

Protocol for PGT Boards of Examiners – 2021/22

1. Introduction

- 1.1 This guidance is based upon the Assessment Framework for PGT Students: Academic Year 2021/22. Where applicable (i.e. if students were also studying in 2019/20 or 2020/21), it is also based on the Policy on Fair Outcomes and Fair Assessments for PGT students (“Fair Assessment Policy”) published in January 2021, and the Framework for Assessment and Progression of Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught Graduating Cohorts (“the Emergency Framework”) developed in spring 2020.
- 1.2 The principles adopted for determining degree/programme classifications for students studying in 2019/20 and 2020/21 have been adapted appropriately from Regulations in order to be relevant to the Policy and Framework outlined above. These amendments will be applied where possible, but it may not be possible to do so where there are specific professional requirements determined by the University and/or professional bodies.
- 1.3 Where the approach varies between different cohorts of students, this is set out in this document as follows:
- For **full-time** PGT students commencing in 2021/22 and **graduating** in 2022, please refer to [PART A](#).
 - For **part-time** PGT students commencing in 2020/21 and **graduating** in 2022, please refer to [PART B](#).
 - For **part-time** PGT students commencing in 2019/20 or earlier and **graduating** in 2022, please refer to [PART C](#).
 - For **part-time** PGT **continuing** students (i.e. all those not in their final year in 2021/22), please refer to [PART D](#).

2. Timing and Deadlines

Schedule for EPS and MDS (staggered release deadlines for finalists and continuing students)

For graduating student cohorts:

End of Exam period as confirmed by Timetabling and Examinations	Sat 11 June
Unconfirmed Marks into BIRMS deadline	Wed 15 June
Exam Boards take place from	Thu 16 June
Deadline for confirmed marks and awards release and for return of Board paperwork to TSA	Mon 27 June
Meeting of PAB	Wed 29 June
Degree Congregations	Tue 12 July to Wed 20 July

For continuing students:

End of Exam period as confirmed by Timetabling and Examinations:	Sat 11 June
Unconfirmed Marks into BIRMS deadline:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • for modules taken by students with a home School in LES, CAL, CoSS or LANS • for students taking all modules within home School of EPS/MDS 	Wed 15 June Wed 22 June
Exam Boards take place from	Thu 23 June
Deadline for confirmed marks and awards release and for return of Board paperwork to TSA	Mon 4 July
Meeting of PAB: Any cases that don't go to the meeting on Wed 29 June will be heard by Chairs Action	

Schedule for LES, CAL, CoSS and Liberal Arts and Natural Sciences (one release deadline for finalists and continuing student cohorts):

End of Exam period as confirmed by Timetabling and Examinations	Sat 11 June
Unconfirmed Marks into BIRMS deadline	Wed 15 June
Exam Boards take place	w/c Mon 20 June
Deadline for confirmed marks and progression decisions/awards release, and for return of Board paperwork to TSA (<i>for graduating students and continuing students</i>)	Mon 27 June
Meeting of PAB	Wed 29 June
Degree Congregations	Tue 12 July to Wed 20 July

3. Role of Boards of Examiners

- 3.1 As normal, the role of PGT Boards of Examiners meetings in 2022 will be to oversee and confirm all marks, progress decisions and (where applicable) awards.
- 3.2 **Extenuating circumstances (ECs):** The impact of ECs should be considered as normal by Boards of Examiners for all students. The requirement for students to provide evidence when submitting ECs was reinstated in 2021/22, following a relaxation of evidence requirements during the previous two years as a result of the pandemic. EC Panels will have made their recommendations to the Board of Examiners on this basis.
- 3.3 **Degree classifications:** In common with the previous two years, every student's profile of marks will continue to be considered in determining the degree classification (i.e. Pass, Merit or Distinction) for graduating students. See Appendices A-C for further detail regarding the calculation and determination of degree classifications.
- 3.4 **Recommendations 'Notwithstanding Regulations':** The principle of 'Notwithstanding Regulations' is replaced this year with the principle of 'Notwithstanding Assessment Frameworks', 'Notwithstanding Fair Assessment Policy' or 'Notwithstanding Emergency Frameworks' where applicable. PAB will be scheduled to take place to consider any individual cases as appropriate. Advice on individual cases can be sought from Registry as normal.
- 3.5 **Chair's Statement:** The Chair (and external examiner) will need to sign off a statement as normal to confirm that the Board has operated appropriately and all degree classifications have been agreed by the external examiner. A template statement will be provided by Registry to reflect the current arrangements.

4. Role of External Examiners

- 4.1 As normal, external examiners are responsible for scrutinising and endorsing the outcomes of assessment processes, confirming results and progress decisions. Their role in moderating samples of work, meeting with students, attending Boards of Examiner meetings (virtually or in person) and submitting their annual report remains unchanged.
- 4.2 **Assessment Frameworks:** External examiners are not asked to give retrospective approval to the Assessment Frameworks. They have been informed of the broad approach, and their role this year, as in all years, is to quality assure the application of the Regulations/Policy rather than approve the University's legislation. A communication was sent to external examiners in February 2022 to update them on the Assessment Frameworks and to thank them for their continued support.
- 4.3 **Meetings with students:** External Examiners should be provided with the opportunity to meet with students, as normal. Meetings may be arranged virtually or in person.

- 4.4 **Attendance at Board of Examiners meetings:** As normal, an external examiner should attend all Board meetings (virtually or in person) or, if this is not possible, a consulting mechanism should be in place before marks and decisions are released. If there are any difficulties with securing external examiner input, please consult with the DPVC (Education) via Registry.
- 4.5 **Degree classifications:** The external examiner should be asked explicitly to review and endorse all degree classification decisions, following a review of the student's mark distribution. This is essential in order to evidence the maintenance of academic standards and that students have been treated fairly and not disadvantaged by the continuing pandemic situation. We may need to produce this evidence in response to academic appeals or complaints from students.
- 4.6 **Annual report:** External examiners will be required to complete an annual report as normal.

5. Practical Arrangements for Board of Examiners Meetings

- 5.1 **Meetings:** Meetings may continue to be held virtually using Teams, Zoom or similar, in person, or in a hybrid format.
- 5.2 **Quoracy:** The normal quoracy arrangements apply, i.e. a minimum of three academic staff plus an external examiner. If this is not possible for any reason, please consult with the DPVC (Education) via Registry.
- 5.3 **Minutes:** It continues to be important to ensure that Board decisions are minuted clearly and accurately, and that minutes are returned to Registry to form part of the formal record of the arrangements this year. Minutes may need to be used as evidence should students appeal or complain, or should the QAA or OfS decide to scrutinise the University's arrangements.

6. Calculations in BIRMS

- 6.1 IT Services have built required amendments into the automated calculation of awards so that no manual calculations will be necessary. BIRMS calculates PGT degree classifications automatically in the following ways, depending on the student:
- (i) in accordance with standard Regulations (students must attempt 120 taught credits (which can include up to 30 credits at LC, LI or LH) and must achieve at least 80 credits at LM, no failed marks below 40 and pass the 60-credit dissertation);
 - (ii) in accordance with the Emergency Framework, using the best 80 taught credits which can include up to 30 credits at LC, LI or LH and allowing failed marks below 40, plus the dissertation. This functionality must be retained as there may be students who will be repeating taught or dissertation modules from 2019/20 but whose degree classifications should still be calculated under the Emergency Framework;
 - (iii) in accordance with the Fair Assessment Policy, taking into account the reduced credit and marks requirements set out in Appendix B (and any variations based on professional body requirements). This functionality must be retained as there will be students who will be repeating taught or dissertation modules from 2020/21 but whose degree classifications should still be calculated under the Fair Assessment Policy. There will also be part-time students who were studying in 2020/21 and for whom these reduced requirements will still apply (see Appendix B and C).

PART A: Determination of Full-Time PGT Degree Classifications

A1.1 This Appendix applies to full-time PGT students commencing their studies in 2021/22 and graduating in 2022.

A1.2 Marks will be calculated based on normal regulatory requirements (for modules studied in 2021/22), as set out in the table below. These requirements have been reinstated this year given the reduced disruption arising from the pandemic in comparison with the previous two years.

A1.3 For each student, in addition to the requirements set out below, there must also be sufficient evidence that they have met the overall Programme Learning Outcomes.

	Pass	Merit	Distinction
Postgraduate Certificate	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 60 credits; • have achieved a mark of 40% or more in at least 60 credits; • have gained at least 40 credits at Level M (with a mark of at least 50%); • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the 60 credits used for the award. 	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted and passed at least 60 credits; • have gained at least 40 credits at Level M (with a mark of at least 50%); • have a weighted mean mark of at least 60% calculated across the 60 credits used for the award. 	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted and passed at least 60 credits; • have gained at least 40 credits at Level M (with a mark of at least 50%); • have a weighted mean mark of at least 70% calculated across the 60 credits used for the award.
Postgraduate Diploma	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 120 credits; • have gained at least 80 credits at Level M (with a mark of at least 50%); • have achieved a mark of 40% or more in at least 120 credits; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the 120 credits used for the award. 	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted and passed at least 120 credits; • have gained at least 80 credits at Level M (with a mark of at least 50%); • have a weighted mean mark of at least 60% calculated across the 120 credits used for the award. 	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted and passed at least 120 credits; • have gained at least 80 credits at Level M (with a mark of at least 50%); • have a weighted mean mark of at least 70% calculated across the 120 credits used for the award.
Postgraduate Masters Degree	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 120 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation; • have passed at least 80 taught credits at Level M and the 60 credit Level M dissertation; • have achieved a mark of 40% or more in all taught modules; 	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted and passed at least 120 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation; • have passed at least 80 taught credits at Level M and the 60 credit Level M dissertation; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 55% in the taught credits 	A Registered student must: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted and passed at least 120 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation; • have passed at least 80 taught credits at Level M and the 60 credit Level M dissertation; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 65% in the taught credits

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% in the 120 taught credits being used for the award; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% in the dissertation component at Level M; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the credits used for the award. 	being used for the award; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a weighted mean mark of at least 55% in the dissertation component at Level M; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 60% calculated across the credits used for the award. 	being used for the award; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have a weighted mean mark of at least 65% in the dissertation component at Level M; • have a weighted mean mark of at least 70% calculated across the credits used for the award.
--	---	--	--

Review of Marks Profiles

A1.4 In accordance with the Assessment Framework, some additional mitigations remain as set out below in order to ensure that students are not disadvantaged in comparison with previous cohorts and students graduating from other institutions:

- Similarly to 2020/21, the module marks profile will need to be reviewed for each (anonymised) student. As normal, there must be sufficient evidence that each student has met the overall Programme Learning Outcomes and any core competencies required for professional accreditation.
- The marks achieved by this year's graduating cohort should also be compared with that of last three years' cohorts to ensure students are not disadvantaged. If there is a variation beyond the normal variation between years, Boards of Examiners may scale marks accordingly. In order to do this, the External Examiner must be supportive, and there must be alignment with the requirements of individual professional bodies.

PART B: Determination of Part-Time PGT Degree Classifications: Students Commencing in 2020/21

- B1.1 This Appendix applies to part-time PGT students commencing in 2020/21 and graduating in 2022.
- B1.2 To determine an overall weighted mean mark that will be used to determine the final degree classification, marks will be calculated based on a combination of: normal regulatory requirements (for modules studied in 2021/22) and the Fair Assessment Policy (for modules studied in 2020/21), as set out in the table below.
- B1.3 For each student, in addition to the requirements set out below, there must also be sufficient evidence that they have met the overall Programme Learning Outcomes.

Contribution of 2020/21 Credits

B1.4 In 2020/21, the following amendments were made to Regulations:

- for PGCert students: removal of the requirement to have achieved a mark of 40 or more in at least 60 credits;
- for PGDip students: removal of the requirement to have achieved a mark of 40 or more in at least 120 credits;
- for Taught PG Degree students: removal of the requirement to have achieved a mark of 40 or more in all taught modules;
- for all awards: removal of the requirement to pass all taught modules to be awarded a degree with Merit or Distinction.

B1.5 These amendments stand for modules studied in 2020/21 by part-time PGT students (and have been reflected in the automated BIRMS calculations). Marks will therefore be calculated as follows:

	Pass	Merit	Distinction
Postgraduate Certificate	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 40 credits at Level M (can include up to 20 credits at Level C, I or H); • have gained a weighted mean mark of at least 50% in the 60 credits considered for the award; • NB: <i>no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22.</i> 	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 40 credits at Level M (can include up to 20 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 60% in the 60 credits considered for the award; • NB: <i>no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22</i> • NB: <i>no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award</i> 	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 40 credits at Level M (can include up to 20 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 70% in the 60 credits considered for the award; • NB: <i>no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22.</i>

		<i>Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22.</i>	
Postgraduate Diploma	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 80 credits at Level M (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 50% in the 120 credits considered for the award; • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 80 credits at Level M (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 60% in the 120 credits considered for the award; • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 80 credits at Level M (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 70% in the 120 credits considered for the award; • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22
Postgraduate Masters Degree	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 80 taught credits at Level M (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 50 in the taught component of the programme; • achieve credit in dissertation components with a total credit value of 60 credits at Level M taken during the course of the programme; 	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 80 taught credits at Level M (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 55 in the taught components; • achieve credit in dissertation components with a total credit value of 60 credits at Level M taken in the course of the programme; 	<p>A Registered Student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have passed at least 80 taught credits at Level M (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H); • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 65 in the taught components; • achieve credit in dissertation components with a total credit value of 60 credits at Level M taken in the course of the programme;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 50 in the dissertation component at level M; • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the credits used for the award; • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 55 in the dissertation component at level M; • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 60 calculated across all modules; • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 65 in the dissertation component at level M; • achieve a weighted mean mark of at least 70 calculated across all modules; • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22
--	--	--	--

Review of Marks Profiles

B1.8 In accordance with the Assessment Framework, some additional mitigations remain as set out below in order to ensure that students are not disadvantaged in comparison with previous cohorts and students graduating from other institutions:

- Similarly to previous years, the module marks profile will need to be reviewed for each (anonymised) student to determine whether there is evidence of a negative impact on marks gained for work submitted during 2020/21 while the pandemic was still continuing, compared to marks submitted previously. While students may have experienced some minor disruption during 2021/22 (e.g. due to self-isolation), it is important to note that the academic impact is not comparable to that experienced earlier in the pandemic.
- As normal, there must be sufficient evidence that each student has met the overall Programme Learning Outcomes and any core competencies required for professional accreditation.
- The marks achieved by this year's graduating cohort should also be compared with that of last three years' cohorts to ensure students are not disadvantaged. If there is a variation beyond the normal variation between years, Boards of Examiners may scale marks accordingly. In order to do this, the External Examiner must be supportive, and there must be alignment with the requirements of individual professional bodies.

Notwithstanding Regulations/Assessment Frameworks

B1.10 There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation in previous years and is not awarded a Distinction, Merit or Pass degree because the required criteria are not fulfilled. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student should be awarded a Distinction, Merit or Pass, based on the profile of marks, an award can be made 'Notwithstanding Regulations/Assessment Frameworks' without recourse to PAB, as long as the external examiner is supportive. In such cases, it is recommended that the overall mark obtained is 50% for a pass degree, 55% for a Merit and 65% for a Distinction; however the thresholds in marks for the taught credits and the dissertation as outlined in Regulations, or if applicable, the table above) need not apply. The decisions and rationale must be clearly minuted.

PART C: Determination of Part-Time PGT Degree Classifications: Students Commencing in 2019/20 or Earlier

- C1.1 This Appendix applies to part-time PGT students commencing in 2019/20 or earlier and graduating in 2022.
- C1.2 To determine an overall weighted mean mark that will be used to determine the final degree classification, marks will be calculated based on a combination of: normal regulatory requirements (for modules studied in 2021/22); the Fair Assessment Policy (for modules studied in 2020/21); and the Emergency Framework (for modules studied in 2019/20), as set out below.
- C1.3 For each student, in addition to the requirements set out below, there must also be sufficient evidence that they have met the overall Programme Learning Outcomes.

Contribution of 2020/21 Credits

- C1.4 In 2020/21, the following amendments were made to Regulations:
- for PGCert students: removal of the requirement to have achieved a mark of 40 or more in at least 60 credits;
 - for PGDip students: removal of the requirement to have achieved a mark of 40 or more in at least 120 credits;
 - for Taught PG Degree students: removal of the requirement to have achieved a mark of 40 or more in all taught modules;
 - for all awards: removal of the requirement to pass all taught modules to be awarded a degree with Merit or Distinction.
- C1.5 These amendments stand (and have been reflected in the automated BIRMS calculations) for modules studied in 2020/21 by part-time PGT students.

Contribution of 2019/20 Credits

- C1.6 For part-time PGT students who were also studying in 2019/20 (e.g. if they are currently in the final year of a multi-year programme), appropriate elements of the Emergency Framework will also apply as follows.
- C1.7 In 2019/20, PT PGT students were permitted to progress if they had achieved two thirds of their taught credits for that year of study. Where students did not have the opportunity to achieve two thirds of their taught credits, they were able to do so by taking additional assessments during 2020/21.
- C1.8 The number of credits taken by PT PGT students each year varies. In 2019/20, the majority of PGT students will have had the opportunity to attempt at least 40 out of the 60 credits normally attempted by a PT student during a single academic session. Students who attempted fewer than 40 credits in 2019/20 will normally have gained additional credits in previous or later academic sessions. By the time they complete their programme in 2021/22, the majority of students will therefore have attempted at least 100 credits out of a total of 120 taught credits.
- C1.9 In recognition of the fact that students in this situation may not have had the opportunity to take the full 120 taught credits, the degree classification for PT PGT students graduating in 2021/22 will continue to be calculated using the total number of credits students have attempted, subject to a minimum of 160 credits (100 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation/project).
- C1.10 If students have attempted fewer than 100 taught credits, the degree may still be awarded 'Notwithstanding

Regulations/Assessment Frameworks/Emergency Framework', if appropriate, with approval from the Progress and Awards Board (PAB) (see C1.9-10, below). These credit requirements will be pro-rated for PGCerts and PGDips. Marks will therefore be calculated as follows:

	Pass	Merit	Distinction
Postgraduate Certificate	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 40 credits • have passed at least 40 credits (can include up to 20 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 40 credits). • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 40 credits • have passed at least 40 credits (can include up to 20 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 60% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 40 credits). • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 40 credits • have passed at least 40 credits (can include up to 20 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 70% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 40 credits). • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22
Postgraduate Diploma	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 100 credits • have passed at least 80 credits (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 100 credits). • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to 	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 100 credits • have passed at least 80 credits (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 60% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 100 credits). • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to 	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 100 credits • have passed at least 80 credits (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 70% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 100 credits). • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to

	<p><i>have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22</i></p>	<p><i>have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p><i>have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22
<p>Postgraduate Masters Degree</p>	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 100 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation (at least 160 credits in total) • have passed at least 80 taught credits (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% in the taught credits being used for the award (minimum 100 credits) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% in the dissertation component at Level M • have a weighted mean mark of at least 50% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 160 credits) • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 100 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation (at least 160 credits in total) • have passed at least 80 taught credits (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 55% in the taught credits being used for the award (minimum 100 credits) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 55% in the dissertation component at Level M • have a weighted mean mark of at least 60% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 160 credits) • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<p>A Registered student must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have attempted at least 100 taught credits plus the 60-credit dissertation (at least 160 credits in total) • have passed at least 80 taught credits (can include up to 30 credits at Level C, I or H) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 65% in the taught credits being used for the award (minimum 100 credits) • have a weighted mean mark of at least 65% in the dissertation component at Level M • have a weighted mean mark of at least 70% calculated across the credits used for the award (minimum 160 credits) • NB: no requirement for a minimum mark of 40% to have been achieved across all modules; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NB: no requirement for all modules to have been passed (50%) to award Merit or Distinction; however, the requirement does apply where a student is registered on the module for the first time in 2021/22
--	--	--	--

Review of Marks Profiles

C1.11 In accordance with the Assessment Framework, some additional mitigations remain as set out below in order to ensure that students are not disadvantaged in comparison with previous cohorts and students graduating from other institutions:

- Similarly to previous years, the module marks profile will need to be reviewed for each (anonymised) student to determine:
 - where applicable, whether there is evidence of a negative impact on marks (including the dissertation mark) gained for work submitted during the COVID-19 disruption (i.e. from 20 March 2020, when the University moved to Restricted Campus Operations, until autumn 2020) compared to marks gained for work submitted before or after this period;
 - whether there is evidence of a negative impact on marks gained for work submitted during 2020/21 while the pandemic was still continuing, compared to marks submitted previously. While students may have experienced some minor disruption during 2021/22 (e.g. due to self-isolation), it is important to note that the academic impact is not comparable to that experienced earlier in the pandemic.
- As normal, there must be sufficient evidence that each student has met the overall Programme Learning Outcomes and any core competencies required for professional accreditation.
- The marks achieved by this year's graduating cohort should also be compared with that of last three years' cohorts to ensure students are not disadvantaged. If there is a variation beyond the normal variation between years, Boards of Examiners may scale marks accordingly. In order to do this, the External Examiner must be supportive, and there must be alignment with the requirements of individual professional bodies.

Notwithstanding Regulations/Assessment Frameworks

C1.12 There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation in previous years and is not awarded a Distinction, Merit or Pass degree because the required criteria are not fulfilled. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student should be awarded a Distinction, Merit or Pass, based on the profile of marks, an award can be made 'Notwithstanding Regulations/Assessment Frameworks/Emergency Framework' without recourse to PAB, as long as the external examiner is supportive. In such cases, it is recommended that the overall mark obtained is 50% for a pass degree, 55% for a Merit and 65% for a Distinction; however the thresholds in marks for the taught credits and the dissertation as outlined in Regulations, or if applicable, the table above) need not apply. The decisions and rationale must be clearly minuted.

C1.10 If the Board of Examiners decides that a student should be awarded a degree having attempted fewer than 100 taught credits (pro-rated for PGCerts and PGDips), approval must be sought from PAB.

Further points to note:

- C1.11 **Transcripts:** A letter to accompany the transcript will be available to students on request, which they can provide to potential employers or places of further study to explain how module marks and credits have been recorded in the context of the Emergency Framework.
- C1.12 If a student registered for a module in 2019/20 but did not take the assessment, in accordance with the Emergency Framework and the process applied in 2019/20, the mark should be recorded as 'N'.
- C1.13 **Reassessment:** The following Regulation was suspended in 2019/20 under the Emergency Framework:
- 7.2.6 (i) Registered Students may not normally be reassessed in or repeat any module for which they have obtained credit, except for Registered Students with extenuating circumstances. In such a circumstance, the mark used for calculating a Registered Student's weighted mean mark and progress decision or final degree classification and grade point average shall be the mark obtained in the repeat attempt. If a Registered Student fails at the repeat attempt, any previously gained credit in that module will not stand.*
- C1.13 This meant that, if a student achieved a lower mark in 2019/20 in the repeat attempt of a module, it was permissible to award the higher mark under the 'no detriment' principle. For any students in this situation who are graduating in 2021/22, the higher mark still stands and will contribute towards the overall mark and degree classification.
- C1.14 If a student is repeating or resitting the final year of their PGT programme in 2021/22 as a result of ECs submitted in 2019/20, they will continue to be considered under the Emergency Framework rather than the Fair Assessment Policy.

PART D: Progression of Part-Time Continuing PGT Students at 2021/22 Exam Boards

- D1.1 For part-time students in 'intermediate' years of a part-time programme (for example, Year 2 of a three-year programme), the marks they take forward from each year relate to the Regulations in place at the time. The Regulations in place in each year of study will be taken into account at final award Boards when calculating the student's degree. Normal Regulations apply to these students in 2021/22.
- D1.2 Further guidance on Boards of Examiners relevant to the year of graduation will be provided in future years as appropriate, taking into account of the circumstances in which students have completed modules in previous years.