the module and achieved the Pass Mark for the module as a whole.
- 7) In the case of an unauthorised absence from an examination or unauthorised non-submission of summative coursework, a mark of zero shall be recorded for the element of the assessment which has not been submitted, or the examination that has not been sat. In addition, and irrespective of whether the candidate passes the module on aggregate, the assessment in that module shall be considered incomplete and the candidate shall be required to resit the component.
- 8) Students are expected to adhere to the relevant rubric, submission date and word count requirements for each assessment, as well as the rules relating to non-plagiarism and appropriate citation. Students who fail to adhere to these parameters may receive a reduction in marks, as set out in the relevant paragraphs ('Assessment Penalties') of the LLM Student Handbook.
- 9) When calculating an average mark for all modules taken by a candidate:
 - (a) marks shall be weighted according to the credit values of modules, and
 - (b) the average mark for all modules shall be rounded to the nearest whole number, if necessary.

Extenuating Circumstances

- 10) A Faculty or Departmental Extenuating Circumstances Panel shall have authority to consider circumstances notified in the proper form (and supported by appropriate evidence) which may have affected a candidate's ability to sit an assessment, submit a coursework or performance in an assessment and to prescribe the appropriate mitigation in accordance with paragraph 6 of Chapter 4.

Consequences of Failure

Failure at First Attempt

- 11) A candidate who fails one or more modules may be permitted to enter for the assessment for each failed module on one further occasion. A reassessment is not necessary if a fail has been condoned pursuant to Principle 37 below.

A student who does not pass all modules at the first attempt should be reassessed in the failed module(s) unless they a) are eligible for condonement pursuant to Principle 37 below, OR

b) have been awarded an interim qualification, OR

c) have been excluded from UCL on the grounds of academic insufficiency, OR

d) have been excluded from UCL as a result of academic or personal misconduct.

- 12) Where a student fails up to and including 60 taught credits in any one academic session reassessment must take the form of a **Resit**.

- 13) Where a student fails more than 60 taught credits in any one academic session, reassessment should take the form of a **Repeat**. Where a Repeat is considered to be impossible, the Board of Examiners may offer the student the opportunity to take the failed assessments as Resits.

- 14) Where a student fails an Independent Research Essay, reassessment should take the form of a Resit unless the Programme Board of Examiners agrees that, in its academic judgement, the extent of failure is such that additional supervision is needed to retrieve that failure. Such students may be required to repeat the Dissertation/ Research Project with attendance and fees.

- 15) A student who meets the Award Requirements must not be reassessed.

- 16) A student must not be reassessed in a Passed or Condoned module.

- 17) A student must not be permitted to make corrections to a piece of work after the submission deadline or examination date.
- 18) The assessment for a module must be completed within two years of initial enrolment on the module or, where a module is substituted, within two years of initial enrolment on the module which has been substituted.
- 19) This period of two years may be extended at the discretion of UCL Academic Policy and Quality Assurance on behalf of the Vice-Provost (Education & Student Affairs). Applications must be made via the Faculty Tutor.

Failure at the Second Attempt

- 20) A student who does not pass reassessed modules at the second attempt must leave the programme.
- 21) A student who must leave the programme may be eligible for an Interim Qualification pursuant to paragraphs 3 above and 34 and 35 below.

Resits

- 23) A Resit is a second attempt at an assessment in the Late Summer Assessment Period (or equivalent), including resubmission of an IRE, without any additional tuition and with marks capped at the Pass Mark.
 - 24) Taught module Resits must take place within or before the Late Summer Assessment Period.
 - 25) For the IRE, Resits *must* take place by 31 January of the following academic session.
- [25a Separate Regulations apply to students undertaking a deferral, as set out in Chapter 4 (Section 6.10 Deferred Assessment).]
- 26) Resitting students *must* be reassessed in the failed module component(s).
 - 27) Where a student passes a Resit, the module mark(s) must be capped at the Pass Mark of 50%.
 - 28) Where a student fails a Resit, the higher mark from the two attempts will be recorded for the affected component(s).

Repeats

29) A Repeat is a second attempt at an assessment in the following academic session with tuition and fees and with marks capped at the Pass Mark.

30) A student who is required to Repeat must re-enrol on the failed modules in the following academic session.

31) Repeating students should be reassessed in all the components of the failed module(s).

32) Where a student Passes a Repeat, the module mark(s) must be capped at the Pass Mark of 50%.

33) Where a student fails a Repeat, the marks from the Repeat attempt will be recorded.

Classification

Interim Qualifications

34) A candidate who fails to satisfy the requirements for an award of LLM but satisfies the requirements for an award of Diploma may:

- (a) opt to be awarded the Diploma rather than enter for reassessment, or
- (b) be awarded the Diploma following unsuccessful reassessment.

35) A candidate who fails to satisfy the requirements for an award of LLM or Diploma but satisfies the requirements for an award of Certificate may:

- (a) opt to be awarded the Certificate rather than enter for reassessment, or
- (b) be awarded the Certificate following unsuccessful reassessment.

Criteria of Assessment for Pass

36) The LLM with Pass, Diploma with Pass, or Certificate may be awarded to a candidate who has obtained a mark of at least 50 in every module.

37) The LLM with Pass or Diploma with Pass may be awarded to a candidate who fails in modules worth no more than 30 credits in total if the candidate has obtained a mark of at least 40 in each failed module. If an award is made on this basis, the marks will stand but the failed modules will be recorded as condoned fails.

Criteria of Assessment for Merit

38) Subject to principles 27 and 32, the LLM with Merit may be awarded to a candidate who has obtained a mark of at least 50 in every module plus either:

- (a) an average mark for all modules of at least 60, or
- (b) marks of at least 60 in modules worth a total of 120 credits.

39) An award with merit cannot be given for the Diploma or Certificate.

Criteria of Assessment for Distinction

40) Subject to principles 27 and 32, the LLM with Distinction may be awarded to a candidate who has obtained a mark of at least 60 in every module plus either:

- (a) an average mark for all modules of at least 70, or
- (b) marks of at least 70 in modules worth a total of 90 credits.

41) Subject to principles 27 and 32, the Diploma with Distinction may be awarded to a candidate who has obtained a mark of at least 60 in every module plus either:

- (a) an average mark for all modules of at least 70, or
- (b) marks of at least 70 in modules worth a total of 60 credits.

42) An award with distinction cannot be given for the Certificate.