



Supplement to the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes and Assessment Regulations 2021-22

Academic Quality and Development
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Summary/Description:	
This document defines the Supplementary Regulations for Taught Programmes, validated by the University of Winchester, including undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes.	

Supplement to the Regulations for Taught Programmes 2021-22

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SECTION A INTRODUCTION

Although 2021-22 saw a return to face to face teaching, the University is keenly aware of the impact of Covid-19 both on learning and teaching in the past and as a future possibility. The University has therefore agreed a number of measures for the 2021-22 academic year to ensure that students are supported in terms of completing their assessments and are not disadvantaged by unforeseen adverse circumstances.

In formulating its approach, the University has sought to protect the interests of its students whilst remaining compliant with the Office for Students' (OfS) regulatory framework. The University has also taken into account OfS guidance, guidance from the Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education (QAA) and from Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs) or equivalent.

The supplementary regulations have been approved by Academic Regulations, Policies and Procedures Committee, the Senate Academic Development Committee, and Senate. They apply to all undergraduate and postgraduate taught provision at the University of Winchester or at a collaborative partner and to all students undertaking that provision unless specifically exempted by Senate or disallowed under accreditation agreements with Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies.

These regulations should be read alongside the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2021-22, the Assessment Regulations for 2021-22 and the Award and Classification Rules and Credit Framework Summary.

These supplementary regulations will be reviewed throughout the academic year and will be revised (in consultation with the Winchester Student Union) if necessary, in semester 2.

SECTION B AWARD CALCULATIONS

In all cases students still need to achieve the required number of credits for the award.

The section below should be read alongside Section F2 of the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2021-22

The University has put a Safety Net in place in 2021-22 for grades and final outcomes to ensure that students' final award calculation will not be impacted by Covid-19.

A high-level summary of this Safety Net is below:

1. Undergraduate finalists (including top-up degrees) will have their degree classification calculated according to the standard algorithm in F2 *and* a credit weighted average of the best 210 credits from levels 5 and 6 [levels 6 and 7 for Integrated Masters] and will be awarded whichever mark is higher.
2. Postgraduate finalists will have their award calculated according to the algorithm in Section F3.
3. The University will make adjustments to ensure that final outcomes are at least equal to the average outcomes of the three years before Covid (2016/17, 2017/18 and 2018/19).¹
4. Any student who received a benchmark in 2019-20 and is still enrolled with us will have this benchmark included (where it is advantageous to the student to do so) in any final degree calculation and GPA.
5. We commit to reviewing the Safety Net adjustments throughout the 2021-22 academic year. We will not do less than above, but we will openly review with the Winchester Student Union if we need to do more.

¹ This means that we will review the award data at the end of the academic year and ensure that the distribution across classifications is equal to or better than our pre-Covid distribution. If it isn't we will upgrade the classifications of the students who achieve the highest classification marks in the lower classification to match our pre-Covid distribution.

A more detailed version of the Safety Net is given below.

For all awards:

- In order to ensure that attainment does not fall below pre-pandemic levels, in the event of an institutional grade profile which is below that of the three years before the Covid 19 pandemic, the University will make adjustments to ensure the distribution of classifications is as good as the three-year average distribution.
- Any student who received a benchmark in 2019-20 and is still enrolled with us will have this benchmark included (where it is advantageous to the student to do so) in any final award calculation and GPA.

1. Undergraduate finalists (full-time and part-time) completing in 2021-22:

Finalists in 2021-22 will have their degree classification calculated according to the standard algorithm (as stated in section F2 of the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes) *and* a credit weighted average of the best 210 credits from levels 5 and 6 [levels 6 and 7 for Integrated Masters] and will be awarded whichever mark is higher.

2. Students completing a postgraduate taught programme in 2021-22 (full-time and part-time):

Postgraduate taught students will have their degree classification calculated according to the algorithm in Section F3 of the Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes 2021-22.

a. Part-time students completing a postgraduate diploma in 2021-22

Where there are two classification calculations (benchmark and standard), the final classification would be based on the higher of the two marks.

b. Part-time students completing a postgraduate certificate in 2021-22

A benchmark calculation, which applies no detriment to the second semester of 2019-20, may be calculated (if the student's marks profile meets the criteria) but a minimum of 40 credits will be counted in the award classification calculation.

3. Grade Point Average (GPA) 2021-22:

For the 2021-22 academic year, there will be two GPA calculations. The first calculation will be the normal credit weighted average of all modules. We will also run the standard GPA calculation which will include the benchmark from the 2019-20 Emergency Academic Regulations for Taught programmes (where it is advantageous to students to do so) for those students who were enrolled with us in 2019-20 and who meet the criteria for a benchmark. Students will receive the higher of the two GPAs.

SECTION C PART TIME CONTINUING STUDENTS UNDERGRADUATE AND POSTGRADUATE TAUGHT

There is a wide variation in study patterns for part-time continuing students at both Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught levels. A benchmark calculation, which applies no detriment for the second semester of 2019-20, may be calculated (if it meets the criteria) using the principles applied for Full Time students at the point at which the student completes their degree.

SECTION D DEFINING ASSESSMENTS

The following should be read alongside section B1 of the Assessment Regulations 2021-22

The University has already approved alternative methods of assessment, should this be deemed necessary and/or appropriate in the event of another lockdown in Academic Year 2021/22 impacting on student assessments.