

UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX
UNDERGRADUATE RULES OF ASSESSMENT
Applicable to Students Studying for a Term at the
University of Essex as Part of the YUFE Bachelors in
Urban Sustainability Studies (Joint Degree) Starting in
Academic Year 2025-26

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Preamble

- 1.1** These Rules of Assessment apply to the Bachelors in Urban Sustainability Studies (Joint Degree), which is delivered collaboratively between the University of Essex and Partner Institutions in the Young Universities for the Future of Europe Alliance (YUFE). Throughout this document, the ten universities within the YUFE alliance are referred to as 'YUFE Universities'.
- 1.2** YUFE employs different terminology from that used at the University of Essex: YUFE 'courses' correspond to University of Essex 'modules,' and YUFE 'semesters' align with University of Essex 'terms' (Semester 1 aligns to the Autumn Term at the University of Essex, and Semester 2 covers the Spring and Summer Terms). For the purposes of these Rules of Assessment, University of Essex terminology has been adopted. However, in joint YUFE documents, YUFE terminology is used.
- 1.3** This course is made up of mandatory and elective modules. Mandatory modules must be passed and cannot be trailed, in line with the standard University of Essex rules for core modules. In some cases, students may have a choice between mandatory modules. Within these Rules of Assessment, mandatory modules are referred to as 'core' modules.
- 1.4** Elective modules offer students a broader choice and are able to be trailed, however these modules must be passed, as students must pass all 360 credits to be awarded their degree. Within these Rules of Assessment, elective modules are referred to as 'optional' modules.
- 1.5** As a joint degree, the YUFE Universities have established a common set of Education and Examination Rules (EER), which govern degree structure, admission, assessment, progression, award requirements, and grading. The Rules of Assessment outlined in this document align with the EER and relevant YUFE assessment, progression, and award documents.
- 1.6** During your joint degree you will study at multiple universities and will therefore encounter different academic approaches and local policies. The Education and Examination Rules specify which academic and non-academic policies and procedures apply.
- 1.7** Modules within the degree follow the academic calendar of the hosting institution, including the scheduling of assessments and reassessments.

Wherever possible, reassessment opportunities will be provided in time for results to be available before you begin studying at a different YUFE University at the start of a new academic year or term. Where this is not possible, opportunities to defer reassessment will be offered where possible. Academic Advisors will support you in understanding any variations in academic calendars that may affect study trajectories or available options.

- 1.8** These Rules and the EER should be read alongside the relevant course structure (including Minor structures), Programme Specification, and module outlines, which define the status of each module.

Requirement to pass the Term

- 1.9** To pass the Stage, you must pass all modules and achieve 60 credits at Level 5.
- 1.10** You may be allowed to proceed to the next Year, following an attempt at reassessment, having passed a minimum of 30 credits, provided you have passed all the core modules for the Term.

Reassessment: General Principles

- 1.11** If you have failed any module(s) after you have completed all your assessments, you may need to take reassessment before you can progress to the next Term or Year of study. It is not possible to progress and take the reassessment or repeat the module while you are studying in the next Term or Year unless you have been offered trailed or deferred reassessment.
- 1.12** The Board of Examiners can permit up to two further attempts at any module.
- 1.13** The Board of Examiners will offer you all the reassessment opportunities that are available to you. If you have a Tier 4 or Student Route visa, your immigration status will not have been taken into account by the Board of Examiners and some options offered may not be available to you due to the Home Office rules and guidance.
- 1.14** If you have attempted the reassessment of a module in the resit period or without attending the University and your Module Mark is lower than your previous attempt, the Board of Examiners will use the previous higher mark to determine whether or not you can progress. However, if you repeat the Year (either full-time or part-time), the marks you achieve during your repeat Year will be the marks that are used by the Board of Examiners to determine

whether or not you can progress. They will not take account of marks from a previous Year or attempt, even if they are higher.

- 1.15** If the timing of the reassessment allows it to be completed before the start of the next Term or Year at the next YUFE University you will be studying at, you must attempt the reassessment before the Board of Examiners can consider your eligibility for trailing of failed credits. You can only trail a total of 30 non-core credits into the next Academic Year.
- 1.16** Where reassessment in failed credits is trailed into the next Year of study, the mark for the reassessment will be recorded as part of the previous Year's mark.
- 1.17** You may be able to defer reassessment until after you return from your period of study at your next YUFE Host University under the following circumstances:
- a) Where the timing of the reassessment does not allow it to be undertaken or the marks to be confirmed by the Board of Examiners before the start of the next Academic Year at your next YUFE Host University; or
 - b) Where the nature of the reassessment requires it to be taken in person at the University of Essex.
- 1.18** The option to defer reassessment or choose an alternative module will only be offered where available, and where the reassessment cannot be trailed and undertaken alongside studying at the new YUFE Host University.
- 1.19** If your reassessment is deferred, you will be required to undertake the reassessment at the first available opportunity. Deferral opportunities will only allow up to 30 credits of reassessment to be deferred and the requirement for Year One modules to be passed within two years of you starting the course will still apply.

Reassessment Opportunities at the End of the Term

- 1.20** If you do not pass the Term, you may be offered reassessment.
- 1.21** If you fail up to 30 non-core credits, you may be able to trail or defer your reassessment in these failed credits where it is not possible for you to undertake the reassessment prior to you starting your next year of study at your next YUFE Host University (see sections 1.15 – 1.19).
- 1.22** If you fail any credits, you will be offered compulsory reassessment before the start of the next Year where it is possible for you to undertake this.

Reassessment Opportunities Following the Resit Assessment Period

- 1.23** Following reassessment, if you do not meet the requirements to progress, you may be offered one or more of the following opportunities:
- a) A full-time repeat Term for uncapped Module Marks;
 - b) A part-time repeat Term for up to 45 credits for uncapped Module Marks;
 - c) Reassessment in the following Year without attending the University for uncapped Module Marks.
- 1.24** Following reassessment, if you still have not passed an optional module and you are repeating the Term, either full or part-time, you can pick a different optional module.
- 1.25** You will not be allowed to progress to the next Term/Year if you have failed any core module.
- 1.26** Following an attempt at reassessment for all the required modules, if you have failed up to 30 non-core credits, the Board of Examiners will offer you one or more of the following opportunities:
- a) If you have not had three attempts at the failed module(s), you can remain in Year Two and take reassessment (see sections 1.15 – 1.19);
 - b) If you have not had three attempts at the failed module(s), you can progress to the Final Year and trail the reassessment in your failed module(s);
 - c) If you have not had three attempts at the failed module(s) you can progress to your Final Year and defer the reassessment in your failed modules (see sections 1.15 – 1.19).

Withdrawal

- 1.27** You will be required to leave the University if:
- a) You have failed the same module after three attempts; or
 - b) You cannot complete your studies in your maximum period.

Extenuating Circumstances

- 1.28** If you submit Extenuating Circumstances and they are accepted as valid, the Board of Examiners 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 and guidelines.

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