Changes to Assessment 2017-18 and 2018-19

Education Committee has been conducting a comprehensive review of the Assessment Framework for Taught Programmes. In 2015-16, over 600 people attended a town hall meeting, discussion group or student focus group, and our online surveys generated 374 responses. Over 2,300 separate items of feedback were analysed and used to shape a new set of regulations suitable for all UCL’s taught programmes. A number of changes were introduced for 2016-17, and further changes are planned for 2017-18 and 2018-19.

This briefing gives an overview all of the changes which are being made. Further details about each development can be found in the briefings, discussion papers and data on the Academic Manual Events webpage.

Faculties and Departments will have the opportunity to hear more about the developments and to feed into the change process via a further UCL-wide consultation process throughout March and April 2017. Faculties will be invited to provide a response to Education Committee on the proposals, so if you would like to feed in comments, please contact your Faculty Tutor.

**2017-18**
- Late Summer Assessment Period
- New Resit, Repeat & Deferral Regulations
- Capping of Resit Marks
- Removal of Cap on PGT Classification for Resit and Condoned Students

Consultation deadline: **EdCom 25 April 2017**
So that you can update student handbooks etc.

**2018-19**
- UG Progression and Award Requirements
- UG Condonement
- UG and PGT Classification Algorithms
- Academic Model
- Programme Summaries
- Full Integration of Derogations

Consultation deadline: **EdCom 13 June 2017**
So that you have time to consider programme or module changes if necessary and so that we can rebuild Portico

**Plans for 2017-18:**

**Late Summer Assessment Period**

In 2014, Education Committee committed to introducing Late Summer Assessments across UCL. Pilots have been running over the last two years in preparation for full implementation in 2017-18. To accompany this, UCL has developed new Consequences of Failure regulations, drawing on the feedback from last year’s consultation process. **Briefing 2: Late Summer Assessment Regulations 2017-18** provides further details.
Plans for 2018-19:

Progression, Award and Classification

The 2015-16 consultation also included detailed discussion about proposals for changes to the Progression and Award regulations, including UG Condonement. This year, ARQASC has begun the process of reviewing UCL’s Classification regulations. The town hall and faculty consultation meetings in March and April 2017 will be used to present some initial findings and seek feedback from the UCL community. Your feedback will help to inform the final set of 2018-19 regulations which will be approved at Education Committee by the end of this academic year. Departments will then have a full year to prepare for implementation in September 2018.

For further details see Briefing 3: Undergraduate Progression and Award Requirements 2018-19 and the Classification Discussion Papers.

Derogations and Variations

QAA has asked UCL to minimise the current extent of regulatory variation and derogation across the institution. A key objective in developing the new regulations has therefore been ensuring that they are sufficiently flexible to work for as many programmes as possible. As a result, all derogations from the main UCL regulations will be discontinued and the main regulations will apply to all programmes. However, in certain clearly-defined areas, the regulations will permit some flexibility, and programmes will be able to apply for approved variations within the main regulations, for example:

- Non-modular programmes, such as those in Fine Art, English and the MBBS, will not be able to adopt all of the UCL regulations on Progression, Award, Condonement and Classification
- Programmes may want to designate one or more modules as Non-condonable
- Integrated Masters programmes may wish to set higher progression thresholds
- Modules may be marked on a Pass/Fail basis, as long as they do not contribute to the Classification
- Some programmes may prefer not to award a Classification e.g. those in clinical practise.

Academic Services will work closely with each Department to build appropriate regulations in these areas, facilitate the approval process by Education Committee and record the variations within the new Programme Summaries and in the new Academic Model.

Academic Model, Programme Summaries and Academic Review

In 2018-19, UCL will implement its new Academic Model, a reconfiguration of the fundamental structures within Portico where programmes and modules will be clearly and consistently defined, and Progression, Award, Classification and the Consequences of Failure calculated quickly and efficiently. In order to populate the new Academic Model, and establish where regulatory variations are needed (see above) there will be an extended Academic Review cycle during 2017-18 where Academic Services will work closely with each Department to review and record its current provision.

This process will include the implementation of ‘Programme Summaries’ for all UCL programmes. At present there are a range of documents which define a UCL programme, including the Programme Diet, Programme Specification, Scheme of Award and local/ Faculty-specific derogations. The Programme Summary is designed to replace all of these documents, creating a definitive record of each UCL programme in a standard format which acts as a single source of truth for other literature, such as programme handbooks, websites and the prospectus, and which is integrated with the Academic Model.

Chapter 10: Student Casework Framework

SRS is also working on a separate project to review UCL’s student casework regulations, including those on Complaints, Appeals, Examination Irregularities and Plagiarism. The revised procedures will be drawn into a single, new chapter of the Academic Manual, Chapter 10: Student Casework Framework. This will also include the Disciplinary Procedures, UCL-Student Relationship, Learning Agreements etc. Please look out for future updates on the development of this chapter.