UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX

RULES OF ASSESSMENT FOR POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS 2023-2024

(where offered as a stand-alone award)

HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE

Postgraduate Diploma Periodontology (24 months – part-time)

Postgraduate Diploma Periodontal Practice (24months – part-time)

1. PREAMBLE

a) These rules apply to the part-time (24 months) Postgraduate Diploma programmes named above. The rules should be read in conjunction with the relevant Programme Structure, Programme Specification and online Module Directory entries. The Module Directory will give detail of assessment arrangements. The Programme Structure will identify which modules are core for the Programme.

b) A taught module is any assessed component excluding the dissertation or equivalent. A core module must be taken as part of the programme structure and passed, with no condonement of marks below a pass allowed.

c) A Postgraduate Diploma can be awarded with Distinction or Merit.

d) It is for the Board of Examiners to determine whether the criteria for an award have been satisfied.

2. PASS MARK

a) The pass mark for all components of the Postgraduate Diploma is 50.

b) For the purposes of these rules taught module averages and the overall weighted average for the taught modules -will be rounded to the nearest whole number – i.e. 49.5 will count as 50, 49.4 as 49.

3. PROGRESSION

3.1. Progression to Year 2

Students are permitted to progress to Year Two while trailing a maximum of 30 credits. This means carrying forward the reassessment in up to 30 credits and undertaking it at the earliest opportunity offered by the School during the next year of study.

In-year Board of Examiners meetings:

An in-year Board of Examiners meeting may be convened where a student has failed an assignment on second submission.

The Board will either withdraw the student or, if they 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.

4. ELIGIBILITY FOR AN AWARD

The Postgraduate Diploma

Pass

To be awarded a pass in the Postgraduate Diploma a student should:

a) Obtain 120 credits at Masters level (level 7);

b) Pass all assessment components;
c) Pass all the taught core modules.

4.1. A Pass with Merit or Distinction

4.1.1. Pass with Merit

To obtain a Merit a student should:

- Have an overall weighted average mark of 60 or more.

4.1.2. Pass with Distinction

To obtain a Distinction a student should:

- Have an overall weighted average mark of 70 or more.

4.2. THE POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

Where a student is either unable to complete their studies or does not achieve the required credits to be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma, then the award of a Postgraduate Certificate will be considered. Students can be considered for the award of a Distinction and Merit for an exit award.

4.2.1. Pass mark

The pass mark for all Postgraduate Certificate modules is 50.

4.2.2. To be awarded a pass in the **Postgraduate Certificate** a student should:

a) Obtain 60 credits at Masters level (level 7);
b) Pass all assessment components;
c) Pass all taught core modules.

4.2.3. A Pass with Merit or Distinction

Where a student has more than 60 credits, the best credits compatible with the structure for a Postgraduate Certificate giving at least 60 credits will be used to calculate the overall weighted average mark.

Pass with Merit

To obtain a Merit, in addition to achieving the requirements for a Postgraduate Certificate, a student should:

- Have an overall weighted average mark for the 60 PG Certificate credits of 60 or more.

Pass with Distinction

To obtain a Distinction, in addition to achieving the requirements for a Postgraduate Certificate, a student should:

- Have an overall weighted average mark for the 60 PG Certificate credits of 70 or more.

5. REASSESSMENT

Reassessment for taught modules

a) Students who have failed any taught module may have a second attempt at the assessment for the module(s);

b) Where all individual components of assessment must be passed in order to pass the module only one opportunity to resubmit the failed component will be offered;

c) Failed work will normally be resubmitted within four weeks of students receiving their marked work for the original attempt;

d) A second submission does not need to be approved by the Board of Examiners before it takes place;

e) The Board of Examiners 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;

f) When a reassessment opportunity in a component leading to a numerical mark is offered the module aggregate will be calculated as follows:

   i. Where students are not required to pass all the individual components of a module, the maximum mark that will be recorded for a module as a result of a second attempt is 50;

   ii. Where students are required to pass all individual components of assessment, a pre-resubmission module aggregate will be calculated using the failed mark(s):

      - If the pre-resubmission module aggregate was below the pass mark then the resubmission can improve the module aggregate mark up to the pass mark only.

      - If the pre-resubmission module aggregate was above the pass mark then the resubmission cannot improve the module aggregate mark. The module aggregate is capped at the pre-resubmission aggregate.

For reassessments resubmitted in-year, where the pre-resubmission aggregate is not known, the mark for each resubmitted component will be capped at 50.

5.1. If a student fails a module on the second attempt at the assessment no further attempt is allowed and the student will be required to withdraw unless there are extenuating circumstances accepted as valid by the Board of Examiners.

6. ASSESSMENT PROCEDURES

6.1. Powers of The Board of Examiners

A Board of Examiners meeting shall be held with the purpose of:

a) Confirming the taught module marks achieved to date, including any marks for reassessment presented to the Board, and awarding credit;

b) Considering extenuating circumstances as necessary and their implications for results;

c) Determining the award of any Postgraduate Diploma or Certificate;

d) Determining whether a student can progress to the second year;

e) Requiring any student whose performance is below that required to achieve an award to withdraw from the University.

6.2. Extenuating Circumstances

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. When extenuating circumstances are accepted, the Board of Examiners will use its discretion to determine what if any action should be taken in accordance with the powers set out in the Policy. Except in the case of accepted extenuating circumstances, Boards of Examiners do not have powers of discretion in relation to the application of the Rules of Assessment.

End

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