

## ACADEMIC REGULATION A1: COURSES

### INTRODUCTION

*For the purposes of these Regulations, a course is the approved curriculum followed by an individual student that leads to a named award and/or the achievement of academic credit. A programme is a matrix of approved routes or courses with elements of commonality and/or an articulated series of courses.*

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## REGULATION

### 1. GENERAL

- 1.1 All courses offered by the University shall conform to University Regulations. All courses leading to named awards shall have a Course Specification.
- 1.2 Exceptionally, there may be a requirement for more stringent specific course regulations to comply with, for example, professional, regulatory or statutory body requirements. For named awards, these shall be set out in the Course Specification and approved at the time of validation. Changes to the approved regulations governing a course shall be subject to the procedure specified in the Academic Quality Handbook.
- 1.3 Where proposed changes to regulations governing a course involve progression and/or assessment and affect(s) students on the course, it is a requirement that all the students affected are consulted and their views taken into account. Such changes must receive the written consent of the External Examiner(s) for each course subject to the proposed change(s).

### 2. AWARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

The University has the authority to confer named awards at sub-degree, undergraduate and postgraduate levels, as contained in [Schedule 1.1](#) to this Regulation. Awards of the University shall be conferred at Awards Ceremonies.

### 3. TITLE OF THE COURSE

The title of each course shall be simple in form, reflect the course content, and shall accord with the form generally accepted by institutions of higher education and by the relevant professional, statutory or regulatory bodies. The title shall not be changed between periodic reviews without the prior approval of the Academic Development Committee.

### 4. THE SCOTTISH CREDIT AND QUALIFICATIONS FRAMEWORK (SCQF)

- 4.1 For the purposes of these Regulations the following definitions apply:

Level:	A module is allocated a level on the basis of its identified and assessed learning outcomes. The level serves to indicate the relative demand and complexity of learning, and the degree of learner autonomy.
Credit:	SCQF credit points are awarded for the achievement of appropriate learning outcomes and the number of credit points is determined by the notional student effort required to achieve the learning outcomes. One credit point represents 10 hours of notional student effort.

Stage:	The sequential component of a course defined irrespective of the mode of attendance. For example, a Bachelor degree with honours would comprise four stages.
Year:	The academic session during which all or part of a stage of a course is undertaken.

- 4.2 All awards of the University comply with the [Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework \(SCQF\)](#).

Undergraduate degree awards are based on the Scottish standard of the four-year full-time honours degree, for which a minimum of 480 credit points must be accumulated according to a validated course or programme, normally with 120 awarded at each of the four successive levels of study. The University's undergraduate provision is structured as follows:

Award	Minimum Credits	Overall Credit Level
<b>Certificate of HE</b> (with a minimum of 90 credits at level SCQF 7 and the remaining credits deriving from levels SCQF 8 or SCQF 9)	120	SCQF 7
<b>Diploma of HE</b> (with a minimum of 90 credits at level SCQF 8 and the remaining credits deriving from levels SCQF 7, SCQF 8 or SCQF 9)	240	SCQF 8
<b>Degree</b> (with a minimum of 90 credits at level SCQF 9 and the remaining credits deriving from SCQF 7, SCQF 8, SCQF 10 or SCQF 11)	360	SCQF 9
<b>Degree with Honours</b> (with a minimum of 90 credits at level SCQF 10 and the remaining credits deriving from levels SCQF 8, SCQF 9 or SCQF 11)	480	SCQF 10
<b>Integrated Undergraduate Master's Degree</b> (with a minimum of 120 credits at level SCQF 11)	600	SCQF 11

The University's awards that typically require graduate entry, or its equivalent, but which are not at Master's level are structured as follows:

<b>Award</b>	<b>Minimum Credits</b>	<b>Overall Credit Level</b>
<b>Graduate Certificate</b> (with 60 credits at level SCQF 9 or above)	60	SCQF 9
<b>Graduate Diploma</b> (with 120 credits at level SCQF 9 or above)	120	SCQF 9

The University's postgraduate provision is structured as follows:

<b>Award</b>	<b>Minimum Credits</b>	<b>Overall Credit Level</b>
<b>Postgraduate Certificate</b> (with a minimum of 45 credits at level SCQF 11)	60	SCQF 11
<b>Postgraduate Diploma</b> (with a minimum of 90 credits at level SCQF 11)	120	SCQF 11
<b>Master's Degree</b> (with a minimum of 150 credits at level SCQF 11)	180	SCQF 11
<b>Doctoral Degree (Professional)</b> (with a minimum of 420 credits at level SCQF 12 and a maximum of 120 credits at level SCQF 11)	540	SCQF 12

- 4.3 All courses shall be comprised of credit-rated modules, normally of 15 SCQF credits and, in full-time mode, normally four modules shall be delivered per semester. All student work, including placements and work-based learning assessed against learning outcomes, shall attract a SCQF credit-rating at the appropriate level. Placements and work-based learning may exceptionally permit the award of SCQF credit over and above that which is normally standard for the stage if approved at validation.
- 4.4 When a pass grade has been achieved the Assessment Board shall confirm the award of credit. A student who has achieved the credit shall not be permitted to undertake further assessment opportunities in order to improve upon the pass grade already achieved.

## 5. EUROPEAN CREDIT TRANSFER SCHEME (ECTS)

The credit rating of the University's provision within the SCQF Scheme permits the conversion of credit points to the European Credit Transfer Scheme (ECTS). One ECTS credit is equivalent to two SCQF credits.

## **6. AIMS AND LEVEL LEARNING OUTCOMES OF THE COURSE**

Each course shall have specified aims and Level Learning Outcomes, as described in the Course Specification, that are fulfilled by the curriculum, course structure, instruction/learning methodology and forms of assessment; these shall be stated in the Course Specification and Module Descriptors as appropriate.

## **7. COURSE CURRICULUM AND STRUCTURE**

- 7.1 The curriculum for a course shall be appropriate to the aims and Level Learning Outcomes of the award to which the course leads.
- 7.2 The structure of the course shall provide for the progression of students from the level of knowledge and skills required for admission to the level specified for the award.

## **8. ADMISSION OF STUDENTS TO A COURSE**

Admission procedures shall accord with the provisions of [Regulation A2: Admission and Enrolment](#).

## **9. STUDENT CONDUCT, APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS**

University and student obligations are specified in [Regulation A3: Student Conduct and Appeals: Section 1, Section 2](#) and [Section 3](#) and the [Complaints Handling Procedure](#).

## **10. ASSESSMENT**

Assessment regulations for a course are given in [Regulation A4: Assessment and Recommendations of Assessment Boards](#).

## **11. PROGRESSION AND AWARDS**

- 11.1 Regulations relating to progression and awards within a course or programme shall comply with the provisions of [Regulation A4: Assessment and Recommendations of Assessment Boards](#) and [Regulation A5: External Examiners](#).
- 11.2 Regulations governing progression and award within a particular course shall specify the requirements for award at each stage or progression to the next stage. The elements of study that are compulsory, optional and/or alternative will be specified in the Course Specification.

### SCHEDULE 1.1: AWARDS OF THE UNIVERSITY

#### 1. Undergraduate awards conferred by the University are:

Certificate of Higher Education	CertHE
Diploma of Higher Education	DipHE
Graduate Certificate	GradCert
Graduate Diploma	GradDip
Bachelor of Arts with Honours	BA (Hons)
Bachelor of Arts	BA
Bachelor of Arts and Sciences	BASc
Bachelor of Arts and Sciences with Honours	BASc (Hons)
Bachelor of Engineering with Honours	BEng (Hons)
Bachelor of Engineering	BEng
Bachelor of Laws with Honours	LLB (Hons)
Bachelor of Laws	LLB
Bachelor of Science (Engineering)	BSc (Eng)
Bachelor of Science with Honours	BSc (Hons)
Bachelor of Science	BSc
Master of Diagnostic Radiography	MDRad
Master of Dietetics	MDiet
Master of Engineering	MEng
Master of Occupational Therapy	MOccTh
Master of Pharmacy	MPharm
Master of Physiotherapy	MPhys
Master of Science	MSci

In addition, Graduate Apprenticeship awards conferred by the University are:

Higher Apprenticeship in:

- Certificate of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship in CertHE
- Diploma of Higher Education	Higher Apprenticeship in DipHE

Graduate Apprenticeship in:

- Bachelor of Arts	Graduate Apprenticeship in BA
- Bachelor of Arts with Honours	Graduate Apprenticeship in BA (Hons)
- Bachelor of Engineering	Graduate Apprenticeship in BEng
- Bachelor of Engineering with Honours	Graduate Apprenticeship in BEng (Hons)
- Bachelor of Science	Graduate Apprenticeship in BSc
- Bachelor of Science with Honours	Graduate Apprenticeship in BSc (Hons)

An Aegrotat Degree or an Aegrotat Degree (Unclassified Honours) may be conferred in accordance with [Regulation A4](#) and only where it is not precluded by the relevant professional, statutory or regulatory body.

2. Postgraduate awards conferred by the University are:

Postgraduate Certificate	PgCert
Postgraduate Diploma	PgDip
Master of Architecture	MArch
Master of Arts	MA
Master of Arts and Sciences	MASc
Master of Business Administration	MBA
Master of Laws	LLM
Master of Science	MSc

3. Research degrees conferred by the University are specified in [Regulation A6: Research Degrees, paragraph 1](#).

**Note:** The University also confers Higher Doctorates and Honorary Degrees as contained in [Regulation A7, paragraph 1](#), and [Regulation A8, paragraph 1.1](#) respectively. Such awards may also be conferred posthumously in accordance with [Regulation A4, paragraph 16](#).