

UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX
UNDERGRADUATE RULES OF ASSESSMENT
(Academic Year 2008-2009)

9. Ordinary Degrees

9.1 PROGRESSION

The rules of progression to the final year of an Ordinary degree are the same as those for a three year honours degree.(See 3.1)

9.2 ELIGIBILITY FOR AN AWARD (Final Stage)

9.2.1 For the award of an Ordinary degree, a total of 300 credits must be passed, with a minimum of 60 at level 6.

9.2.2 To be eligible for an Ordinary degree, students must:

- a) pass a minimum of 60 credits at level 6
 - where only 90 credits have been passed in Stage Two, an additional 30 credits at level 5 must be passed in the Final Stage
- and**
- b) meet any additional course-specific requirements outlined in the variations to the Rules of Assessment, including professional, statutory and regulatory body requirements.

9.2.3 If a student does not meet the requirements for an Ordinary degree:

- a) where the student has failed **a maximum of 15 credits at level 6**, he/she may resit the necessary examinations and/or resubmit coursework. Marks will be capped at 40%.
- b) where the student has failed **more than 30 credits* at level 6** and has a year mark greater than 20%, he/she may repeat the Stage of study on a full-time basis for uncapped marks, **or** resit the necessary examinations and/or resubmit coursework the following year without attendance with the marks capped at 40%.
- c) where the **Stage mark for the 60 level 6 credits is below 20%**, or where a student was absent from all examinations with no substantiated extenuating circumstances, he/she must withdraw from the University.

* Credits are awarded at the component level. On programmes where two 15-credit modules have been aggregated together into a 30-credit component, the number of credits which have been passed at the module level is used in the student's favour to determine whether reassessment can be offered instead of a repeat year.

9.2.4 When the Board meets after re-sits/resubmissions are completed, the Board may consider the following options (Boards may offer no more than three attempts at the assessment for the Stage, and no more than one opportunity to take exams without attendance). Where appropriate the Board may offer more than one option to the student:

- a) to repeat the Stage of study full-time for uncapped module marks
or
- b) where the student has failed **a maximum of 15 credits at level 6**, to repeat the Stage of study part-time, with marks capped at 40% NB This option is not available where students have failed credits during a period abroad]
or
- c) to resit the necessary examinations and/or resubmit coursework the following year without attendance where the mark recorded will be capped at 40%. This option cannot be offered where a student has already resat the exams without attendance. [N.B. where failure has occurred on a period abroad, resits may not be available.]
or
- d) where the student has not met the requirements to proceed having had three attempts at the assessment for the Stage, he/she would be required to withdraw from the University.
or
- e) where the **Stage mark is below 20%**, or where a student was absent from all examinations with no substantiated extenuating circumstances, to withdraw from the University.

9.3 AWARDS CLASSIFICATION FOR ORDINARY DEGREES

Ordinary degrees are unclassified.