![London Metropolitan University logo]

Summary of main changes to the Academic Regulations 2015/16

The following summary sets down the changes incorporated into the Academic Regulations 2015/16, approved by the University's Academic Board to take effect from September 2015 for both new and current students.

1. Regulations Governing the Responsibilities of Students (Section 9.1)

This Section has been relocated from the Academic Regulations and the areas covered incorporated into the 'General Student Regulations', available at: http://www.londonmet.ac.uk/regulations

2. Undergraduate Awards Classification

In light of the predominantly 30 credit architecture introduced in 2012/13, the Academic Board revisited the classification algorithm to reflect the 30 credit architecture. . Data modelling was conducted and a revised classification algorithm has been adopted (on the basis of 'no disadvantage' for students continuing from 14/15). The main points to note are:

- the best 90 credits at Honours Level remains double weighted;
- the classification average now includes all 240 credits at Levels 5 and 6 (instead of 225);
- a classification average of 69.5 or above will lead to a first class degree; 59.5 or above will lead to an upper second and 49.5 and above will lead to a lower second;
- a student will be eligible for an upgrade if they have an average within 2.5% of the boundary (e.g. 67.00 or above at the 1st/2.1 boundary) and 50% or more of their credit is in the higher class.

3. Classification of HNC (Merit and Distinction

The 2015/16 Academic Regulations have been amended to reflect the Chair's Action taken in 2014/15 to classify HNC with the award of Merit and Distinction.

4. Procedures for Appeal (against decisions of Assessment Boards/Termination of Student Status)

The appeal procedures in Sections 10.4 and 10.8 have been amended to align with the Good Practice Framework developed and published in December 2014 by the Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education (OIA). The main changes entailed the introduction of a two-stage appeal procedure in respect of termination and the introduction of revised timelines for each stage of the procedures. 'Termination of Student Status' has also been renamed 'Termination of Student Registration' to ensure consistent terminology across the University.

5. Changes to Progression Thresholds

Updates to the progression matrices (as detailed below) were approved by Academic Board to apply for both 2014/15 and 2015/16. The main change is that some profiles that would previously have been recorded as 'Remain at Present Level' are now recommended as 'Conditional Progression' reducing the number of students with funding difficulties caused by 'repeat year funding' via the Student Loans Company.

Level 3 to level 4 (extended degree students)

Decision	Code	Rules	Next Block	Notes
Pass Progress	PP	Student has passed 90 credits and at least 120 credits completed. All required modules passed.	1	NB – Won't be able to check that any course specific requirements are met
Remain at Present Level	RL	Student has not achieved enough passes and cannot do so even with available resits/results for unpublished modules.	0	Student will need to reenrol at same level next year.
Decision Deferred	DD	Insufficient results for a decision to be reached	N/A	
Fail Discontinue	FD	Student will be recommended for discontinuation by the Awards Board; student can appeal FD decisions.	N/A	
Fail Transfer	FT	Student may only reenrol on a new course	N/A	Students can only take a module twice – after they have exhausted reassessment on core modules they may be required to transfer course
Course Complete	CC	Student has completed requirements for an Award	N/A	Normally applies where student is enrolled on a standalone preparatory course (e.g. IFP) rather than an extended degree. Where a student requests an award as they are moving to another institution progression code will be CC.

Level 4 to level 5

Decision	Code	Rules	Next Block	Notes
Pass Progress	PP	Student has passed 90 credits and at least 120 credits completed (R1/F1 in 30 credits)	2	NB – Won't be able to check that any course specific requirements are met
Conditional Progression	PR*	Student can be progressed but needs to improve one more module to complete level.	2	Normally 60 credits passed and a further 60 credits completed (including grades R1/F1)
Remain at Present Level	RL	Student has not achieved enough passes to be PR and cannot do so even with available resits/results for unpublished modules.	1	Student will need to reenrol at same level next year
Decision Deferred	DD	Insufficient results for a decision to be reached	N/A	
Fail Discontinue	FD	Student will be recommended for discontinuation by the Awards Board; student can appeal FD decisions.	N/A	Full-time students repeating the level, may be discontinued after two years if they fail to complete Level 4 and have no outstanding reassessments
Fail Transfer	FT	Student may only reenrol on a new course	N/A	Students can only take a module twice – after they have exhausted reassessment on core modules they may be required to transfer course

Full-time Students for whom 2014/15 is their second or subsequent enrolment at Certificate Level and who are not entitled to progress will normally be considered for termination of their registration.

* Course Specific Regulations in the CASS mean that unless a student has passed 120 credits their progression decision will be RL.

Where a student's progression decision at Level 4 is RL (Remain at Present Level) their programme should normally consist only of the modules that they have not yet passed at this level. Mixed Level programmes should not normally be approved unless a student has passed more than half of the programme at the lower level.

Level 5 to Level 6

Decision	Code	Rules	Next Block	Notes
Pass Progress	PP	Student has completed Level 4 and passed 90 credits and at least 120 credits completed at level 5 (R1/F1 in 7th & 8th)	3	NB – Won't be able to check that any course specific requirements are met.
Conditional Progression	PR*	Student can be progressed but needs to register further modules up to 30 credits to complete level.	3	At least 60 credits passed at level 5 and further credits completed (including grades R1/F1). No work outstanding at Level 4. Mixed level programming is permissible at the discretion of PATs up to a maximum of 150 credits.
Remain at Present Level	RL	Student has not achieved sufficient credits at level 5 to satisfy PR above and cannot do so even with available resits/results for unpublished modules.	2	Student will need to reenrol at same level next year. Student will normally need at least 60 credits registered at Level 5 – mixed level programming is normally inadvisable.
Decision Deferred	DD	Insufficient results for a decision to be reached	N/A	
Fail Discontinue	FD	Student will be recommended for discontinuation by the Awards Board; student can appeal FD decisions.	N/A	
Fail Transfer	FT	Student may only reenrol on a new course	N/A	Students can only take a module twice – after they have exhausted reassessment on core modules they may be required to transfer course
Course Complete	CC	Student has completed requirements for an Award	N/A	

* Course Specific Regulations in the CASS mean that unless a student has passed 120 credits their progression decision will be RL.

In order to complete Level 5 a student is required to:
- *complete the requirements of Level 4 described above;*
- *complete modules equivalent to 120 credits at level 5*
- *pass modules equivalent to 90 credits at Level 5;*
- *obtain at least 25% in an additional 30 credits (indicated in profiles by grades of R1 and F1);*
- *pass any modules specifically identified in the Course Regulatory Schedule as 'Required Passes'.*
It should be noted that R2 and F2 are failing grades that cannot be counted towards completion of a level);

Where a student does not meet the requirements identified above they may be recommended for Conditional Progression provided they have:
- *met the requirements of Level 4 above;*
- *can complete the requirements at Level 6 through a programme consisting of at most 150 credits.*

This means that a student is permitted to advance to the next level of their programme of study but may be required to take up to 30 credits at Level 5 as part of their programme for 2015/16.

6. Non-regulatory matters

Within Module Reassessment – In-year reassessments

The position for 2015/16 remains that reassessment takes place in the July following the taking of the module with coursework due on the 1 August and a two week exam period at the end of July. However, where assessments with a formative element take place early in the module this timing may diminish their effectiveness and the way a student prepares for later tasks and assessments. Hence, the Academic Board approved for 2014/15 the possibility of limited pilots whereby reassessment in early components of a year-long module (which would still be capped at 40%) could take place as part of the standard 30 week programme. A wider implementation of these opportunities is encouraged where they can lead to better student engagement