UNIVERSITY OF WINCHESTER

AWARD AND CLASSIFICATION RULES AND CREDIT FRAMEWORK SUMMARY

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Summary/Description:	
This document summarises the credit requirements and the award and classification rules defined in the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes and the Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Research Programmes matched with data from (Re)Validated Programme Specifications. These rules are logged into the University's student record system (SITS) by Registry staff to ensure that all awards are correctly calculated and classified.	

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This list summarises the changes since 2016/17. The date confirms when the changes were implemented.

Implementation date	Changes Approved by Senate
2 March 2022	Removed reference to Graduate Diploma in Table 2 and 4
	Due to changes in credits and/or exemptions to the standard award calculations, added and updated the following awards in Table 2 and 4:
	• BEd(Hons) in Primary Education • BN (Hons) in Nursing
	Due to changes in credits and/or exemptions to the standard award calculations, added and updated the following awards in Table 3 and 4:
	• Professional Graduate Certificate in Education • PGCE • Masters B • Professional Masters A • Professional Doctorate A
	Added QTS to the list on non-credit load awards
	Added PGCert in Research Skills to PGCertC in Table 4
	Updated references to Examination Boards to Progression and Award Boards
1 September 2017	Updated to include details about Grade Point Average (GPA).

AWARD RULES AND CREDIT FRAMEWORK SUMMARY

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 This document summarises the credit requirements and the award and classification rules defined in the *Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes* and the *Academic Regulations for Postgraduate Research Programmes*. The Quality Office ensures that each Programme Specification matches an appropriate award calculation and classification pattern and provides advice to programmes that have queries about which pattern best suits their needs or whether a new pattern is required.

1.2 Where a new pattern is required, this may be approved via an exemption from the Academic Regulations or an amendment to the Academic Regulations, as determined by Academic Regulations, Policies & Procedures Committee and/or Senate Academic Development Committee, as appropriate.

1.3 Once a Programme has been (re)validated, the appropriate award and classification rules are logged into the University's student record system (SITS) by Registry staff to ensure that all awards are correctly calculated and classified, where appropriate.

1.4 The University operates a Credit Accumulation Transfer Scheme (CATS) in which modules have a national currency and the scheme is detailed Appendix 1 of the *Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes*. All references to credits in this document refer to CATS credits.

1.5 With effect from September 2017, the University shall implement a Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme for all modules taken at levels 4 – 6[1]. The GPA shall be recorded on each student's transcript and Higher Education Achievement Record (HEAR).

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[1] This shall be phased in over three years starting with new students studying at level 4 only in September 2017, ie students studying at level 5 or above in September 2017 shall be outside the GPA.

Where there is more than one Award Pattern for an award, eg A, B, C please refer to Section 4 below to confirm which pattern applies to which programme(s).

Award Code	Award Pattern	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3		Year 4		
		Level 4	Level 5	Level 5 or 6	Level 6	Level 6	Level 6 or 7	Level 7
CertHE	Certificate of Higher Education	120 credits *2						
DipHE	Diploma of Higher Education	120 credits *3	120 credits					
Fdn	Foundation Degree	120 credits *	120 credits					
B(Pass)	Bachelor Pass Degree	120 credits *	120 credits	60 credits				
TopB(Pass)	Top-up Bachelor Pass degree			60 credits				
TopB(Hons)	Top-up Bachelor with Honours			30 credits	90 credits			
B(Hons)A	Bachelor with Honours A	120 credits *	120 credits	30 credits	90 credits			
B(Hons)B	Bachelor with Honours B	120 credits	120 credits	120 credits				
BEd(Hons)A	Bachelor of Ed with Hons A	120 credits	120 credits	120 credits				
BEd(Hons)B	Bachelor of Ed with Hons B	120 credits	120 credits	120 credits		120 credits		
BEd(Hons)C	Bachelor of Ed with Hons C	120 credits *	120 credits	120 credits		Between 15 - 119 credits		
BN(Hons)	Bachelor of Nursing with Hons	120 credits	120 credits	120 credits				
IntM(Hons)A	Integrated Masters A	120 credits *	120 credits	30 credits	90 credits			120 credits
IntM(Hons)B	Integrated Masters B	120 credits *	120 credits	120 credits				120 credits

*   Up until September 2015, the Progression and Award Board had discretion to condone one module of up to 20 credits or less. Where condonement was approved, the number of credits required at level 4 was reduced by the number of credits of the condoned module. From the start of 2015/16, condonement was replaced by compensation.

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2   If there are insufficient level 4 credits but the student has achieved credits at level 5 to replace the missing level 4 credits, these may be counted for the purposes of calculating an exit award without classification.

3   If there are insufficient level 5 credits but the student has achieved credits at level 6 to replace the missing level 5 credits, these may be counted for the purposes of calculating an exit award without classification.

3 CREDIT REQUIREMENTS FOR POSTGRADUATE AWARDS

Where there is more than one Award Pattern for an award, eg A, B, C please refer to Section 4 below to confirm which pattern applies to which programme(s).

Award Code	Award Pattern	Level 6 or 7	Level 7	Level 7 or 8	Level 8
ProfGCert	Professional Graduate Certificate	60 credits			
PgCertA	Postgraduate Certificate A		60 credits		
PgCertB	Postgraduate Certificate B			60 credits	
PgCertC	Postgraduate Certificate C				60 credits
ProfGCEd	Professional Graduate Certificate in Education	40 credits	20 credits		
PGCE	Postgraduate Certificate in Education		60 credits		
ProfGDip	Professional Graduate Diploma	120 credits			
PgDipA	Postgraduate Diploma A		120 credits		
PgDipB	Postgraduate Diploma B			120 credits	
PgDipC	Postgraduate Diploma C				120 credits
MA	Masters A		180 credits		
MB	Masters B			180 credits	
TopM	Top-up Masters		100 credits		
ProfMA	Professional Masters A		160 credits		80 credits
ProfMB	Professional Masters B		120 credits		120 credits
ProfMC	Professional Masters C				240 credits
ProfDA	Professional Doctorate A		160 credits		380 credits
ProfDB	Professional Doctorate B		120 credits		420 credits
ProfDC	Professional Doctorate C				540 credits

The following awards have no credit load so are excluded from these Award Rules:

MPhil	MPhil or PhD by Works in the Public Domain
PhD	MProf or ProfDoc by Contribution to Practice
QTS	Qualified Teacher Status

4   AWARD CALCULATION AND CLASSIFICATION PATTERNS – CURRENTLY IN USE

Where there is more than one award pattern (eg BA (Hons) A – D), the table below lists which programme(s) use which calculation method.

Where there is only one award pattern listed, all programmes offering that award as a terminal or exit award will use the same calculation and classification pattern.

Where the Progression and Award Board has approved one condoned module of up to 20 credits or less (in accordance with the Academic Regulations in force up until September 2015), the number of credits required at level 4 shall be reduced by the number of credits of the condoned module and the award and classification calculation shall be based on the remaining passed modules.

With effect from September 2016, an award based on the final mark shall be rounded to a whole number, in accordance with Section D3 of the Assessment Regulations.

Section 5 includes a list of award classification patterns which are no longer used because the programmes are no longer running

Code	Award Calculation Method	Classification(s)		Applicable to these Award Patterns
CertHE	Weighted average of 120 credits at L4 only [4]	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark is 70% or above	Certificate of Higher Education
		Merit	Weighted average mark is 60% or above	
DipHE	Weighted average of 240 credits at L4/5 with a minimum of 120 credits at L4[5]	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark is 70% or above	Diploma of Higher Education
		Merit	Weighted average mark is 60% or above	
Fdn	Weighted average of 240 credits at L4/5 with a minimum of 120 credits at L4	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark is 70% or above	Foundation Degree
		Merit	Weighted average mark is 60% or above	
B(Pass)	Weighted average of the best 180 credits at L5/L6	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark is 70% or above	Bachelor Pass Degree
		Merit	Weighted average mark is 60% or above	
TopB(Pass)	Weighted average of the best 60 credits at L5/L6	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark is 70% or above	Top-up Bachelor Pass degree
		Merit	Weighted average mark is 60% or above	
TopB(Hons)	Weighted average of the best 120 credits at L5/L6	1st 2.1 2.2 3rd	70%+ 60 - 69% 50 - 59% 40 - 49%	Top-up Bachelor with Honours

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[4]   If there are insufficient level 4 credits but the student has achieved credits at level 5 to replace the missing level 4 credits, these may be counted for the purposes of calculating an exit award without classification

[5]   If there are insufficient level 5 credits but the student has achieved credits at level 6 to replace the missing level 5 credits, these may be counted for the purposes of calculating an exit award without classification,

Code	Award Calculation Method		Classification(s)		Applicable to these Award Patterns
B(Hons)A/BEIS	20%	EIS	1st	70%+	Bachelor's with Honours A – B where students are required to take an EIS
	40%	Weighted average of best 60 credits at L6	2.1	60 - 69%	
			2.2	50 - 59%	
	40%	Weighted average of best remaining 120 credits at L5/6	3rd	40 - 49%	
B(Hons)A/B	60%	Weighted average of best 90 credits at L6	1st	70%+	Bachelor's with Honours A – B, which do not require students to take an EIS
			2.1	60 - 69%	
	40%	Weighted average of best remaining 120 credits at L5/6	2.2	50 - 59%	
			3rd	40 - 49%	
BEd(Hons)A	60%	Weighted average of best 90 credits at L6	1st	70%+	BEd Hons 3 year programme *(Running out)*
			2.1	60 - 69%	
	40%	Weighted average of best remaining 80 credits at L5	2.2	50 - 59%	
			3rd	40 - 49%	
BEd(Hons)B	60%	Weighted average of best 90 credits at L6	1st	70%+	BEd Hons 4 year programme *(Running out)*
			2.1	60 - 69%	
	40%	Weighted average of best remaining 120 credits at L5/6	2.2	50 - 59%	
			3rd	40 - 49%	
BN(Hons)	60%	Weighted average of best 60 credits at L6	1st	70%+	Bachelor of Nursing with Hons
			2.1	60 - 69%	
	40%	Weighted average of best remaining 60 credits at L5	2.2	50 - 59%	
			3rd	40 - 49%	
IntM(Hons)	60%	Weighted average of best 90 credits at L7	1st	70%+	Integrated Master's A and B
			2.1	60 - 69%	
	40%	Weighted average of best remaining 120 credits at L6/7	2.2	50 - 59%	
ProfGCert	60 credits at L6/7		No award classification		Professional Graduate Certificate
ProfGCEd	60 credits at L6/7		No award classification		Professional Graduate Certificate in Education
PGCE	60 credits at L6 and 40 credits at L7		No award classification		Postgraduate Certificate in Education

Code	Award Calculation Method	Classification(s)		Applicable to these Award Patterns
PgCertA	Weighted average of the best 60 credits at level 7	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for level 7 modules is 70% or above	Postgraduate Certificate A
		Merit	Weighted average mark for level 7modules is 60% or above	
PgCertB	Weighted average of all level 7 modules up to a maximum of 60 credits.	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for level 7 modules is 70% or above	Postgraduate Certificate B
		Merit	Weighted average mark for level 7 modules is 60% or above	
PgCertC	60 credits at L7	No award classification		Postgraduate Certificate C (Exit award for PGCE and PGCert Research Skills where modules are marked Pass/Fail only)
ProfGDip	120 credits at L6/7	No award classification		Professional Graduate Diploma
PgDipA	Weighted average of 120 credits at level 7	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for level 7 modules is 70% or above	Postgraduate Diploma A
		Merit	Weighted average mark for level 7 modules is 60% or above	
PgDipB	Weighted average of all level 7 modules up to a maximum of 120 credits.	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for level 7 modules is 70% or above	Postgraduate Diploma B
		Merit	Weighted average mark for level 7modules is 60% or above	
PgDipC	120 credits at L8	**No award classification**		Postgraduate Diploma C
TopM	Weighted average of 100 credits at level 7	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for all modules is 65% or above and the mark for the Independent Study is 70% or above	Top-up Masters
		Merit	Weighted average mark for all modules is 55% or above and the mark for the Independent Study is 60% or above	

Code	Award Calculation Method	Classification(s)		Applicable to these Award Patterns
MA	Weighted average of 180 credits at level 7	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for all modules is 65% or above and the mark for the Independent Study is 70% or above	Masters
		Merit	Weighted average mark for all modules is 55% or above and the mark for the Independent Study is 60% or above	
MB	Weighted average of 180 credits at level 7/8	**Distinction**	Weighted average mark for all modules is 65% or above and the mark for the Independent Study is 70% or above	MRes Social Research in Education
		Merit	Weighted average mark for all modules is 55% or above and the mark for the Independent Study is 60% or above	
ProfM	240 credits at L7/8	No award classification		Professional Masters A, B and C
ProfD	540 credits at L7/8	No award classification		Professional Doctorate A, B and C

5 GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

5.1 A GPA shall be calculated for each undergraduate programme for which a student is registered or, in the case of a Continuing Education student, for all modules taken at levels 4 – 6.

5.2 The GPA is a mean average in which each module is counted equally according to its credit value, irrespective of level, subject or date taken. The weighted mean average shall be rounded to a whole number and converted to the equivalent GPA score according to the Mark Scheme in the *Assessment Regulations*.

5.3 The only module marks exempted from the GPA shall be:

a) modules graded pass/fail only;

b) where a failed module is retaken or a replacement module is taken in an attempt to make good the failure, the lower mark achieved shall be excluded.

Formula: (credits x mark) + (credits x mark) etc

= sum/total number of credits

= % mark (rounded to a whole number)

= GPA score (converted using Table 2 in Appendix 2 of the *Assessment Regulations*)

Example: A student takes six modules, of which one is a retake of a failed module:

Module	Credits	Module Mark
Module 1	15 credits	53%
Module 2	15 credits	56%
Module 3	30 credits	58%
Module 4	15 credits	UP (ungraded pass)
Module 5	15 credits	26%
Module 5 (retake)	15 credits	37%

Calculation:

(15 x 53) + (15 x 56) + (30 x 58) +(15 x 37)   [Module 4 and the first attempt at Module 5 are excluded in accordance with paragraph 5.3 above]

= 795 + 840 + 1740 + 555

=3930/75

= 52%

=2.50

6   OBSOLETE AWARD CALCULATION AND CLASSIFICATION PATTERNS

The following Award Classifications no longer operate because the programmes they apply to are no longer running.

Code	Award Calculation Method	Classification(s)	Applicable to these Award Patterns
MTMD	Weighted average of 180 credits at level 7	**Distinction** Weighted average mark for all modules is 65% or above and the mark for DR8010 and either DR8011 or DR 8012 is 70% or above **Merit** Weighted average mark for all modules is 55% or above and the mark for DR8010 and either DR8011 or DR8012 is 60% or above	Masters - MA in Theatre & Media as Development only. Programme ceased to run in 2013/14.
BA(Hons)3PEd	20% EIS 40% Weighted average of best 60 credits at level 6 40% Weighted average of the best remaining 75 credits at level 5/6	1st 70%+ 2.1 60 - 69.99% 2.2 50 - 59.99% 3rd 40 - 49.99%	Bachelor in Arts Primary Education - 3 year accelerated route only. Last cohort graduated in 2013/14
GrdDip	Weighted average of the best 120 credits at L5/L6	**Distinction** Weighted average mark is 70% or above **Merit** Weighted average mark is 60% or above	Graduate Diploma
PGCEYEC	80 credits at L6 and 40 credits at L7	No award classification	Postgraduate Certificate in Early Years Education and Care