

**UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX**  
**UNDERGRADUATE RULES OF ASSESSMENT**  
(Academic Year 2009-2010)

**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 a maximum of 30 credits have been failed across Stage One and Stage Two, , an additional 30 credits at level 5 must be passed in the Final Stage
  - where 120 credits have been passed at both Stage One and Stage Two, a minimum of 60 credits at level 6 must be passed in Stage Three (final year)

**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%.

---

\* 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.

- 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.

**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 opportunities to undertake the assessment for a module, 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.