

Taught Postgraduate

Year-on-Year Comparison of Regulations 2016-2019

Covering Masters Degrees, Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates

The following is provided as a brief, quick-reference guide to the changes in the main UCL regulations from year to year and should not be viewed as a replacement for the full regulations. Full details of the former variations and derogations have not been included - please refer to your previous regulatory documents for details. There is a separate document for the changes relating to Institute of Education programmes.

Blue boxes denote a change in the regulations		2016-17	2017-18	2018-19
1. Programme Structures				
Academic Level		Masters/ Graduate (Some programmes include Advanced modules).		Level 7 (Some programmes include Level 6 modules).
PG Cert		Minimum 60 credits		
PG Dip		Minimum 120 credits		
Taught Masters	Credits	Minimum 180 credits		
	Dissertation	Must include a Dissertation or Independent Research Project of at least 60 credits. Some derogations.		Must include at least 30 credits of in-depth research or scholarly activity in the form of a Dissertation or other Substantive Project.
Masters by Research	Credits	Minimum 180 credits		
	Dissertation	Should include a Dissertation or Independent Research Project with minimum 105 credits, maximum 150 credits (pro rata for programmes >180 credits). Some derogations.		
Derogations	IOE	Separate IOE regulations.		UCL regulations including Letter Grade method (see separate document for details).
	MA/ MFA Fine Art in the Slade	Separate MA/ MFA regulations.		UCL regulations for Non-modular programmes included in main UCL regulations.
	Laws (LLM)	Separate LLM regulations.		UCL regulations <i>except</i> Classification for students first enrolling in 2017-18 or earlier, where the former derogation will be phased out.
2. Marking Scale				
Marking Scale		Variable numeric scales.		Percentages as standard. Letter Grade system can be used, subject to approval (but must be used throughout programme).
Pass Mark		50% (40% where UG modules are included).		50.00% (40.00% where Level 6 modules are included).
Condonable Range		40-49% (30-39% where Level 6 modules are included).		40.00-49.99% (30.00-39.99% where Level 6 modules are included).

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3. Module Assessment				
Module Pass Criteria		Weighted mean of a Pass, plus at least a Pass in any essential/ Non-condonable component.		
Non-condonable Components		Some Components must be passed to pass the module.	Non-condonable Components permitted on Non-condonable Modules, subject to approval.	
Pass/ Fail Components		n/a	Pass/Fail Components can be used, subject to approval i.e. Component must be passed but does not contribute to module mark.	
Qualifying Marks		Some programmes include modules/ components with Pass Marks higher than standard UCL Pass Mark.	Pass Mark is 50.00% for Level 7 and 40.00% for any level 6 modules.	
Module Mark Rounding (Numeric Scale only)		Variable	All component and module marks rounded to 2 decimal places.	
Late Submissions		Sliding scale of penalties.		
Word Count Penalties		Can be set locally – maximum 10 percentage point deduction in marks.		
4. Progression & Award Requirements				
Progression		Some programmes include Progression Requirements between years of study.	Programmes of more than one year may include 'Continuation Requirements', subject to approval and recorded in the Programme Summary ('Progression' only takes place between Academic Levels).	
Award Requirements	PG Cert	Condonement possible in up to 25% of credits. Pass remaining credits AND achieve a weighted average of at least 50%. Some derogations.	a) Pass all Non-Condonable Modules, AND b) Attain marks in the Condonable Range in no more than 15 credits , AND c) Pass the remaining credits, AND d) Achieve a credit-weighted mean of at least 50.00% across all credits.	
	PG Dip	Condonement possible in up to 25% of credits. Pass remaining credits AND achieve a weighted average of at least 50%. Some derogations.	a) Pass all Non-Condonable Modules, AND b) Attain marks in the Condonable Range in no more than 30 credits , AND c) Pass the remaining credits, AND d) Achieve a credit-weighted mean of at least 50.00% across all credits.	
	Masters (inc MRes)	Condonement possible in up to 25% of taught credits. Pass remaining credits AND achieve a weighted average of at least 50%. Some derogations.	a) Pass all Non-Condonable Modules, AND b) Attain marks in the Condonable Range in no more than 30 taught credits , AND c) Pass the remaining taught credits, AND d) Pass the Dissertation/ Substantive Project, AND e) Achieve a credit-weighted mean of at least 50.00% across all credits. Subject to approval, programmes with >180 credits may include a higher volume of condonable credit, up to a	

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				maximum of 25% of the taught credits. Recorded in Programme Summary.
Condonable Range		Masters: 40-49%. UG modules: 30-39%.		Level 7: 40.00-49.99% Level 6 modules: 30.00-39.99%
Non-Condonable Modules	Taught modules	In some faculties.		Subject to approval, if module is Compulsory or if required by a Professional Body.
	Masters Dissertation/ Research Project	All Masters Dissertations/ Research Projects are Non-condonable.		
Application of Condonement	At first attempt	If a student fails at the first attempt they may be Condoned or they may be offered a Resit. Variable practice.	If a Full Time student meets the Condonement Criteria they must be condoned and will not Resit. On Part Time and Flexible programmes, condonement cannot be determined until the end of the taught modules. Students will therefore be entered automatically for a Resit if they fail a module.	
		If a student does not meet all of the Condonement Criteria practice varies.		
	At second attempt	If a student fails at the second attempt they will usually be Condoned, if all criteria are met.	If a student meets the Condonement Criteria they will be condoned.	
		Deferrals		

5. Classification

Resit and Condoned Marks		Students cannot be awarded a Merit or Distinction if they have a Resit or Condoned mark in their profile.	Students can be awarded a Merit or Distinction if they have a Resit or Condoned mark in their profile.
Rounding		Round to nearest integer and then determine eligibility for Classification or Borderline consideration. Variable interpretations.	Final Weighted Mark rounded to 2 decimal places.
PG Cert and PG Dip Classification Criteria	Distinction	Overall weighted average mark of 70% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.	Overall weighted average mark of 70% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer. OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 69% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least half of the credits at or above 70%.
		OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 69% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least half of the credits at or above 70% AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.	Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 69.50% across all credits. OR Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 68.50% across all credits AND module marks of at least 70.00% in at least 50% of the credits. On programmes with more than the standard number of credits, all credits count towards the Classification.
		AND at least half of the credits at or above 70% AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.	Resit and condoned marks criterion removed. Some derogations.

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		Some derogations.		
	Merit	<p>Overall weighted average mark of 60% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 59% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least half of the credits at or above 60% AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>Some derogations.</p>	<p>Overall weighted average mark of 60% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 59% across 60 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least half of the credits at or above 60%.</p> <p>Resit and condoned marks criterion removed.</p> <p>Some derogations.</p>	<p>Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 59.50% across all credits.</p> <p>OR Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 58.50% across all credits AND module marks of at least 60.00% in at least 50% of the credits.</p> <p>On programmes with more than the standard number of credits, all credits count towards the Classification.</p>
Taught Masters Classification Criteria	Distinction	<p>Overall weighted average mark of 70% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 70% in the dissertation AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 69% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least 70% in the dissertation AND at least half the taught credits at 70% or above AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>Some derogations.</p>	<p>Overall weighted average mark of 70% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 70% in the dissertation.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 69% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 70% in the dissertation AND at least half of the taught credits at or above 70%.</p> <p>Some derogations.</p>	<p>A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 69.50% across all credits.</p> <p>OR Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 68.50% across all credits AND Module marks of at least 70.00% in at least 50% of all credits.</p> <p>Separate Dissertation criterion removed. On programmes with more than the standard number of credits, all credits count towards the Classification. Borderlines are based on the preponderance of all credits including the dissertation, rather than just the taught credits.</p>
	Merit	Overall weighted average mark of 60% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer	Overall weighted average mark of 60% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer	A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 59.50% across all credits. OR

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		<p>AND a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 59% mean across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least 60% in the dissertation AND at least half the taught credits at 60% or above AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>Some derogations.</p>	<p>AND a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 59% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation AND at least half of the taught credits at or above 60%.</p> <p>Resit and Condoned marks criterion removed.</p> <p>Some derogations.</p>	<p>Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 58.50% across all credits AND Module marks of at least 60.00% in at least 50% of all credits.</p> <p>Separate Dissertation criterion removed. On programmes with more than the standard number of credits, all credits count towards the Classification. Borderlines are based on the preponderance of all credits including the dissertation, rather than just the taught credits.</p>
	Students Repeating Modules from 2017-18	n/a		The Classification will be based on both the weighted mean and the mark in the Dissertation/ Substantive Project, in line with the 2017-18 regulations. In all other respects, students who are undertaking a Repeat will be fully enrolled on the 2018-19 academic session and therefore subject to the 2018-19 regulations.
	MA and MFA Fine Art in the Slade	MA/ MFA Derogation.		Covered by the Non-modular sections of the main UCL regulations.
	LLM	LLM Derogation.		Standard UCL classification applies to new students only (former derogation being phased out).
MRes Classification Criteria	Distinction	<p>Overall weighted average mark of 70% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 70% in the dissertation AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 69% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least 70% in the dissertation</p>	<p>Overall weighted average mark of 70% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 70% in the dissertation.</p> <p>OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 69% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 70% in the dissertation AND at least half of the taught credits at or above 70%.</p>	<p>A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 69.50% across all credits AND a mark of at least 70.00% in the dissertation/ substantive project</p> <p>OR Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 68.50% across all credits AND a mark of at least 70.00% in the dissertation/ research project AND Module marks of at least 70.00% in at least 50% of the taught credits.</p> <p>On programmes with more than the standard number of credits, all credits count towards the Classification.</p> <p>Separate Dissertation criterion remains for MRes.</p>

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		AND at least half the taught credits at 70% or above AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts.		No derogations.
	Merit	Overall weighted average mark of 60% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts. OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 59% mean across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND at least 60% in the dissertation AND at least half the taught credits at 60% or above AND no marks below 50%, no condoned marks, no re-sit marks and all marks are first attempts. Some derogations.	Overall weighted average mark of 60% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation. OR [borderline] Overall weighted average mark of 59% across 180 credits after rounding to the nearest integer AND a mark of at least 60% in the dissertation AND at least half of the taught credits at or above 60%. Resit and Condoned marks criterion removed. Some derogations.	A Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 59.50% across all credits AND a mark of at least 60.00% in the dissertation/ substantive project OR Final Weighted Mark greater than or equal to 58.50% across all credits AND a mark of at least 60.00% in the dissertation/ research project AND Module marks of at least 60.00% in at least 50% of the taught credits. On programmes with more than the standard number of credits, all credits count towards the Classification. Separate Dissertation criterion remains for MRes. No derogations.

6. Reassessment and Deferrals

Marks	Resit and Repeat	Full Mark	Module marks capped at 50.00% (40.00% for any level 6 modules).
	Left-resitting students	Previous year's regulations apply: Full Mark	Previous year's regulations apply: Module marks capped at 50.00% (40.00% for any level 6 modules).
	Deferral of 1st attempt	Full Mark	
	Deferral of 2nd attempt	Full Mark	Module marks capped at 50.00% (40.00% for any level 6 modules).
Timing of Reassessment	PG Cert	Fail up to 15 credits	Student may be condoned or may be offered a Resit. If all the Condonement Criteria are met: the student will be condoned and will not Resit. If any of the Condonement Criteria are not met: Late Summer Resit
		Fail 16-30 credits	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees. Late Summer Resit
		Fail 31-60 credits	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can Late Summer Resit

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		opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.		
	PG Dip	Fail up to 30 credits	Student may be condoned or may be offered a Resit.	If all the Condonement Criteria are met: the student will be condoned and will not Resit. If any of the Condonement Criteria are not met: Late Summer Resit
		Fail 31-60 credits	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.	Late Summer Resit
		Fail >60 credits	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.	Repeat with attendance and fees.
	Masters (inc MRes)	Fail up to 30 taught credits	Student may be condoned or may be offered a Resit.	If all the Condonement Criteria are met: the student will be condoned and will not Resit. If any of the Condonement Criteria are not met: Late Summer Resit
		Fail 31-60 taught credits	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.	Late Summer Resit
		Fail >60 taught credits	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.	Repeat with attendance and fees.
		Fail Dissertation	Resit following year <i>with</i> attendance and fees as standard OR students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.	Resit Late Summer as standard. Board may decide that student requires a Repeat with tuition and fees.
	Opt-out of Repeat		Students can opt to Resit following year <i>without</i> attendance and fees.	Board of Examiners may permit Resit instead of Repeat.
	Students Barred from assessment		Repeat following year for full mark.	Repeat following year with tuition and fees. Treated as 2 nd attempt, marks capped at a Pass.
	Deferral without Tuition		Late Summer or following year without tuition and fees.	
	Deferral with Tuition		Following year with tuition and fees.	
Reassessment Requirements	Late Summer Resit		BoE decides which components are reassessed.	Resit failed components only.
	Repeat next year		BoE decides which components are reassessed.	Repeat all components.
	Deferral with or without Tuition		EC Panel decides whether some or all components are deferred.	
Module Substitutions	Late Summer Resit		n/a	Substitutions not possible as there is no additional teaching.
	Repeat next year		Students can substitute a Repeat module, with tuition and fees; treated as 2 nd attempt.	

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	Deferral without Tuition	Substitutions not possible as there is no additional teaching.		
	Deferral with Tuition	Substitutions possible in following year with attendance and fees; treated as a new 1 st attempt.		
7. Interim Qualifications				
PG Cert	Non-advertised Outcome	A PG Cert exit qualification is available as an option for the Board of Examiners on all UCL Masters and PG Dip programmes. If the PG Cert is not advertised, students need to meet the standard UCL interim qualification learning outcomes and will not receive a Merit or Distinction Classification.		
	Advertised Outcome	On some programmes, a PG Cert is an advertised exit point from a Masters and PG Dip. If the PG Cert is advertised, students need to meet programme-specific interim qualification learning outcomes and are eligible for a Merit or Distinction Classification.		
PG Dip	Non-advertised Outcome	A PG Dip exit qualification is available as an option for the Board of Examiners on all UCL Masters programmes. If the PG Dip is not advertised, students need to meet the standard UCL interim qualification learning outcomes and will not receive a Merit or Distinction Classification.		
	Advertised Outcome	On some programmes, a PG Dip is an advertised exit point from a Masters. If the PG Dip is advertised, students need to meet programme-specific interim qualification learning outcomes and are eligible for a Merit or Distinction Classification.		
Alternate Field of Study		Can be used if student doesn't meet programme-specific criteria.		
Aegrotat Degree		Available on all qualifications.		