

**UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX**  
**UNDERGRADUATE RULES OF ASSESSMENT**  
**Academic Year 2011-2012**

**9. Ordinary Degrees**

**9.1 PROGRESSION**

The rules of progression to the final year of an Ordinary degree are the same as those for a three year honours degree. (See 3.1)

**9.2 ELIGIBILITY FOR AN AWARD (Final Stage)**

**9.2.1 For the award of an Ordinary degree, a total of 300 credits must be passed, with a minimum of 60 at level 6.**

**9.2.2 To be eligible for an Ordinary degree, students must:**

- a) pass a minimum of 60 credits at level 6
    - where a maximum of 30 credits have been failed across Stage One and Stage Two, , an additional 30 credits at level 5 must be passed in the Final Stage
    - where 120 credits have been passed at both Stage One and Stage Two, a minimum of 60 credits at level 6 must be passed in Stage Three (final year)
- and**
- b) meet any additional course-specific requirements outlined in the variations to the Rules of Assessment, including professional, statutory and regulatory body requirements.

**9.2.3 If a student does not meet the requirements for an Ordinary degree:**

- a) where the student has failed **a maximum of 15 credits at level 6**, he/she must undertake the necessary reassessment. The module aggregate mark will be capped at 40%.
- b) where the student has failed **more than 30 credits at level 6** and has a year mark greater than 20%, he/she must repeat the Stage of study on a full-time basis for uncapped marks, **or** undertake the necessary reassessment the following year without attendance with the module aggregate mark capped at 40%.
- c) where the **Stage mark for the 60 level 6 credits is below 20%**, or where a student was absent from all examinations with no substantiated extenuating circumstances, he/she must withdraw from the University.

**9.2.4 When the Board meets after re-sits/resubmissions are completed, the Board will consider the following options (Boards cannot offer more than three opportunities to undertake the assessment for a module, and more than one opportunity to take exams without attendance). Where appropriate the Board will offer more than one option to the student:**

- a) to repeat the Stage of study full-time for uncapped module marks  
**or**
- b) where the student has failed **a maximum of 15 credits at level 6**, to repeat the Stage of study part-time, with the module aggregate mark capped at 40% [NB Where failure has occurred on a period abroad, resits will be subject to availability]  
**or**
- c) to undertake the necessary reassessment at the next available opportunity where the module aggregate mark recorded will be capped at 40%. This option cannot be offered where a student has already resat the exams without attendance. [N.B. where failure has occurred on a period abroad, resits will be subject to availability.]  
**or**
- d) where the student has not met the requirements to proceed having had three attempts at the assessment for the Stage, he/she would be required to withdraw from the University.  
**or**
- e) where the **Stage mark is below 20%**, or where a student was absent from all examinations with no substantiated extenuating circumstances, to withdraw from the University.

Note: An undergraduate exam 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. This will not apply where students are repeating an entire stage for uncapped marks. In such cases the marks achieved at the end of the repeat stage will stand.

### **9.3 AWARDS CLASSIFICATION FOR ORDINARY DEGREES**

Ordinary degrees are unclassified.