

THE UNIVERSITY'S ACADEMIC REGULATIONS: 2014-15

SECTION B: UNDERGRADUATE REGULATIONS

B1 Introduction

- B1.1 Section B: Undergraduate Regulations provide specific regulations which apply to all SCQF level 7, 8, 9 and 10 modules approved by the University and to all approved programmes of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e). In applying this section of the University's regulatory framework, account must be taken of the regulations contained in Section A: General Regulations which apply to all programmes of study offered by the University.
- B1.2 An award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) may be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements and gained the minimum number and level of credit identified in Regulation B3. In so doing account will be taken of Regulation A4.3.
- B1.3 Credit achieved at SCQF level 7, 8, 9 and 10 only may be used to calculate an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e).
- B1.4 Programmes of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) are designed using a combination of compulsory and option modules:
- a) A **compulsory** module is a named individual module which is a compulsory part of a programme of study.
 - b) An **option** module is one of a set of named modules compiled by the programme team from which the student must choose a designated number.

B2 Definitions

B2.1 As a means of helping to ensure that the University's academic regulations are consistently interpreted and applied, the following definitions are applicable to approved modules and programmes of study at SCQF level 7, 8, 9 and 10 as appropriate. In so doing appropriate account will also be taken of the definitions included in Regulation A3.

- a) **Access level credit** is available from provision approved by the University at SCQF level 6. SCQF level 6 credit is allocated to learning that equates to prerequisite admission requirements both in subject-specific and general educational terms, for entry to SCQF level 7 study.
- b) **Non-standard SCQF level 7, 8, 9 and 10 modules.** A non-standard module is one which is not 20 credits. The use of non-standard modules within an approved programme of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) is limited to a maximum of 40 credits at either SCQF level 9 or 10 within either Stage 3 or 4 of the approved programme structure.
 - i) A case must be made at the approval of the programme of study:
 - 1) for use of non-standard modules at any other stage of study
 - 2) for inclusion of a dissertation, project or similar module to a value above 40 credits
 - 3) for inclusion of 10-credit modules which will only be permitted if there are external imperatives (for example, professional body requirements). At least two such modules must be offered concurrently. Students, in fulfilling the norm of studying for 60 credits in a trimester, may take up to a maximum of four modules.
 - ii) Multiples of 20 credits are permitted for work-based learning.
- c) **Sandwich programme of study** is a programme of study, which contains compulsory work-based learning. The University offers two types of sandwich programme of study: thick sandwich in which students have one period of work-based learning; and, thin sandwich in which students have two periods of work-based learning. In both cases, there is a requirement for not less than 48 weeks of work-based learning which has an approved credit rating equivalent to at least 60 credits. The award of a sandwich degree will be indicated on the award certificate.
- d) **Stage** As defined in Regulation A3.1v) a stage of study is a grouping of modules studied by a student at any given time.
 - i) A programme of study leading to the award of a certificate of higher education has one stage of study containing 120 credits. The award regulation for a certificate of higher education is defined in Regulation B3.4.
 - ii) A programme of study leading to the award of a diploma of higher education has two stages of study with each stage containing 120

credits. The award regulation for a diploma of higher education is defined in Regulation B3.6.

- iii) A programme of study leading to the award of a Foundation Degree has three stages of study with the first and second stages each containing 120 credits and the third containing 60 credits. The award regulation for a Foundation Degree is defined in Regulation B3.8.
 - iv) A programme of study leading to the award of a bachelors degree has three stages of study with each stage containing 120 credits. The award regulation for a bachelors degree is defined in Regulation B3.9.
 - v) A programme of study leading to the award of a graduate certificate has one stage of study containing a minimum of 60 credits. The admission regulation for a graduate certificate is defined in Regulation B4.4. The award regulation for a graduate certificate is defined in Regulation B3.11.
 - vi) A programme of study leading to the award of a graduate diploma has one stage of study containing 120 credits. The award regulation for a graduate diploma is defined in Regulation B3.13.
 - vii) A programme of study leading to the award of a bachelors degree with honours has four stages of study with each stage containing 120 credits. The award regulation for a bachelors degree with honours is defined in Regulation B3.15.
- e) **Subject component** is a grouping of modules from the same subject area which, when combined with other subject components, form an approved programme of study. Subject components are approved by the University. Subject components may be approved as part of a programme of study leading to the award of a bachelors degree with honours. An undergraduate programme of study will contain an approved pool of compulsory modules and an approved pool of option modules. To gain a combined bachelor's degree with honours a student must successfully achieve a minimum of 240 credits from the pool of compulsory modules.

B3 Undergraduate awards of the University

- B3.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B3, to receive an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e), a student must satisfy the requirements of Regulation A4.3.
- B3.2 A **certificate of credit** will be awarded to a student who has achieved a recognised volume of credit through successfully completing an approved SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module or modules but who has not satisfied the requirements for any of the awards of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) or e) inclusive. A **certificate of credit** is not an award of the University.
- B3.3 A **certificate of higher education** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme specific requirements and gained a minimum of 120 credits at SCQF level 7 or above.
- B3.4 A **certificate of higher education with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 120 credits at SCQF level 7 or above programme-specific compulsory and option modules, if the approved programme structure permits.
- B3.5 A **diploma of higher education** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme specific requirements and gained a minimum of 240 credits of which a minimum of 100 credits are at SCQF level 8 or above.
- B3.6 A **diploma of higher education with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 100 credits from SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory and option modules, if the approved programme structure permits.
- B3.7 A **Foundation Degree** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 300 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 120 credits are at SCQF level 8 or above and
 - b) a minimum of 120 credits are at SCQF level 7 or above.
- B3.8 A **bachelor's degree** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme specific requirements and gained a minimum of 360 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 60 credits are at SCQF level 9 or above and;
 - b) a minimum of 100 credits are at SCQF level 8 or above.

- B3.9 A **bachelor's degree with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits from SCQF level 9 or above programme-specific compulsory and option modules, if the approved programme structure permits.
- B3.10 A **graduate certificate** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied the requirements of Regulation B4.4, all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 60 credits at SCQF level 9 or above.
- B3.11 A **graduate certificate with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits achieved from SCQF level 9 or above modules, if the approved programme structure permits.
- B3.12 A **graduate diploma** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied the requirements of Regulation B4.4, all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 120 credits at SCQF level 9 or above.
- B3.13 A **graduate diploma with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 120 credits achieved from SCQF level 9 or above modules, if the approved programme structure permits.
- B3.14 A **bachelor's degree with honours** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 480 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 100 credits are at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final year project and in addition
 - b) a minimum of 80 credits are at SCQF level 9 or above, and in addition
 - c) a minimum of 120 credits are at SCQF level 8 or above.
- B3.15 A **bachelor's degree with honours** will be awarded to a student progressing from an Edinburgh Napier University Foundation Degree who has satisfied all programme specific requirements and gained a minimum of 180 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 100 credits are at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final year project, and
 - b) a minimum of 80 credits are at SCQF level 9 or above.
- B3.16 The calculation of the classification of honours will be based on 180 credits, to include a minimum of 100 credits at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final-year project, plus all remaining SCQF level 10 credit and the best SCQF level 9 credit achieved to gain a total of 180 credits.

- B3.17 The designation of the classification of a **bachelor's degree with honours** based on the calculation defined in Regulation B3.17 will be:
- a) 70 per cent or above, First Class
 - b) 60 to 69.5 per cent, Second Class, upper division
 - c) 50 to 59.5 per cent, Second Class, lower division
 - d) 40 to 49.5 per cent, Third Class.
- B3.18 Programme Boards of Examiners may consider a student at the cusp of an honours classification boundary for the award of a higher honours classification.
- a) A student at the cusp of an honours classification boundary is identified using the calculation defined in Regulation B3.17.
 - b) The cusp of an honours classification boundary is defined as:
 - i) First Class: 68 per cent to 69.4 per cent.
 - ii) Second Class, upper division: 58 per cent to 59.4 per cent.
 - iii) Second Class, lower division: 48 per cent to 49.4 per cent.
 - iv) Third Class: 38 per cent to 39.4 per cent.
 - c) In such cases where a student has been identified as being at the cusp of an honours classification boundary, the Programme Board of Examiners may use its judgment and discretion, based on the student's overall performance across the best 100 credits at SCQF level 10, to award a higher classification.
- B3.19 The minimum number and level of credit to be achieved by a student whilst registered as a student of Edinburgh Napier University having entered a programme of study with recognised prior learning and before being presented for an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a), b) and e) is as follows:
- a) A **certificate of higher education** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B3.4, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum of 60 credits at SCQF level 7 or above.
 - b) A **certificate of higher education with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B3.5, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum overall average of at least 65 per cent across all of the 60 credits. If more than the minimum of 60 credits has been achieved, the distinction calculation will be based on an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits achieved at SCQF level 7 or above.
 - c) A **diploma of higher education** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B3.6, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum of 60 credits at SCQF level 8 or above.

- d) A **diploma of higher education with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B3.7, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum overall average of at least 65 per cent across all of the 60 credits. If more than the minimum of 60 credits has been achieved, the distinction calculation will be based on an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits achieved at SCQF level 8 or above.
- e) A **bachelor's degree** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B3.9, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum of 60 credits at SCQF level 9 or above.
- f) A **bachelor's degree with distinction** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B3.10, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum overall average of at least 65 per cent across all of the 60 credits. If more than the minimum of 60 credits has been achieved, the distinction calculation will be based on an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits achieved at SCQF level 9 or above.
- g) A **bachelor's degree with honours** will be awarded to a student who has not had the opportunity to study 180 credits at SCQF level 9 and level 10 at the University but has met the requirements of Regulation B3.15, satisfied all programme-specific requirements and achieved a minimum of 120 credits at SCQF levels 9 and 10, of which a minimum of 100 credits are at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final year project. The calculation of the classification of honours will be based on 120 credits, to include a minimum of 100 credits at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final-year project, plus all remaining SCQF level 10 credit and the best SCQF level 9 credit achieved to gain a total of 120 credits.
- h) A **Master of Engineering and Master in Science** will be awarded to a student who has met the requirements of Regulation B7.2.3, satisfied all programme specific requirements and achieved a minimum of 120 credits at SCQF level 11.

B4 Admission regulations

- B4.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B4, all programmes of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) must satisfy the requirements of Regulation A6.
- B4.2 The minimum requirement for admission to a programme of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) is the possession of prior learning deemed sufficient to allow the applicant to be able to succeed and benefit from the programme of study.
- B4.3 Specific admission requirements to any stage of a programme of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) will be approved as part of the University's programme approval process in accordance with the University's *Quality Framework* and will clearly define:
- a) any professional or statutory body admission requirements
 - b) the admission requirements expressed as UCAS Tariff points scores. Any minimum level of depth of academic achievement in specific subjects that applicants are required to demonstrate will be expressed in terms of recognised qualifications, for example, SQA Higher English Grade B, GCSE Mathematics, GCE A Level Chemistry Grade C, etc
 - c) the admission requirements for students seeking access to higher-level study beyond Stage 1.
- B4.4 Admission to a **graduate certificate** or a **graduate diploma** is the possession of a Scottish bachelor's degree or equivalent.

B5 Assessment regulations

- B5.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B5, all programmes of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) must satisfy the requirements of Regulation A7.
- B5.2 A student enrolled on an SCQF level 7 module which forms part of a programme of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) or e) will not be assessed by formal, time-constrained, closed examination at the end of the first trimester of their first stage of study.
- B5.3 To pass an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module at the first attempt, a student must achieve a minimum module mark of 40 per cent. The module mark will be derived from the component or components of assessment.
- a) If only one component of assessment is used, a student must achieve a minimum of 40 per cent in that component.
 - b) If two components of assessment are used, a student must achieve a minimum module mark of 40 per cent based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of assessment with no individual mark for a component of assessment falling below 30 per cent.
 - c) There is no minimum mark requirement for individual elements of any component of assessment.
- B5.4 A student will be awarded merit in an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module by achieving a minimum weighted average mark of 65 per cent in the module. No account should be taken of compensatory factors when awarding merit in an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module.
- B5.5 A student enrolled on an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module will be entitled to one reassessment opportunity in that module. In exceptional circumstances a Programme Board of Examiners has the discretion to permit one further reassessment opportunity.
- a) If only one component of assessment is used, a student who does not meet the requirements of Regulation B5.3a) will be reassessed in that component.
 - b) If two components of assessment are used, a student who does not meet the requirements of Regulation B5.3b) will be reassessed in any component where a mark of 40 per cent has not been achieved.
 - c) In providing students with the opportunity to make good any initial assessment failure account will be taken of Regulations A7.11, A7.12 and A7.13.

- B5.6 To pass at reassessment, a student enrolled on an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module must achieve a minimum overall module mark of 40 per cent.
- a) If only one component of reassessment is used, a student must achieve a minimum mark of 40 per cent in that component.
 - b) If two components of reassessment are used, a student must achieve a minimum module mark of 40 per cent based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of reassessment with no individual mark for a component of reassessment falling below 30 per cent. The weightings between the two components used for the reassessment will be identical to those used for the original assessment.
 - c) Where a student achieved an original minimum component mark of 40 per cent in one of the two components of assessment, the overall module mark at reassessment will be calculated in accordance with Regulation B5.6b) using the original component mark and the component mark achieved at reassessment.
 - d) Where a student achieves a lower mark in a reassessed component than that achieved in the original assessment, the original mark will stand and the lower mark, from the reassessment, discounted.
 - e) The overall mark for a reassessed module will be capped at 40 per cent.

- B5.7 In accordance with regulation B5.5 a student enrolled on a SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module will be entitled to one reassessment opportunity in that module.
- a) Regardless of the trimester a module is taken in and the programme start date a compulsory reassessment opportunity is provided in the July following delivery of the module, with the exception of modules within programmes delivered overseas over three continuous trimesters.
 - b) For students studying on the overseas programmes which are delivered over three continuous trimesters reassessment must be provided and taken within two trimesters of the original attempt.
 - c) Until the compulsory reassessment opportunity occurs the credits not achieved at original assessment are classified as pending reassessment credit and not failed credit.
 - d) A student may choose to be reassessed at any available earlier opportunity than the compulsory reassessment opportunity. If a student chooses this option it will count as their sole reassessment opportunity.
 - e) In exceptional circumstances, and only for overseas programmes delivered over three continuous trimesters, Programme Boards of Examiners may extend the reassessment period by up to one additional trimester beyond the maximum period stated in b) above.

- B5.8 Where possible the University will provide students enrolled on an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module with early access to reassessment.
- B5.9 Unless approved otherwise via the University's module approval process, all coursework, both at first attempt and reassessment, submitted after the agreed deadline will be marked at a maximum of 40 per cent. Coursework submitted over five working days (or ten working days on programmes delivered on campuses outside Europe) after the agreed deadline will be given 0 per cent, although formative feedback will be offered to the student where requested.
- B5.10 Where a student does not pass an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module at first attempt, or at reassessment, the Programme Board of Examiners will consider the student profile and may provide the opportunity for the student to repeat the module, as if studying it for the first time, for a second and final time.

B6 Continuation of study regulations

- B6.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B6, all programmes of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) and e) must satisfy the requirements of Regulation A8.
- B6.2 Exceptionally a student enrolled on a programme of study leading to an award of the University listed in Regulations A4.1a) and e) may be permitted to progress to the next stage of study carrying a failure in no more than 20 credits.
- B6.3 In accordance with Regulation A10.2.8e) a Programme Board of Examiners may award a student enrolled on an SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module a compensatory pass to the maximum of 20 credits at each stage of study.
- a) A compensatory pass will automatically be considered where the student has:
 - i) achieved a minimum of 35 per cent in a module;
 - ii) submitted in each component of assessment in that module; and
 - iii) passed all other modules in that stage of study
 - b) Where a stage of study includes an approved work placement module and the result is not available for consideration by the Programme Board of Examiners at the end of the stage of study, Regulation B6.3a) will be applied in relation to all other modules in that stage of study. Where a compensatory pass is awarded in the absence of work placement marks, a student may not then be considered for a compensatory pass in the placement module.
 - c) In exceptional circumstances which must be noted in the minutes of the Board, a Programme Board of Examiners has the discretion to award a compensatory pass to a student who achieves a minimum of 30 per cent in a module, all other modules at that stage of study having been passed. This discretion is not additional to Regulation B6.3a).
 - d) The decision of the Programme Board of Examiners to compensate or not will be made following consideration of the student profile and the achievement of programme learning outcomes.
- B6.4 A Programme Board of Examiners must not permit a student to progress to the next stage of their programme carrying a fail in any programme-specific compulsory or option modules from a preceding stage of study.
- B6.5 A student who is not permitted by the Programme Board of Examiners to progress to the next stage of study may be permitted to continue their studies at the same level either in the same programme or on an alternative programme of study providing that the student has met the admission requirements for that programme.

B7 Regulations for programmes of study leading to the award of an Integrated Master of Engineering or an Integrated Master in Science

B7.1 Introduction

- B7.1.1 Section B7 sets out programme-specific regulations which apply to programmes of study leading to the award of an Integrated Master of Engineering and to programmes of study leading to the award of an Integrated Master in Science which are identified in Regulation A4.1b) as integrated masters awards of the University.
- B7.1.2 Programmes of study leading to the award of an Integrated Master of Engineering and the award of an Integrated Master in Science have five stages of study with each stage containing 120 credits. The award regulation for an Integrated Master of Engineering and an Integrated Master in Science is defined in Regulation B7.2.3.
- B7.1.3 Individual regulations within Regulation B7 have been designed to reconcile differences between the University's regulatory requirements and the qualification benchmark requirements for integrated masters awards in engineering subjects.
- B7.1.4 In applying the Integrated Master of Engineering and Integrated Master in Science programme-specific regulations account will be taken of the regulations contained in Section A: General Regulations which apply to all programmes of study offered by the University and to the following regulations contained in Section B: Undergraduate Regulations:
- a) Regulation B1: Introduction
 - b) Regulation B2: Definitions
 - c) Regulation B4: Admission regulations
 - d) Regulation B5: Assessment regulations
 - e) Regulation B6: Continuation of study regulations

B7.2 Award regulations

B7.2.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B7, to receive the award of an Integrated Master of Engineering or an Integrated Master in Science a student must satisfy the requirements of Regulation A4.3.

B7.2.2 In accordance with Regulation A5.7 the following exit awards have been approved for students who are unable to achieve an Integrated Master of Engineering or an Integrated Master in Science. In each case account must be taken of the award requirements defined in the listed regulations:

- a) A certificate of credit: Regulation B3.3
- b) A certificate of higher education: Regulation B3.4
- c) A certificate of higher education with distinction: Regulation B3.5
- d) A diploma of higher education: Regulation B3.6
- e) A diploma of higher education with distinction: Regulation B3.7
- f) A bachelor's degree: Regulation B3.9
- g) A bachelor's degree with distinction: Regulation B3.10
- h) A bachelor's degree with honours: Regulations B3.15, B3.16, B3.17 and B3.18.

B7.2.3 An **Integrated Master of Engineering** or an **Integrated Master in Science** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 600 credits of which:

- a) 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 11 and
- b) 100 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or individual project and
- c) 80 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 9 or above, and;
- d) 120 credits are from programme specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 8 or above.

B7.2.4 A student who has satisfied the requirements of Regulation B7.2.3 may be considered for an **Integrated Master of Engineering** or an **Integrated Master in Science with classification** based on the following:

- a) The calculation of the classification will be based on:
 - i) average marks for programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 11 will be weighted 0.60
 - ii) average marks for programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 10 will be weighted 0.30
 - iii) average marks for programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 9 will be weighted 0.10.

- b) The calculation of the classification will be:
 - i) 70 per cent or above, First Class
 - ii) 60 to 69.5 per cent, Second Class, upper division
 - iii) 50 to 59.5 per cent, Second Class, lower division
 - iv) 40 to 49.5 per cent, Third Class.

- c) Programme Boards of Examiners may consider students at the cusp of a classification boundary for the award of a higher classification.

- d) The cusp of a classification boundary is defined as a student with an overall average mark of:
 - i) 68 per cent to 69.4 per cent or
 - ii) 58 per cent to 59.4 per cent or
 - iii) 48 per cent to 49.4 per cent.
 - iv) In such cases, the best 100 credits at SCQF level 11 may be considered by the Programme Board of Examiners. A student may be awarded the higher classification if the credit achieved from the modules being considered is at or above the level defined in Regulations B7.2.4b)i) to iv).

- e) The calculation of the classification for a student directly entering at stage 4 of an MEng or an MSci will be based on:
 - i) average marks for programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 11 will be weighted 0.60.
 - ii) average marks for programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 10 will be weighted 0.40.

B7.3 Admission regulations

B7.3.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B4, account will be taken of Regulations B7.3.2 and B7.3.3 when considering students for admission to a programme of study leading to an award of an Integrated Master of Engineering and Regulations B7.3.4 and B7.3.5 when considering students for admission to a programme of study leading to an award of an Integrated Master in Science.

- B7.3.2 Students enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Engineering with Honours or a Bachelor of Science with Honours may be admitted to the programme of study leading to the award of an **Integrated Master of Engineering** or **Integrated Master in Science** dependent upon their performance in Stage 3. Students must achieve an average of 60 per cent or above in order to transfer to the programme of study leading to the award of an Integrated Master of Engineering
- B7.3.3 Transfer opportunities for students undertaking Stage 4 of a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Engineering with Honours or a Bachelor of Science with Honours to Stage 5 of a programme of study leading to an award of an **Integrated Master of Engineering** or an **Integrated Master in Science** will only be possible in exceptional cases as determined by the programme team.
- B7.4 Assessment regulations**
- B7.4.1 All modules within the programme structure of a programme of study leading to an award of an **Integrated Master of Engineering** and an **Integrated Master in Science** will be assessed and reassessed in accordance with Regulation B5.
- B7.5 Continuation of study regulations**
- B7.5.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B7.5, account will be taken of Regulation B6 by a Programme Board of Examiners considering the performance of individual students enrolled on SCQF level 7, 8, 9 and 10 modules which form part of a programme of study leading to the award of an **Integrated Master of Engineering** or an **Integrated Master in Science**.
- B7.5.2 Progression from Stage 3 to Stage 4 of the programme of study leading to an award of an **Integrated Master of Engineering** or an **Integrated Master in Science** is dependent upon student performance in Stage 3. Students must achieve a weighted average of 60 per cent or above in order to progress to Stage 4 of the programme of study. Students whose performance does not meet this standard will transfer to Stage 4 of the programme of study leading to an award of a Bachelor of Engineering with Honours or Bachelor of Science with Honours as appropriate.

B8 Regulations for programmes of study leading to a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing award of the University

B8.1 Introduction

B8.1.1 Regulation B8 sets out programme-specific regulations which apply to programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery and to programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing which are identified in Regulation A4.1a) as awards of the University.

B8.1.2 Individual regulations within Regulation B8 have been designed to reconcile differences between the University's regulatory requirements and the requirements of the Nursing and Midwifery Council (NMC). Application of the Bachelor of Midwifery and Bachelor of Nursing regulations enables students to meet NMC registration requirements.

B8.1.3 In applying the Bachelor of Midwifery and Bachelor of Nursing programme-specific regulations, account will be taken of the regulations contained in Section A: General Regulations which apply to all programmes of study offered by the University and to the following regulations contained in Section B: Undergraduate Regulations:

- a) Regulation B1: Introduction
- b) Regulation B2: Definitions
- c) Regulation B4: Admission regulations.

B8.2 Definitions

B8.2.1 As a means of helping to ensure that the University's academic regulations are consistently interpreted and applied, the following definitions are applicable to programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing at the University. In so doing appropriate account will also be taken of the definitions included in Regulation A3 and Regulation B2 as appropriate.

- a) A student enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of Bachelor of Nursing is generally referred to as a **pre-registration student**. A pre-registration student is not professionally registered with NMC for the programme of study that they are undertaking.
- b) Stages of study within the programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of Bachelor of Nursing are often referred to by generic titles including:

- i) A **shortened route** through the programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing is available to applicants who are either professionally registered with NMC or who are in possession of a recognised degree-level qualification in an appropriate subject area. The structure of a shortened route will be designed to take account of Regulation B8.3.2. In considering individuals for admission to a shortened route account will be taken of Regulation B8.4.2.
 - ii) A **managed route** of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing can be approved for students on an individual basis, usually following transfer from another higher education institution or return from a break in training. This will be designed to enable a student with recognised prior learning to meet the academic and professional body requirements of the programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of Bachelor of Nursing.
- c) Programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing include approved practice and theory modules.
- i) **Nursing Practice modules** are designed to enable a student to achieve a level of performance as prescribed by NMC. Practice modules are delivered in an approved placement learning location under the supervision of a suitably prepared mentor in accordance with NMC requirements. Practice modules are assessed using competence-based assessment and/or portfolio and a student will be awarded either a pass or fail grade. Where two practice modules are undertaken over two trimesters, one may be delivered across both trimesters where modules require equal effort/weight.
 - ii) **Midwifery Practice modules** are designed to enable a student to achieve a level of performance as prescribed by NMC. Practice modules are delivered in an approved placement learning location under the supervision of an approved due regard NMC registrant. Practice modules are assessed using competence-based assessment and/or portfolio and a student will be awarded a mark.
 - iii) **Theory modules** meet the requirements of a University standard size 20-credit module as defined in Regulation A3.1m)i) and are assessed using marking criteria described in the module assessment brief. In some trimesters two concurrent 10-credit modules are offered in place of a standard 20-credit module in order that the NMC requirement of acknowledging prior [experiential] learning by awarding of recognised prior learning, when appropriate, can be met.

- d) The balance between theoretical and practical learning within approved programme structures leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing complies with the following NMC requirements:
- i) An approved **pre-registration nursing** programme of study contains a minimum of 4,600 hours of learning in both theory and practice. Theoretical and practical learning are given equal weighting with the approved programme structure, that is, a minimum of 2,300 hours of theoretical learning and a minimum of 2,300 hours practical learning distributed across all stages of study.
 - ii) An approved **pre-registration midwifery** programme structure contains a minimum of 40 per cent theoretical learning and a minimum of 50 per cent practical learning distributed across all stages of study.
 - iii) The balance between theoretical and practical learning within approved programmes for students enrolled on a **managed programme** or a **shortened route** leading to a Bachelor of Midwifery or Bachelor of Nursing award will take account of the requirements set out in Regulations B8.2d)i) and ii), and recognition for prior learning.
- e) An **ongoing achievement record** is used to record a nursing or midwifery student's achievement of practical learning throughout a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing.
- i) The ongoing achievement record is used by a student nurse's mentor at designated points throughout a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing to confirm a student's competence to continue on their programme of study. Students are required to sign a consent form to enable their ongoing achievement record to be passed between different approved placement learning locations and mentors. The final practice assessment which forms part of the ongoing achievement record must be verified by an approved sign-off mentor.
 - ii) The ongoing achievement record is used by a student midwife's sign-off mentor at designated points throughout a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery, to confirm a student's competence to continue on their programme of study. Students are required to sign a consent form to enable their ongoing achievement record to be passed between different approved placement learning locations and mentors.

- f) A **break in training, interruption** or **stand-still** are generic terms often used to describe a period of suspended study. A period of suspended study may be requested by a student and agreed through discussion with their Programme Leader. A period of suspended study may also be instigated as a result of an academic decision made by a Programme Board of Examiners or as a result of a decision made by the University's Fitness to Practice Committee. In agreeing a period of suspended study account will be taken of NMC time-bound programme completion requirements set out in Regulation B8.3.2.
- g)
- i) **Objective structured clinical examination (OSCE)** is an examination in which a student is required to achieve essential criteria to ensure safe practice. Objective structured clinical examination is assessed through a structured observation by an individual trained to NMC standards. Essential criteria are set by a panel and made available to students prior to the examination. In a 'structured stations' OSCE there are very specific tasks, for which the students are awarded a mark.
 - ii) **Objective structured clinical assessment (OSCA)** is an assessment in which a student is required to achieve essential criteria to ensure safe practice. Objective structured clinical assessment is assessed through a structured observation by an individual trained to NMC standards. Essential criteria are set by a panel and made available to students prior to the assessment. Students will be awarded either a pass or fail grade. To achieve a pass grade, a student must meet the required standard in the essential criteria.
- h) **Progression points** are set points within a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing which are defined by NMC. Professional progression points provide an opportunity for a Programme Board of Examiners to ensure that a student has achieved outcomes, including competencies and essential skills cluster (ESCs), set out by NMC in order to progress with their programme of study. Professional progression points within specific programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing are set out in Regulation B8.6 and are included in the programme specification.
- i) **Prerequisite for entry into the final nursing practice consolidation module.** The NMC requires satisfactory completion of all other practice modules prior to commencement of the final practice module. Module prerequisites for all fields of nursing practice have this requirement including the other practice modules at SCQF level 9.
 - j) **Sign-off mentor** is an NMC registrant who makes judgements about whether a student has achieved the required standards of competence for safe and effective practice as a new registrant. The sign-off mentor must be on the same part or sub-part of the NMC register as that which the student hopes to enter.

B8.3 Award regulations

- B8.3.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B8.3 to receive a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing a student must satisfy the requirements of Regulation A4.3.
- B8.3.2 In accordance with NMC requirements a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing can only be awarded to a student who completes their programme of study within the following time limits:
- a) Students registered on either a midwifery or nursing programme: five years from the date of first starting a full-time programme of study.
 - b) Students registered on a midwifery shortened route: two years and six months from the date of first starting the programme of study.
 - c) Students registered on a nursing or midwifery programme: a maximum of seven years from the date of first starting a part-time programme of study.
 - d) Students registered on a nursing or midwifery programme: for students transferring to a part-time mode of study a maximum of seven years from the date of first starting the initial programme of study.
- B8.3.3 To receive the NMC accredited awards Bachelor of Midwifery or Bachelor of Nursing, there is no requirement for a student to achieve a minimum of 40 credits from a programme-designed option pool in accordance with Regulation B3.2.
- B8.3.4 In accordance with Regulation A5.7 the exit awards defined in Regulation B8.3.5 to Regulation B8.3.13 have been approved for students who are unable to achieve a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing award of the University.
- B8.3.5 A **certificate of credit** will be awarded to a student who has achieved a recognised volume of credit through successfully completing an approved SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module or modules but who has not satisfied the requirements for any of the awards of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) or e).
- B8.3.6 A **Certificate of Higher Education in Health Care** will be awarded to a student who has achieved 120 credits in SCQF level 7 or above programme-specific compulsory theory and practice modules.
- B8.3.7 A **Certificate of Higher Education in Health Care with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 40 credits from SCQF level 7 or above programme-specific compulsory theory modules, and 20 credits from SCQF level 7 or above practice module has been passed at the first attempt

- B8.3.8 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Health Care** will be awarded to a student who has achieved 240 credits of which a minimum of 100 credits are from modules at SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory theory and practice modules.
- B8.3.9 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Health Care with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 40 credits from SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory theory modules and 20 credits from SCQF level 8 or above practice module has been passed at the first attempt.

Please note only cohorts September 2009 and January 2010 and students on a managed programme who started their three year programme before September 2009 are eligible for award B8.3.10 and B8.3.11

- B8.3.10 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Nursing** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 300 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 60 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 9 or above and;
 - b) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 8 or above, and;
 - c) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 7 or above.
- B8.3.11 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Nursing with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 40 credits from SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules, and the SCQF level 9 final or consolidation practice module has been passed at the first attempt.
- B8.3.12 A **Bachelor of Midwifery** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all NMC and programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 360 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 9 or above and
 - b) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 8 or above and
 - c) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 7 or above.

- B8.3.13 A **Bachelor of Nursing** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all aspects of the final progression point making the student eligible for professional registration for NMC and programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 360 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 9 or above, and;
 - b) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 8 or above, and;
 - c) a minimum of 120 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 7 or above.
- B8.3.14 A **Bachelor of Nursing with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 40 credits from SCQF level 9 or above programme-specific compulsory and theory modules and the SCQF level 9 final or consolidation practice module has been passed at the first attempt.
- B8.3.15 A **Bachelor of Midwifery with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 40 credits from SCQF level 9, or above programme specific theory modules, and the best 20 credits from practice modules at SCQF level 9, or above.

B8.4 Admission Regulations

- B8.4.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B4, students applying for admission to a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing will also be required to undertake Disclosure Scotland (or equivalent) and Occupational Health screening by the University's Fitness to Practice Committee. The School's Fitness to Practice Committee makes the final decision regarding entry onto either the pre-registration midwifery or nursing programme.
- B8.4.2 In accordance with NMC requirements, students applying for recognition of prior learning to be taken into account for a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing may apply to have:
- a) Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) accredited as part of learning undertaken within an approved programme that must not exceed a maximum of 50 per cent of the programme, provided all programme, professional and other requirements are met in full.
 - b) For first and second level nurses registered with the NMC, entering programmes that lead to qualification in the same or another field of practice, unlimited Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL), provided that all programme, professional and other requirements are met in full.
 - c) For NMC registered midwives entering pre-registration nursing programmes, Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) must not exceed a

maximum of 50 per cent of the programme, provided that all programme, professional and other requirements are met in full.

- B8.4.3 In accordance with NMC requirements, only students who are Registered Nurses (Adult) can be admitted with advanced standing into the shortened route programme of study leading to an award of a Bachelor of Midwifery.

B8.5 Assessment regulations

- B8.5.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B8.5, account will be taken of Regulations B5.2, B5.8 and B5.9 by Boards of Examiners considering the performance of individual students enrolled on midwifery or nursing theory or practice modules approved as part of the structure of a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing as appropriate.
- B8.5.2 To pass a **midwifery** or **nursing theory module** at the first attempt, a student must achieve a module mark of 40 per cent or above. The module mark will be derived from the component or components of assessment.
- a) If only one component is used a component mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved.
 - b) If two components are used the module mark will be based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of assessment, and no individual mark for a component of assessment may fall below 40 per cent.
 - c) A mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved for each individual element of any component of assessment.
- B8.5.3 A student will be awarded merit in a **midwifery** or **nursing theory module** by achieving a weighted average mark of at least 65 per cent in the module.
- B8.5.4 To pass a **nursing practice module** at the first attempt, a student must achieve a Pass grade. The module grade will be derived from the component or components of assessment.
- a) If only one component is used a Pass grade must be achieved in that component.
 - b) If two components are used a Pass grade must be achieved in each component.
 - c) A Pass grade must be achieved in each individual element of any component of assessment.
- B8.5.5 The award of merit is not available in **nursing practice modules**.

- B8.5.6 To pass a **midwifery practice module** at the first attempt, a student must achieve a module mark of 40 per cent or above. The module mark will be derived from the component or components of assessment.
- a) If only one component is used a component mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved.
 - b) If two components are used the module mark will be based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of assessment, and no individual mark for a component of assessment may fall below 40 per cent.
 - c) A mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved for each individual element of any component of assessment.
- B8.5.7 A student will be awarded merit in a **midwifery practice module** by achieving a weighted average mark of at least 65 per cent in the module.
- B8.5.8 A student enrolled on a **midwifery** or **nursing theory** or **practice module** will be entitled to one reassessment opportunity in that module. In exceptional circumstances a Programme Board of Examiners has the discretion to permit one further reassessment opportunity.
- a) If only one component of assessment is used, a student who does not meet the requirements of Regulation B8.5.4a) or Regulation B8.5.6a) will be reassessed in that component.
 - b) If two components of assessment are used, a student who does not meet the requirements of Regulation B8.5.2b) or Regulation B8.5.4b) will be reassessed in any component where a mark of 40 per cent or a pass grade has not been achieved as appropriate.
 - c) In providing students with the opportunity to make good any initial assessment failure account will be taken of Regulations A7.11, A7.12, A7.13 and Regulations B8.5.2c), B8.5.4c) and B8.5.6c) as appropriate.
- B8.5.9 In accordance with regulation B8.5.8 a student enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or to the award of a Bachelor of Nursing at the University will be entitled to complete one reassessment in each module.
- a) Students who start in trimester 1 are provided with a compulsory reassessment opportunity in August following delivery of the module. Students who start in trimester 2 are provided with a compulsory reassessment opportunity in December following delivery of the module.
 - b) Until the compulsory reassessment opportunity presents itself to the student, credits not achieved at original assessment are classified as pending reassessment credit and not failed credit.
 - i). When considering a student's academic profile, outstanding theory module credits have the status of credits pending, until the compulsory assessment opportunity, as specified in Regulation B8.5.9a), presents, or until the student has had an opportunity to

complete the module. For students enrolled on the Bachelor of Nursing, the student will be subject to regulation B8.6.3 until the credit is made good. For students enrolled on the Bachelor of Midwifery, the student will be subject to regulation B8.6.2 until the credit is made good.

- ii). When considering a student's academic profile, outstanding practice module credits have the status of credits pending, until the student has had an opportunity to complete the module. For students enrolled on the Bachelor of Nursing, the student will be subject to regulation B8.6.3 until the credit is made good. For students enrolled on the Bachelor of Midwifery, the student will be subject to regulation B8.6.2 until the credit is made good.
- iii). A student who has been granted extenuating circumstances against a theory module assessment, where that assessment constitutes the first module assessment opportunity for the parent intake/cohort/group, the timing of the assessment will be determined by the Programme Board of Examiners
- c) A student may choose to be reassessed at any available earlier opportunity than the compulsory reassessment opportunity. If a student chooses this option it will count as their sole reassessment opportunity.

B8.5.10 To pass at reassessment, a student enrolled on a **midwifery or nursing theory module** must achieve a minimum overall module mark of 40 per cent.

- a) If only one component of reassessment is used, a student must achieve a minimum mark of 40 per cent in that component.
- b) If two components of reassessment are used, a student must achieve a minimum module mark of 40 per cent based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of reassessment with no individual mark for a component of reassessment falling below 40 per cent. The weightings between the two components used for the reassessment will be identical to those used for the original assessment.
- c) Where a student achieved an original minimum component mark of 40 per cent in one of the two components of assessment, the overall module mark at reassessment will be calculated in accordance with Regulation B8.5.2b) using the original component mark and the component mark achieved at reassessment.
- d) A mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved for each individual element of any component of assessment.
- e) The overall mark for a reassessed module will be capped at 40 per cent.

B8.5.11 To pass at reassessment, a student enrolled on a **nursing practice module** must achieve a pass grade.

- a) If only one component is used a pass grade must be achieved in that component.

- b) If two components are used a pass grade must be achieved in each component.
- c) A pass grade must be achieved in each individual element of any component of assessment.

B8.5.12 To pass at reassessment, a student enrolled on a **midwifery practice module** must achieve a minimum overall module mark of 40 per cent.

- a) If only one component of reassessment is used, a student must achieve a minimum mark of 40 per cent in that component.
- b) If two components are used a student must achieve 40 per cent in each component.
- c) A mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved for each individual element of any component of assessment.
- d) The overall mark for a reassessed module will be capped at 40 per cent.

B8.6 Continuation of study regulations

- B8.6.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B8.6, account will be taken of Regulation B6 by a Programme Board of Examiners considering the performance of individual students enrolled on midwifery or nursing theory or practice modules which form part of a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing.
- B8.6.2 In accordance with NMC accreditation requirements, a Programme Board of Examiners must confirm within 12 weeks of students entering the next stage of study that **midwifery pre-registration students** have passed all elements of assessment within a professional progression point and are eligible to continue on their programme of study.
- B8.6.3 In accordance with NMC accreditation requirements, a Programme Board of Examiners must confirm that **nursing pre-registration students** have passed all elements of assessment and all NMC requirements within a professional progression point making them eligible to continue on their programme of study.
- B8.6.4 Where exceptional circumstances prevent all outcomes being achieved within the assessed period for that part of the programme, any outstanding outcomes are met and confirmed within 12 weeks of the student entering the next part of the programme. The 12-week period includes holidays and any absences. Reasonable adjustments may be applied for students with a disability
- B8.6.5 In accordance with NMC accreditation requirements, a Programme Board of Examiners may not award a student a compensatory pass in any module which forms part of a programme structure leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or a Bachelor of Nursing.
- B8.6.6 In accordance with NMC accreditation requirements, students enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Midwifery or Bachelor of Nursing must declare to the School Fitness to Practise Committee on entry to their programme of study and at the end of each stage of study that they are of good health and good character.
- B8.6.7 In accordance with NMC accreditation requirements, the School Fitness to Practise Committee will consider all student self declarations of Good health and good character at the start of each stage of study with a view to either:
- a) confirming that each individual student meets NMC Fitness to Practise requirements and is eligible to continue to the next stage of their programme of study, or
 - b) confirming that each individual student meets NMC Fitness to Practice registration requirements and is eligible for registration, or
 - c) confirming that an individual student does not meet NMC Fitness to Practice progression or registration requirements and agrees an outcome using SNMSC Fitness to Practice processes

B9 Regulations for programmes of study leading to veterinary nursing awards of the University

B9.1 Introduction

- B9.1.1 Regulation B9 sets out programme-specific regulations which apply to programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing which is an approved award of the University as identified in Regulation A4.1a).
- B9.1.2 Individual regulations within Regulation B9 have been designed to reconcile differences between the University's regulatory requirements and the requirements of the Royal College of Veterinary Nursing (RCVS). Application of the programme-specific veterinary nursing regulations enables students to meet RCVS registration requirements for the opportunity to apply for registration as a Veterinary Nurse.
- B9.1.3 In applying the programme-specific veterinary nursing regulations account will be taken of the regulations contained in Section A: General Regulations which apply to all programmes of study offered by the University and to the following regulations contained in Section B: Undergraduate Regulations:
- a) Regulation B1: Introduction
 - b) Regulation B2: Definitions
 - c) Regulation B4: Admission regulations.

B9.2 Definitions

- B9.2.1 As a means of helping to ensure that the University's academic regulations are consistently interpreted and applied, the following definitions are applicable to programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing at the University. In so doing appropriate account will also be taken of the definitions included in Regulation A3 and Regulation B2 as appropriate.
- a) A student enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing is generally referred to as a **pre-registration student**. A pre-registration student is not professionally registered with RCVS.
 - b) A student who is registered with RCVS and is continuing their professional development enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing is generally referred to as a **post-registration student**. A post-registration student will be enrolled on the **shortened route**.

- c) Stages of study within the programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing are often referred to by generic titles including:
- i) A **managed programme** is a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing which can be approved for students on an individual basis. The structure of an individual managed programme will be designed to enable a student with recognised prior learning to meet the academic and professional body requirements of a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing.
 - ii) A **shortened route** is a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing which is only available to applicants who are professionally registered with RCVS. The structure of a shortened route will be designed to take account of Regulation B9.3.2. In considering individuals for admission to a shortened route account will be taken of Regulation B4.3.
- d) Programmes of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing include approved practice and theory modules.
- i) **Practice modules** are designed to enable a student to achieve a level of performance as prescribed by RCVS. Practice modules are delivered in an approved placement learning location under the supervision of an approved RCVS registrant. Practice modules are assessed using competence-based assessment, portfolio or objective structured clinical examination and a student will be awarded either a pass or fail grade.
 - ii) **Theory modules** meet the requirements of a University standard size 20-credit module as defined in Regulation A3.1m)i) and are assessed using marking criteria described in the module descriptor.
- e) In accordance with RCVS accreditation requirements the approved structure of a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing contains a minimum of 2,100 hours of practical learning over a minimum period of 60 weeks across all stages of study. This minimum volume of practical learning applies to students enrolled on a **managed programme** leading to a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing.
- f) A **break in training, interruption** or **stand-still** are generic terms often used to describe a period of suspended study. A period of suspended study may be requested by a student and agreed through discussion with their programme leader. A period of suspended study may also be instigated as a result of an academic decision made by a Programme Board of Examiners or as a result of a decision made by the University's Fitness to Practice Committee. In agreeing a period of suspended study account will be taken of RCVS time-bound programme completion requirements set out in Regulation B9.3.

- g) **Objective structured clinical examination (OSCE)** is an examination in which a student is required to achieve essential criteria to ensure safe practice. Objective structured clinical examination is assessed through a structured observations of a range of assessments from a number of skill areas each observed by an individual trained to RCVS standards. Essential criteria are set by a panel and made available to students prior to the examination. To achieve a pass grade, a student must successfully meet all the essential criteria. In order to meet the RCVS requirements, any qualification leading to registration as a Veterinary Nurse must include a final objective, assessment of clinical skills.
- h) **Professional progression points** are set points within a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing which are defined by RCVS. Professional progression points provide an opportunity to ensure that a student has achieved a safe and effective level of practice to continue with their programme of study.

B9.3 Award regulations

- B9.3.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B9.3 to receive a veterinary nursing award of the University a student must satisfy the requirements of Regulations A4.3.
- B9.3.2 In accordance with RCVS requirements a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing can only be awarded to a student who successfully completes all the compulsory modules of the veterinary nursing programme within five years from the date of first starting the programme of study.
- B9.3.3 In accordance with Regulation A5.7 the exit awards defined in Regulation B9.3.4 to Regulation B9.3.12 have been approved for students who are unable to achieve a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing award of the University.
- B9.3.4 A **certificate of credit** will be awarded to a student who has achieved a recognised volume of credit through successfully completing an approved SCQF level 7, 8, 9 or 10 module or modules but who has not satisfied the requirements for any of the awards of the University listed in Regulation A4.1a) or e).
- B9.3.5 A **Certificate of Higher Education in Animal Health** will be awarded to a student who has achieved 120 credits in SCQF level 7 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory and practice modules.
- B9.3.6 A **Certificate of Higher Education in Animal Health with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in SCQF level 7 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules and if all SCQF level 7 or above practice modules have been passed.
- B9.3.7 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Animal Health** will be awarded to a student who has achieved 240 credits of which a minimum of 100 credits are

from modules at SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory and practice modules.

- B9.3.8 A **Diploma of Higher Education Animal Health with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in all SCQF level 8 or above programme specific compulsory and option theory modules, and if all SCQF Level 8 or above practice modules have been passed.
- B9.3.9 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Veterinary Nursing** will be awarded to a student enrolled on the shortened veterinary nursing route who has achieved 240 credits of which a minimum of 100 credits are from modules at SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules.
- B9.3.10 A **Diploma of Higher Education in Veterinary Nursing with Distinction** will be awarded to a student enrolled on the shortened veterinary nursing route who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits at SCQF level 8 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules.
- B9.3.11 A **Bachelor of Science Animal Health** will be awarded to a student who has achieved 360 credits of which:
- a) a minimum of 60 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 9 or above and
 - b) a minimum of 100 credits are from programme-specific compulsory and option modules at SCQF level 8 or above.
- B9.3.12 A **Bachelor of Science Animal Health with Distinction** or a **Bachelor of Science Veterinary Nursing with Distinction** will be awarded to a student who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 per cent in the best 60 credits from SCQF level 9 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules and if all SCQF level 9 or above practice modules have been passed.
- B9.3.13 A **Bachelor of Science Veterinary Nursing** or a **Bachelor of Science Veterinary Nursing with Distinction** will be awarded to a student enrolled on the shortened veterinary nursing route who has achieved an overall average of at least 65 percent in the best 60 credits from SCQF level 9 or above programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules.

B9.3.14 A **Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements, achieved all RCVS standards for veterinary nursing and gained a minimum of 480 credits of which:

- a) a minimum of 100 credits are from modules at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final year project and
- b) a minimum of 80 credits are from modules at SCQF level 9 or above and
- c) a minimum of 120 credits are from modules at SCQF level 8 or above and
- d) a minimum of 120 credits are from modules at SCQF level 7 or above.

B9.3.15 A **Bachelor of Science with Honours Animal Health** will be awarded to a student who has satisfied all programme-specific requirements and gained a minimum of 480 credits of which:

- a) a minimum of 100 credits are from modules at SCQF level 10, of which a minimum of 40 credits are derived from a dissertation or final year project and
- b) a minimum of 80 credits are from modules at SCQF level 9 or above and
- c) a minimum of 120 credits are from modules at SCQF level 8 or above and
- d) a minimum of 120 credits are from modules at SCQF Level 7 or above.

B9.3.16 The calculation of the classification of a **Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing** or a **Bachelor of Science with Honours Animal Health** will be based on 180 credits, to include a minimum of 100 credits from SCQF level 10 programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules plus the best SCQF level 9 credit achieved from programme-specific compulsory and option theory modules to gain a total of 180 credits and providing that all SCQF level 9 practice modules have been passed.

B9.3.17 The designation of the classification of a **Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing** or a **Bachelor of Science with Honours Animal Health**, will be:

- a) 70 per cent or above in all theory modules, and if all practice modules at SCQF level 9 have been passed: First Class
- b) 60 to 69.5 per cent in all theory modules, and if all practice modules at SCQF level 9 have been passed: Second Class, upper division
- c) 50 to 59.5 per cent in all theory modules, and if all practice modules at SCQF level 9 have been passed: Second Class, lower division
- d) 40 to 49.5 per cent in all theory modules, and if all practice modules at SCQF level 9 have been passed: Third Class.

- B9.3.18 Programme Boards of Examiners may consider a student at the cusp of an honours classification boundary for the award of a higher honours classification.
- a) A student at the cusp of an honours classification boundary is identified using the calculation defined in Regulation B9.3.18.
 - b) The cusp of an honours classification boundary is defined as:
 - i) First Class: 68 per cent to 69.4 per cent
 - ii) Second Class, upper division: 58 per cent to 59.4 per cent
 - iii) Second Class, lower division: 48 per cent to 49.4 per cent
 - iv) Third Class, 38 per cent to 39.4 per cent.
 - c) In such cases where a student has been identified as being at the cusp of an honours classification boundary, the Programme Board of Examiners may use its judgement and discretion, based on the student's overall performance across the best 100 credits at SCQF level 10, to award a higher classification.

B9.4 Admission Regulations

- B9.4.1 In considering applications for admission to a programme of study leading to an award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing account will be taken of the requirements of Regulation B4. The applicant must meet the regulatory requirements of the RCVS and must declare to the University any notes on their PVG record.

B9.5 Assessment regulations

- B9.5.1 Boards of Examiners considering the performance of individual students enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a **Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing** will take account of the following assessment regulations when considering the performance of individual students on veterinary nursing theory or practice modules as appropriate: Regulations B5.7, B5.8 and B5.9.
- B9.5.2 In accordance with RCVS requirements, students enrolled on a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing will be assessed by formal, time-constrained closed examination in all RCVS professional syllabus modules including SCQF level 7 modules at the end of the first trimester of the first stage of study.
- B9.5.3 To pass a **veterinary nursing theory** module at the first attempt, a student must achieve a module mark of 40 per cent or above. The module mark will be derived from the component or components of assessment.
- a) If only one component is used a component mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved.
 - b) If two components are used the module mark will be based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of assessment, and no individual mark for a component of assessment may fall below 40 per cent.

- c) A mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved for each individual element of any component of assessment.

B9.5.4 To pass a **veterinary nursing practice module** at the first attempt, a student must achieve a pass grade. The module grade will be derived from the component or components of assessment.

- a) If only one component is used a pass grade must be achieved in that component.
- b) If two components are used a pass grade must be achieved in each component.
- c) A pass grade must be achieved in each individual element of any component of assessment.

B9.5.5 A student will be awarded merit in a **veterinary nursing theory module** by achieving a weighted average mark of at least 65 per cent in the module.

B9.5.6 The award of merit is not available in **veterinary nursing practice modules**.

B9.5.7 A student enrolled on a **veterinary nursing theory or practice module** will be entitled to one reassessment opportunity in that module. In exceptional circumstances a Programme Board of Examiners has the discretion to permit one further reassessment opportunity.

- a) If only one component of assessment is used, a student who does not meet the requirements of Regulation B9.5.3a) or Regulation B9.5.4a) will be reassessed in that component.
- b) If two components of assessment are used, a student who does not meet the requirements of Regulation B9.5.3b) or Regulation B9.5.4b) will be reassessed in any component where a mark of 40 per cent or a pass grade has not been achieved as appropriate.
- c) In providing students with the opportunity to make good any initial assessment failure account will be taken of Regulations A7.11, A7.12, A7.13 and Regulations B9.5.3c) and B9.5.4c) as appropriate.

B9.5.8 To pass at reassessment, a student enrolled on a **veterinary nursing theory module** must achieve a minimum overall module mark of 40 per cent.

- a) If only one component of reassessment is used, a student must achieve a minimum mark of 40 per cent in that component.
- b) If two components of reassessment are used, a student must achieve a minimum module mark of 40 per cent based on the weighted marks achieved for each component of reassessment with no individual mark for a component of reassessment falling below 40 per cent. The weightings between the two components used for the reassessment will be identical to those used for the original assessment.

- c) Where a student achieved an original minimum component mark of 40 per cent in one of the two components of assessment, the overall module mark at reassessment will be calculated in accordance with Regulation B9.5.3b) using the original component mark and the component mark achieved at reassessment.
- d) A mark of 40 per cent or above must be achieved for each individual element of any component of assessment.
- e) The overall mark for a reassessed module will be capped at 40 per cent.

B9.5.9 To pass at reassessment, a student enrolled on a **veterinary nursing practice module** must achieve a pass grade.

- a) If only one component is used a pass grade must be achieved in that component.
- b) If two components are used a pass grade must be achieved in each component.
- c) A pass grade must be achieved in each individual element of any component of assessment.

B9.6 Continuation of study regulations

B9.6.1 In addition to meeting the requirements of Regulation B9.6, account will be taken of Regulation B6 by a Programme Board of Examiners considering the performance of individual students enrolled on veterinary nursing theory or practice modules which form part of a programme of study leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing.

B9.6.2 In accordance with RCVS accreditation requirements, a Programme Board of Examiners may not award a student a compensatory pass in any module which forms part of a programme structure leading to the award of a Bachelor of Science with Honours Veterinary Nursing.