

UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX
PARTNER INSTITUTION: SYSTEMS
ARCHITECTURE KNOWLEDGE (SAK)
UNDERGRADUATE RULES OF ASSESSMENT
Applicable to Students Starting in Academic Year 2025-26

Contents

1. PREAMBLE.....	2
2. PASS AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 1 (LEVEL 4)	6
3. PASS AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 2 (LEVEL 5).....	9
4. SUMMARY OF REASSESSMENT OPTIONS - YEARS 1 & 2 AND FINAL YEAR (NON-FINAL) BOARD	11
5. REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THE FINAL YEAR (YEAR 3) AND ELIBILITY FOR AN AWARD	17
6. REQUIREMENTS AND DEGREE CLASSIFICATION: Direct Entry to the Final Year of a University of Essex Three-Year Degree (SAK).....	23

1. PREAMBLE

- a) These Rules of Assessment should be read in conjunction with:
 - i. The relevant Course Structure, Programme Specification and module outlines. The Course Structure will identify which modules are core.
 - ii. University of Essex Undergraduate Rules of Assessment Framework (Applicable to SAK Students)
 - iii. SAK Extenuating Circumstances Policy
- b) These rules apply to all students registered on the BSc Computer Science (registered at SAK).
- c) The Rules of Assessment in place at the time of the meeting of an examination board are applied for all students, regardless of when they started their course, provided that any revisions that have been made will not negatively impact students.
- d) At Levels 4 and 5 SAK students study 120 credits over 12 months in each stage, in four terms of 30 credits each. At Level 6 students study 120 credits over 9 months; 30 credits in Term 1, 30 credits in Term 2, and 60 credits in Term 3.
- e) There are four cohort intake points per year in September, January, April and June annually. Where we refer to Term 1, Term 2, Term 3 and Term 4 within this document, the timing of the term number will be different for each of the four cohorts. These are mapped in Table 1.1.
- f) The maximum period of study for students undertaking the BSc Computer Science course at SAK is six years. The maximum period of study is set from the date when the student is first admitted to an Undergraduate course. Reassessment which takes place whilst progress to the next term is

suspended, and periods of intermission due to other reasons, are normally included within the maximum period unless there are exceptional reasons in which case an extension can be applied for.

- g) There will be four examination board meetings held per year on a quarterly (termly) basis. These will take place in week 7 of the term.
- h) When the examination board meets, the marks for all students who have progressed to the next Term/Year, or undertaken reassessment prior to the examination board meeting, will be considered.
- i) Due to the rolling nature of the programme, students will have regular opportunities to undertake reassessment throughout the year at the next available opportunity. Where students are given the option to pause studies for a term to complete reassessment, they will be able to rejoin the next Term/Year of the programme at the earliest opportunity.
- j) In some scenarios, students may be given the option to trail modules if they meet the criteria. Trailing refers to the carrying forward of reassessment in failed credits to the following year.
- k) The business to be considered at each board will be as follows:

Year 1 Term 2	Year 1 Term 1 module results
Year 1 Term 3	Year 1 Term 2 module results
Year 1 Term 4	Year 1 Term 3 module results and Term 1 reassessment results
Year 2 Term 1	Year 1 Term 4 module results, Term 2 reassessment results, eligibility for progression from Year 1 to Year 2
Year 2 Term 2	Year 2 Term 1 module results and any reassessment results
Year 2 Term 3	Year 2 Term 2 module results and any reassessment results

Year 2 Term 4	Year 2 Term 3 module results and any reassessment results
Year 3 Term 1	Year 2 Term 4 module results, any reassessment results, eligibility for progression from Year 2 to Year 3
Year 3 Term 2	Year 3 Term 1 module results and any reassessment results
Year 3 Term 3	Year 3 Term 2 module results and any reassessment results
Year 3 Term 4	Year 3 Term 3 module results and confirmation of award
	Any further reassessment results to go to next available board

Table 1.1. (dates may vary slightly depending on vacation times)

Essex Week Nos.	Essex Activity	SAK Term Structure	SAK Term number - Sept start	SAK Term number - Jan start	SAK Term number - April start	SAK Term number - June start
1	Welcome Week	Autumn Term Week 1	1	4	3	2
2	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 2	1	4	3	2
3	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 3	1	4	3	2
4	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 4	1	4	3	2
5	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 5	1	4	3	2
6	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 6	1	4	3	2
7	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 7	1	4	3	2
8	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 8	1	4	3	2
9	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 9	1	4	3	2
10	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 10	1	4	3	2
11	Autumn term	Autumn Term Week 11	1	4	3	2
12	Christmas Vac	Autumn Term Week 12	1	4	3	2
13	Christmas Vac	Winter Vac				
14	Christmas Vac	Winter Vac				
15	Christmas Vac	Winter Term Week 1	2	1	4	3
16	Spring term	Winter Term Week 2	2	1	4	3
17	Spring term	Winter Term Week 3	2	1	4	3
18	Spring term	Winter Term Week 4	2	1	4	3
19	Spring term	Winter Term Week 5	2	1	4	3
20	Spring term	Winter Term Week 6	2	1	4	3
21	Spring term	Winter Term Week 7	2	1	4	3
22	Spring term	Winter Term Week 8	2	1	4	3
23	Spring term	Winter Term Week 9	2	1	4	3
24	Spring term	Winter Term Week 10	2	1	4	3
25	Spring term	Winter Term Week 11	2	1	4	3
26	Easter Vac	Winter Term Week 12	2	1	4	3
27	Easter Vac	Spring Vac				
28	Easter Vac	Spring Term Week 1	3	2	1	4
29	Easter Vac	Spring Term Week 2	3	2	1	4
30	Summer term	Spring Term Week 3	3	2	1	4
31	Summer term	Spring Term Week 4	3	2	1	4
32	Summer term	Spring Term Week 5	3	2	1	4
33	Summer term	Spring Term Week 6	3	2	1	4
34	Summer term	Spring Term Week 7	3	2	1	4
35	Summer term	Spring Term Week 8	3	2	1	4
36	Summer term	Spring Term Week 9	3	2	1	4
37	Summer term	Spring Term Week 10	3	2	1	4
38	Summer term	Spring Term Week 11	3	2	1	4

39	Summer term	Spring Term Week 12	3	2	1	4
40	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 1	4	3	2	1
41	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 2	4	3	2	1
42	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 3	4	3	2	1
43	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 4	4	3	2	1
44	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 5	4	3	2	1
45	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 6	4	3	2	1
46	Summer Vac	Summer Vac				
47	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 7	4	3	2	1
48	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 8	4	3	2	1
49	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 9	4	3	2	1
50	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 10	4	3	2	1
51	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 11	4	3	2	1
52	Summer Vac	Summer Term Week 12	4	3	2	1

2. PASS AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 1 (LEVEL 4)

Pass Requirements for Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4

- 2.1** At Year 1 (Level 4) students study 120 credits over 12 months, in four equally weighted terms of 30 credits each.
- 2.2** Four examination boards will be held per year per cohort. The first three boards will consider module (including any reassessment) results, including confirming any reassessment to be undertaken. The fourth board will consider any outstanding modules (including reassessment) results, and confirmation of eligibility for progression to the next year (level) of study.
- 2.3** Module results will be considered one term in arrears, with reassessment being offered in the next available term (e.g. Term 1 module results will be considered in Term 2. Reassessment for Term 1 modules will be carried out in Term 3, with results being considered in Term 4). Students will be permitted to proceed to the next Term pending confirmation of results but may then be required to suspend their studies if they are subsequently found to have failed 30 credits or more at the next examination board.

- 2.4** Students may not be approved to trail any more than 15 newly failed credits at first attempt at any given examination board, and no more than 30 failed credits in total at any given time (with a combination of newly failed or reassessed credits).
- 2.5** Term 4 module results will be considered in Term 1 Year 2 (Level 5) of study. Students will be permitted to proceed to the next Year of study pending confirmation of results as long as they are not trailing any more than 30 credits of failed modules as confirmed by the most recent examination board.
- 2.6** In order to pass Year 1 Term 1, students must achieve 30 credits at Level 4.
- 2.7** In order to pass Year 1 Term 2, students must achieve 60 credits at Level 4 across Terms 1 and 2.
- 2.8** In order to pass Year 1 Term 3, students must achieve 90 credits at Level 4 across Terms 1, 2 and 3.
- 2.9** In order to pass Level 4, students must achieve 120 credits at Level 4 across Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4.
- 2.10** Where the student has passed all modules they may proceed to the next term/stage of study.
- 2.11** Where the student has failed a maximum of 15 credits at first attempt at the most recent examination board, and is not trailing any other modules, they must undertake the first reassessment attempt in the failed module. The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.1**.
- 2.12** Where the student has failed more than 15 credits at first attempt at the most recent examination board, they must undertake the first reassessment

attempt in the failed modules before proceeding to the next term/stage of study. The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.2**.

2.13 Where the student has failed a maximum of 15 credits following the first reassessment attempt, and is not trailing any other modules, the student must undertake the third and final attempt by taking one of the reassessment options as set out in **4.3**.

2.14 Where the student has failed 30 credits at the first attempt or more than 30 credits across a combination of first and/or second attempts, they must undertake the next available attempt before proceeding to the next term/level of study until all three attempts are exhausted. The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.4**

NOTE: An examination board will reinstate the Module Mark for a previous attempt at a failed module if it is higher than the mark for the most recent attempt. The reassessment must be attempted in order for a higher Module Mark to be reinstated.

PROGRESSION FROM LEVEL 4 TO LEVEL 5

2.15 In order to progress from Level 4 to Level 5, students must achieve 120 credits at Level 4.

2.16 Due to the structure of the course, Level 4 Term 4 module results will not be considered until Year 2 (Level 5) Term 1. Students may proceed to Level 5 pending consideration of Level 4 Term 4 module results, as long as they are not trailing any more than 30 failed credits from the most recent examination board.

2.17 Condonement at Level 4 is not permitted. Students who fail 15 credits or more at the third and final attempt will be required to withdraw from the course.

- 2.18** To achieve a Distinction in Year One (Level 4), students must have either:
- a) A year mark of 70 or above; or
 - b) 60 Credits at 70 or above with a Year Mark of 68 or 69.

3. PASS AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS FOR YEAR 2 (LEVEL 5)

Pass Requirements for Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4

- 3.1** At Year 2 (Level 5) students study 120 credits over 12 months, in four equally weighted terms of 30 credits each.
- 3.2** Four examination boards will be held per year per cohort. The first three boards will consider module (including any reassessment) results, including confirming any reassessment to be carried out. The fourth board will consider any outstanding module (including reassessment) results, and confirmation of eligibility for progression to the final year of study.
- 3.3** Module results will be considered one term in arrears, with reassessment being offered in the next available term (e.g. Term 1 module results will be considered in Term 2. Reassessment for Term 1 modules will be carried out in Term 3, with results being considered in Term 4). Students will be permitted to proceed to the next Term pending confirmation of results, but may then be required to suspend their studies if they are subsequently found to have failed 30 credits or more at the next examination board.
- 3.4** Students may not be approved to trail any more than 15 newly failed credits at first attempt at any given examination board, and no more than 30 failed credits total at any given time (with a combination of newly failed/reassessed credits).
- 3.5** Term 4 module results will be considered in Term 1 Year 3 (Level 6) of study. Students will be permitted to proceed to the next Year of study

pending confirmation of results, as long as they are not trailing any more than 30 credits of failed modules as confirmed by the most recent examination board.

- 3.6** In order to pass Year 2 Term 1, students must achieve 30 credits at Level 5 and 120 credits at Level 4.
- 3.7** In order to pass Year 2 Term 2, students must achieve 60 credits at Level 5 across Terms 1 and 2 and 120 credits at Level 4.
- 3.8** In order to pass Year 2 Term 3, students must achieve 90 credits at Level 5 across Terms 1, 2 and 3 and 120 credits at Level 4.
- 3.9** In order to pass Level 5, students must achieve 120 credits at Level 5 across Terms 1, 2, 3 and 4 and 120 credits at Level 4.
- 3.10** Where the student has passed all modules they may proceed to the next term/stage of study.
- 3.11** Where the student has failed a maximum of 15 credits at first attempt at the most recent examination board, and is not trailing any other modules, they must undertake the first reassessment attempt in the failed module. The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.1**
- 3.12** Where the student has failed more than 15 credits at first attempt at the most recent examination board, they must undertake the first reassessment attempt in the failed modules before proceeding to the next term/stage of study. The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.2**
- 3.13** Where the student has failed a maximum of 15 credits following the first reassessment attempt, and is not trailing any other modules, the student must select from one of the options set out in **4.5**

3.14 Where the student has failed a maximum of 30 credits at the first attempt or across a combination of first and/or second attempts, the student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.6**

3.15 Where the student has failed more than 30 credits across a combination of first and/or second attempts, the student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.7**

NOTE: An examination board will reinstate the Module Mark for a previous attempt at a failed module if it is higher than the mark for the most recent attempt. The reassessment must be attempted in order for a higher Module Mark to be reinstated.

PROGRESSION FROM LEVEL 5 TO LEVEL 6

3.16 In order to progress from Level 5 to Level 6, students must achieve 120 credits at Level 4 and 120 credits at Level 5.

3.17 Due to the structure of the course, Level 5 Term 4 module results will not be considered until Year 3 (Level 6) Term 1. Students may proceed to Level 6 pending consideration of Level 5 Term 4 module results, as long as they are not trailing any more than 30 failed credits from the most recent examination board.

3.18 Students can opt to condone a maximum of 15 non-core credits at Level 5, as long as reassessment has been attempted at least once on the module being condoned.

4. SUMMARY OF REASSESSMENT OPTIONS - YEARS 1 & 2 AND FINAL YEAR (NON-FINAL) BOARD

4.1 Where a student has failed a maximum of 15 credits at first attempt, and is not trailing any other modules, the examination board may offer the

following reassessment options:

- 4.1.1 Progress to the next Term/Stage and undertake the necessary reassessment in the failed module without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.
- 4.1.2 Progress to the next Term/Stage and undertake the necessary reassessment in the failed module with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module aggregate will be capped at 40.
- 4.1.3 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the necessary reassessment in the failed module without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.
- 4.1.4 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertaken the necessary reassessment in the failed module with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.2 Where a student has failed more than 15 credits at the first attempt at the most recent examination board, the examination board may offer the following reassessment options:

- 4.2.1 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the necessary reassessment in the failed modules without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.
- 4.2.2 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the necessary reassessment in the failed modules with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.3 For Level 4 modules, where a student has failed a maximum of 15 credits after the first reassessment attempt, and is not trailing any other modules, the examination board may offer the following reassessment options:

4.3.1 Progress to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt in the failed module without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.3.2 Progress to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt the failed module with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.3.3 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt in the failed module without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.3.4 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt in the failed module with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.4 For Level 4 modules, where a student has failed 30 credits at the first attempt or more than 30 credits across a combination of first and/or second attempts, the examination board may offer the following reassessment options:

4.4.1 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the next available attempt in the failed modules without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.4.2 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the next opportunity in the failed modules with attendance at the next available attempt. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.5 In Year 2 and 3, where a student has failed a maximum of 15 credits after the first reassessment attempt, and is not trailing any other modules, the examination board may offer the following options:

4.5.1 Progress to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt in the failed module without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.5.2 Progress to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt in the failed module with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.5.3 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the third and final attempt without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.5.4 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertaken the third and final attempt in the failed module with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.5.5 Condone 15 failed credits (only permitted in accordance with Section 4.8) and proceed to the next Term/Stage of study.

4.6 In Years 2 and 3, where a student has failed a maximum of 30 credits at the first attempt or across a combination of first and/or second attempts, the examination board may offer the following reassessment options:

4.6.1 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the next available attempt in the failed module/s without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.6.2 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertaken the next opportunity in the failed module/s with attendance at the next available attempt. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.6.3 Condone 15 non-core failed credits as long as reassessment has been

attempted at least once in the credits to be condoned, and progress to the next Term/Stage to undertake reassessment in the remaining 15 failed credits without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.6.4 Condone 15 non-core failed credits as long as reassessment has been attempted at least once in the credits to be condoned, and progress to the next Term/Stage to undertake reassessment in the remaining 15 failed credits with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.6.5 Condone 15 non-core failed credits as long as reassessment has been attempted at least once in the credits to be condoned. Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage to undertake reassessment in the remaining 15 failed credits without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.6.6 Condone 15 non-core failed credits as long as reassessment has been attempted at least once in the credits to be condoned. Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage to undertake reassessment the remaining 15 failed credits with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.7 Where a student has failed more than 30 credits, either at second attempt or across a combination of first and second attempts at any given examination board, the examination board may offer the following reassessment options:

4.7.1 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertake the next available attempt in the failed module/s without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.7.2 Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage and undertaken the next opportunity in the failed module/s with attendance at the next available attempt. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.7.3 Condone 15 non-core failed credits as long as reassessment has been attempted at least once in the credits to be condoned. Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage to undertake reassessment the remaining credits without attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.7.4 Condone 15 non-core failed credits as long as reassessment has been attempted at least once in the credits to be condoned. Suspend progression to the next Term/Stage to undertake reassessment the remaining failed credits with attendance at the next available opportunity. The Module Aggregate will be capped at 40.

4.8 CONDONING RESULTS

4.8.1 SAK students are only able to condone 30 failed credits in non-core modules over their period of study.

4.8.2 Modules may not be condoned at Level 4 of study.

4.8.3 A maximum of 15 credits can be condoned at Level 5 of study.

4.8.4 Credits can only be condoned if reassessment has been attempted.

4.8.5 Where credits are condoned, they cannot be awarded.

Where a student has undertaken none of the required reassessment and has no substantiated extenuating circumstances, they will be withdrawn from the University.

4.9 WITHDRAWAL

Students will be required to leave the University if:

- a) Their Year Mark is less than 20; or
- b) They were required to undertake compulsory reassessment and undertook none or the reassessment; or
- c) They have failed the same module after three attempts and that module is either a core module or the module credits are needed in order to be awarded their degree; or
- d) They cannot complete their studies in the maximum period.

4.10 Extenuating Circumstances

If a student submits Extenuating Circumstances and they are accepted as valid, the examination board may be able to offer additional assessment opportunities, such as reassessment for uncapped Module Marks or voluntary reassessment, in line with the Extenuating Circumstances Policy.

5. REQUIREMENTS TO PASS THE FINAL YEAR (YEAR 3) AND ELIBILITY FOR AN AWARD

- 5.1** At Year 3 (Final year - Level 6) students study 120 credits over 9 months (3 terms), 30 credits in Term 1, 30 credits in Term 2, and 60 credits in Term 3.
- 5.2** One examination board will be held per term. The final award board will be held in Term 4.
- 5.3** Module results will be considered one term in arrears, with reassessment being offered in the next available term (e.g. Term 1 module results will be considered in Term 2. Reassessment for Term 1 modules will be carried out in Term 3, with results being considered in Term 4). Students will be permitted to proceed to the next Term pending confirmation of results, but may then be required to suspend their studies if they are subsequently

found to have failed 30 credits or more at the next examination board.

- 5.4** Students may not be approved to trail any more than 30 failed credits total at any given time.
- 5.5** In order to pass Year 3 Term 1, students must achieve 30 credits at Level 6, 120 credits at Level 5, and 120 credits at Level 4.
- 5.6** In order to pass Year 2 Term 2, students must have achieved 60 credits at Level 6 across Terms 1 and 2, 120 credits at Level 5, and 120 credits at Level 4.
- 5.7** In order to pass Year 3 Term 3, students must have achieved 120 credits at Level 4, 120 credits at Level 5, and 120 credits at Level 6.

At the Final Year Term 1, 2 and 3 Examination (Non-Final Award) Boards

- 5.8** Where the student has failed a maximum of 15 credits at first attempt at the most recent examination board, and is not trailing any other modules, they must undertake the first reassessment attempt in the failed module(s). The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.1**.
- 5.9** Where the student has failed more than 15 credits at first attempt at the most recent examination board, they must undertake the first reassessment attempt in the failed modules before proceeding to the next term/stage of study. The student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.2**.
- 5.10** Where the student has failed a maximum of 15 credits following the first reassessment attempt, and is not trailing any other modules, the student must select from one of the options set out in **4.5**.
- 5.11** Where the student has failed a maximum of 30 credits at the first attempt or across a combination of first and/or second attempts, the student must

choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.6**.

- 5.12** Where the student has failed more than 30 credits either at second attempt or across a combination of first and/or second attempts, the student must choose one of the reassessment options set out in **4.7**.

NOTE: An examination board will reinstate the Module Mark for a previous attempt at a failed module if it is higher than the mark for the most recent attempt. The reassessment must be attempted in order for a higher Module Mark to be reinstated.

Final Award Board – Requirement to Pass the Final Year

- 5.13** To pass the Final Year, the student must pass all modules and achieve 120 credits in the Year, with at least 90 credits at Level 6.
- 5.14** The student can only fail a total of 30 non-core credits across their degree (with a maximum of 0 credits at Level 4, 15 credits at Level 5, 30 credits across Levels 5 and 6, or 30 credits in Level 6). Where credits are condoned, the Module Mark will still be used to calculate the Year Mark and the Degree Mark.

Reassessment: General Principles

- 5.15** If a student has any failed module(s) after they have completed all of their assessments, but have a Year Mark of 20 and above, they may need to take reassessment. All failed modules which are core must be reassessed. The student must pass a minimum of 330 credits, with 90 credits at Level 6, to be awarded their degree.
- 5.16** The examination board can permit a maximum of three attempts at a module if reassessment is required before the student can be awarded their degree. This is called compulsory reassessment. However, the Module Mark(s) will be capped at 40 for each module.

5.17 At the final board, if a student does not need to take reassessment in order to be awarded their degree, but have failed a module/s, they may choose voluntary reassessment in one or more modules where they still have an attempt permitted in these modules, so as to retrieve these fails. In this circumstance the student will be permitted only one further attempt at each module (up to a maximum of three attempts). The mark(s) will be capped at 40 for each module.

5.18 The examination board will offer the student all the reassessment opportunities that are available to them.

Compulsory Reassessment at the End of the Year

5.19 If a student does not meet the requirements to pass and complete their degree, but achieves a Year mark of 20 or above, they may be offered reassessment. The reassessment offered will depend on how many credits the student has failed in their Final Year, and whether they have any failed credits from the previous years. The student can fail a maximum of 30 non-core credits across the whole of their degree.

5.20 In the Final Year the student will be offered compulsory reassessment in the minimum number of credits needed to obtain their degree. Reassessment will be taken in the next available terms(s) and can be spread across one or more terms depending on the volume of reassessment to be undertaken, with a maximum of 45 credits to be taken in one term. Where appropriate, a combination of compulsory and voluntary reassessment will be offered. The Module Mark(s) will be capped at 40. If the student fails this reassessment and cannot complete their degree, they can be offered further reassessment until they have exhausted all available attempts at a module (up to a maximum of three attempts).

Exit Awards

- 5.21** If a student cannot complete their studies or are withdrawn from the University for any reason, the examination board will consider their eligibility for an exit award.
- 5.22** If a student has been awarded 120 credits at Level 4 or above, the examination board will consider the student for a Certificate of Higher Education.
- 5.23** If a student has attempted a minimum of 240 credits (with 120 credits at Level 5 or above), and has been awarded 225 credits or more (including at least 105 credits at Level 5 or above), the examination board will consider the student for a Diploma of Higher Education.
- 5.24** If the student has been awarded 300 credits or more, with 60 credits at Level 6, the examination board will consider the student for an Ordinary Degree, which is unclassified.

Withdrawal

- 5.25** The student will be required to leave the University if:
- a) The Year Mark is less than 20; or
 - b) They were required to undertake compulsory reassessment and did not any of the reassessment; or
 - c) They fail the same module after three attempts and that module is either a core module or the module credits are needed in order to be awarded their degree; or
 - d) They cannot complete their studies in the maximum period.

Extenuating Circumstances

- 5.26** If a student submits Extenuating Circumstances and they are accepted as valid, the examination board may be able to offer additional assessment opportunities, such as reassessment for uncapped Module Marks or

voluntary reassessment, in line with the Extenuating Circumstances Policy.

DEGREE ELIBILITY AND CLASSIFICATION

- 5.27** To achieve an Honours Degree, the student must attempt 360 credits and pass at least 330 credits across their degree with at least 90 credits at Level 6. All core modules must be passed.
- 5.28** Year Marks are calculated as weighted averages using the rounded Module Aggregate Marks. Module Aggregate Marks are used to calculate this based on the credit value of the module, i.e., a 30-credit module counts as twice as much as a 15-credit module towards the overall Year Mark.
- 5.29** Marks from Year 2 and the Final year are used to calculate an overall Degree Mark. Year Two marks count as 40% and Final Year Mark counts as 60%. The Degree Mark is used to determine the student's Degree Class. This is set out in Table 5.1 below.
- 5.30** The student's degree is classified using their Degree Mark. If the Degree Mark is within two marks of the next Classification, the student will receive the higher Class if they have at least 120 of their credits across Year Two and the Final Year in the higher Class (as set out in Table 5.1 below).
- 5.31** Module Aggregate Marks, Year Marks and the Degree Mark are rounded up to the nearest whole number, with half marks (i.e. 0.5) or more being rounded up.

Table 5.1 Honours Degree Classifications

Classification	Requirement to achieve this Classification
First Class	Either:

Honours (1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A Degree Mark of 70 or more; or b) 120 credits (from Year Two and Final Year) at 70 or above with a Degree Mark of 68 or 69
Upper Second Class Honours (2:1)	<p>Either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A Degree Mark of 60 or more; or b) 120 credits (from Year Two and Final Year) at 60 or above with a Degree Mark of 58 or 59
Upper Second Class Honours (2:2)	<p>Either:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) A Degree Mark of 50 or more; or c) 120 credits (from Year Two and Final Year) at 50 or above with a Degree Mark of 48 or 49
Third Class Honours (3)	<p>Meet the criteria for the award of an Honours Degree (see 5.13 and 5.14 above) but without sufficient marks to obtain a Lower Second-Class Honours degree or Higher</p>

6. REQUIREMENTS AND DEGREE CLASSIFICATION: Direct Entry to the Final Year of a University of Essex Three-Year Degree (SAK)

6.1 If a student has been given direct entry to the Final Year of a University of Essex degree, they must pass 120 credits in the Final Year with at least 90 credits at Level 6.

6.2 Only Module Marks awarded in the Final Year will be used to calculate the final Degree Mark and Classification. This is set out in Table 6.1.

Table 6.1: Degree Classification for direct entry to the Final Year of a University of Essex Three-Year Degree

Classification	Requirement to achieve this Classification
First Class Honours (1)	Either: a) A Degree Mark of 70 or more; or b) 60 credits at 70 or above with a Degree Mark of 68 or 69.
Upper Second Class Honours (2.1)	Either: a) A Degree Mark of 60 or more; or b) 60 credits at 60 or above with a Degree Mark of 58 or 59.
Lower Second Class Honours (2.2)	Either: a) A Degree Mark of 50 or more; or b) 60 credits at 50 or above with a Degree Mark of 48 or 49.
Third Class Honours (3)	Meet the criteria for the award of an Honours Degree but without sufficient marks to obtain a Lower Second-Class Honours Degree or higher.

6.3 All other aspects of the Three-Year rules apply to a student entering the Final Year, with the exception of the eligibility requirements for the exit award of an Ordinary Degree.

6.4 If a student has been given direct entry to the Final Year of a University of Essex degree with a Level 5 award (including Foundation Degree or Diploma of Higher Education) awarded by another institution, and they pass 100 credits or more in

their Final Year including at least 60 credits at Level 6, the Board of Examiners will consider the student for an Ordinary Degree, which is unclassified.

End

Senate – January 2026

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