



# General Regulations for First Degrees

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## 1. Scope

- 1.1. NMITE's General Regulations for First Degrees (henceforth 'the Regulations') are the general Academic Regulations that apply to students enrolled on taught programmes at NMITE. The Regulations do not apply to non-credit bearing programmes with the exception of Foundation Years.
- 1.2. These regulations should be read in conjunction with the specific programme regulations. Should there be any differences in regulation between the General Regulations and the programme-specific regulations, the Programme Regulations take precedence.
- 1.3. The Regulations ensure the academic integrity of the institution and, together with other NMITE policies, form the framework for students' academic experience, including learning, teaching and assessment. Academic Regulations and policies are part of the formal contract between the institution and its students. They apply to all members of the institution, including all students, staff, and External Examiners. The Regulations should be read in conjunction with individual Programme Specifications and the Student Terms and Conditions. Students are encouraged to familiarise themselves with relevant sections when they enrol and consult the Regulations and appropriate policies at intervals during their studies. Further guidance, support and signposting for students can be sought from Student Services.

## 2. Introduction

- 2.1. The first degree of the Institution (MEng, BEng, BSc) may be conferred with or without Honours. Honours degrees are classified First Class, Second Class (Division One), Second Class (Division Two), Third Class.
- 2.2. Students cannot achieve a classification for completion of the Foundation Year as completion of Foundation Year modules operates on a pass and progress basis. The Foundation Year

programme provides an entry route to a named first degree at NMITE and as such does not lead to a named award in itself. Progression to FHEQ Level 4 of the named award to which a student has been recruited is based solely on successful completion of the foundation year.

- 2.3. NMITE's first degrees may be conferred by the authority of Academic Council when candidates are reported to Academic Council as having:
  - (a) satisfied the provisions of NMITE's Regulations; and
  - (b) completed a programme of study consisting of a prescribed number and range of modules as set out in the Programme Specification of the Degree Programme for which the candidate is registered; and
  - (c) satisfied the Assessment Board that they have attained the requisite standard in the prescribed assessments for the modules on their programme of study.

### **3. Attendance & Duration**

- 3.1. The requisite period of attendance at NMITE to qualify for a degree shall not normally be less than two calendar years. The period of attendance shall normally be continuous, unless a period of interruption has been approved.
- 3.2. The maximum registration period is defined as double the default length of the course plus any periods of suspension (staff-initiated) or interruption (student-initiated) up to a maximum of six years, or five years for those students under Student Visa conditions.

### **4. Credit Transfer**

- 4.1. Owing to the innovative delivery model of NMITE's programmes, applicants for Advanced Standing or Credit Transfer are not normally accepted. All students are usually expected to complete an entire programme of study with NMITE. Any exceptions to this would be considered on a case by case basis and applications for credit transfer would not be considered beyond FHEQ Level 4 of a programme.

### **5. Assessment**

- 5.1 Assessments will be on a module by module basis, with an overall mark being awarded for each module. In order to pass a module, a mark of 40 or greater for Foundation year modules and modules at FHEQ Levels 4-6 and 50 or greater at FHEQ Level 7 must be achieved in **each** assessment component within a module (as defined in the Module Specification).
- 5.2 The use of generative artificial intelligence (AI) in assessments is strictly prohibited unless explicitly specified within the assessment brief. Students must take responsibility for the originality and integrity of their own work, including asking for clarification of assessment requirements as necessary.

### **6. Options to Recover Failure**

- 6.1 A student who does not meet the criteria, as outlined in 5.1, at the first attempt should be reassessed in the failed module(s) unless they:

- (i) are eligible for the award of the intended qualification
- (ii) have been awarded an exit qualification
- (iii) have been excluded from NMITE as a result of academic or personal misconduct.

6.2 Reassessment may take the form of a resit or retake:

- (i) A resit is a second attempt of an assessment component within a module, following failure at first attempt. Resits of assessment components for which a student has already achieved a pass mark will not be permitted. The result of a resit will be capped at the pass standard for the assessment component.
- (ii) A retake is a final opportunity to recover failure following a failed resit. At the discretion of the Assessment Board, students may be required to retake the whole module including attending teaching and learning activities or be permitted to retake only the assessments. Retakes may require the student to repeat all or some of the assessments from the module. The result of a retake will be capped at the pass standard for the assessment component.

6.3 Where a student fails a Dissertation or Individual Project, reassessment should take the form of a Resit unless the Assessment Board agrees that, in its academic judgement, the extent of failure is such that additional supervision is needed to retrieve that failure. Such students may be required to retake the Dissertation or Individual Project. This will normally incur additional tuition fees.

6.4 In exceptional circumstances, a student who has failed to gain credits through a resit may be permitted a single retake opportunity.

6.5 A student who has failed a resit and/or is unable or unwilling to complete a retake shall leave the programme.

6.6 In leaving the programme, a student may be eligible for one of the following, depending on their programme of study:

- (i) Transfer to an alternative programme
- (ii) An exit qualification

## **7. Compensation & Condonement**

7.1. Compensation allows a student to achieve a marginal failure in a limited number of modules on the basis of an overall performance which is sufficient to merit the award of the student's degree. In considering progression and awards, all undergraduate and postgraduate course Assessment Boards have discretion to compensate a marginal fail, as follows.

7.2. For all students (except those studying Foundation Year modules), Assessment Board has discretion to compensate a failed module or modules, with a maximum of 30 credits permitted to be compensated across the Bachelor's or Integrated Master's degree programme. NMITE does not normally allow students to compensate modules at FHEQ Level 4 unless there are exceptional circumstances.

7.3. The minimum module mark for which compensation is allowed is 10 percentage points below the nominal module pass mark (40 at FHEQ Levels 4, 5 & 6 and 50 at FHEQ Level 7) (or equivalent if a grade-based marking scheme is used). NMITE's progression rules have been established in order to satisfy the requirements of the Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies. As such,

major investigative projects/dissertations (group and individual) and industrial placements cannot be compensated.

- 7.4. Compensation will only be considered if, in the opinion of the Board, the student has achieved all the outcomes of the award at that FHEQ Level.
- 7.5. Where compensation has been applied, the original mark achieved will be used for the purposes of calculation of the degree classification. It will be made clear on the student's academic transcript where compensation has been applied.
- 7.6. NMITE does not normally permit compensation for Foundation Year modules.
- 7.7. Condonement is the practice of allowing students to fail and not receive credit for one or more modules within a degree programme, yet still qualify for the award of the degree. NMITE does not generally permit condonement of failed modules in any qualification.

## **8. Academic Progression**

- 8.1. At FHEQ Levels 4-6, a student who satisfies the examiners in the assessments for all modules specified within the Programme Specification for an FHEQ Level, will be permitted to progress to the next stage of study.
- 8.2. At Foundation Year, a student who satisfies the examiners in all assessments, by achieving a mark of 40 or greater, will be permitted to progress to FHEQ Level 4 of their named degree award. This is the sole progression criterion.
- 8.3. A student carrying failures in modules with a total value of 30 credits or fewer will normally be permitted to proceed to the next stage of study carrying those failures (where appropriate with the opportunity or requirement to re-sit at the next available opportunity) at the discretion of the Assessment Board.
- 8.4. Where a student does not satisfy the Assessment Board in all the modules specified in the degree Programme Specification, the Board may:
  - (a) require the student to resit or re-take assessments or modules in order to have an opportunity to achieve the credits (or, in the case of Foundation Year modules, a module mark of at least 40); or
  - (b) terminate the student's studies.
- 8.5. Students required to retake a module under Regulation 8.4(a) will normally be required to pay a tuition fee. NMITE reserves the right to waive such fees.

## **9. Minimum Credit Requirements**

- 9.1. In order to be eligible for the award of an Integrated Master Degree, a student must have taken and passed modules with a minimum total value of 480 units, with at least 120 credits at FHEQ Level 7, 120 credits at FHEQ Level 6, 120 credits at FHEQ Level 5, and 120 credits at FHEQ Level 4, as defined in the Programme Specification for the relevant degree Programme. Of these credits, 360 credits taken at Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) Level 5, FHEQ6 and FHEQ7 will be classifiable.

- 9.2. In order to be eligible for the award of a Bachelor degree with Honours, a student must have taken and passed modules with a minimum total value of 360 credits, with at least 120 credits at FHEQ Level 6, 120 credits at FHEQ Level 5, and 120 credits at FHEQ Level 4, as defined in the Programme Specification for the relevant degree Programme. Of these credits, 240 credits taken at FHEQ5 and FHEQ6 will be classifiable.
- 9.3. In order to be eligible for the award of a Bachelor degree without Honours, a student must have:
- (a) taken and attempted assessment for modules with a minimum total value of 360 credits, as prescribed by the Programme Specification for the relevant degree Programme, of which 240 credits taken FHEQ5 and FHEQ6 will be classifiable; and
  - (b) attained a minimum of 300 credits overall, subject to the additional requirements of any special Regulations.
- 9.4. In order to be eligible for the award for a Diploma of Higher Education, a student must have passed assessment for modules with a minimum total value of 240 credits of which at least 120 credits must have been achieved at FHEQ Level 5 or above.
- 9.5. In order to be eligible for the award of a Certificate of Higher Education, a student must have passed assessment of modules with a minimum total value of 120 credits taken at FHEQ Level 4 or above.
- 9.6. A student who has satisfied the module requirements and has satisfied the examiners in a module will receive recognition for the number of credits achieved.
- 9.7. Credits are not awarded for Foundation Year modules, which operate on a pass and progress basis.

## **10. Award & Classification**

- 10.1. Assessment Boards will consider marks of each final Level student in accordance with the relevant classification scheme detailed herein.
- 10.2. Students who have failed modules in the final period of their programme of study will be permitted one attempt to re-sit/re-take the failed assessments/modules at the next available opportunity, prior to their degree classification being calculated.
- 10.3. Where students have failed modules but still meet the criteria for the award of a degree or other qualification, an opportunity for re-assessment will only be available where successful completion of those assessments could result in the student becoming eligible for a higher degree classification or qualification.
- 10.4. Results from FHEQ Level 4 of a programme of study are taken into account in the calculation of the number of credits required.
- 10.5. All marks are rounded to one decimal place before being entered into the calculation of classifications or considered for awards. Where the second decimal place is 5 or greater, the first decimal place is rounded up.

- 10.6. Degree Classifications are determined on the basis of a credit-weighted mean grade or on the basis of a credit-weighted mean grade and a specified number of credits within the degree classification (see 10.12 and 10.13).
- 10.7. Credit-weighted mean grades are calculated for each FHEQ Level by multiplying the grades for modules the student has passed by their credit value, and dividing the product by the total number of credits at that Level.
- 10.8. To determine the classification for Bachelor Degree qualifications: the credit-weighted mean grades for FHEQ Levels 5 and 6 are considered in the proportion of 33:67.
- 10.9. To determine the classification for Integrated Master Degree qualifications:
- (a) For students beginning their studies from 1 September 2023, the credit-weighted mean grades for FHEQ Levels 5, 6 and 7 are considered in the proportion of 20:30:50.
  - (b) For students beginning their studies prior to 1 September 2023, the credit-weighted mean grades for FHEQ Levels 6 and 7 are considered in the proportion of 50:50.
- 10.10. No classification is given on completion of the Foundation Year which operates on a pass and progress basis. No credits are awarded for completion of modules: marks are given for individual assessment and modules solely as a means for students to gain feedback on their performance on the programme; these do not count towards any final award or certificate.
- 10.11. In each of the classification schemes below, a borderline range is defined. Borderline consideration will only be given to a student's classification where this has been recommended by the Extenuating Circumstances Committee. Students for whom this applies may be considered for the higher degree classification by the Assessment Board based on a review of the module marks obtained. Students with a credit weighted mean grade and module profile which do not meet the stated requirements may not be considered for a higher degree classification, even where there are accepted extenuating circumstances. Assessment Boards will not have access to details of an individual student's circumstances which were accepted for mitigation.

### **Integrated Master Degrees**

10.12. Degree classification scheme for Integrated Master Degrees:

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Requirements students must meet</b>
Class One Honours	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 70.0</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 68.0 and modules to the value of at least 180 credits at 70.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be at level 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 30 credits of modules from levels 5, 6 and 7 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Borderline	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 68.0 and modules to the value of at least 180 credits at 68.0 or better, including at least 150 credits at 70.0 or better in</p>

	<p>level 6 and 7, of which at least 30 credits must be at level 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 30 credits of modules from levels 5, 6 and 7 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Class Two Division One Honours	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 60.0</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 58.0 and modules to the value of at least 180 credits at 60.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits at level 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5, 6 and 7 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Borderline	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 58 and modules to the value of at least 180 credits at 58.0 or better, including at least 150 credits at 60.0 or better in level 6 and 7, of which at least 30 credits must be at level 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5, 6 and 7 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Class Two Division Two Honours	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 50.0</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 48.0 and modules to the value of at least 180 credits at 50.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be at level 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5, 6 and 7 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Borderline	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 48.0 and modules to the value of at least 180 credits at 48.0 or better, including at least 150 credits at 50.0 or better in levels 6 and 7, of which at least 30 credits must be at level 7</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5, 6 and 7 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>

10.13. Candidates who do not meet the required credit-weighted mean grade for Class Two Division Two Honours should be considered for the award of a lesser qualification as permitted below.

### **Bachelor Degrees**

10.14. Degree classification scheme for Bachelor Degrees:

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Requirements students must meet</b>
Class One Honours	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 70.0</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 68.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 70.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be from level 6</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 30 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0.</p>
Borderline	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 68.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 68.0 or better, including at least 90 credits at 70.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be from level 6</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 30 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Class Two Division One Honours	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 60.0</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 58.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 60.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be from level 6</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Borderline	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 58.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 58.0 or better, including at least 90 credits at 60.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be from level 6</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>
Class Two Division Two Honours	<p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 50.0</p> <p>OR</p> <p>A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 48.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 50.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be from level 6</p> <p>AND</p> <p>No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0</p>



Borderline	A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 48.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 48.0 or better, including at least 90 credits at 50.0 or better, at least 30 of which must be from level 6  AND  No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0
Class Three Honours	A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 40.0  OR  A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 38.0 and modules to the value of at least 120 credits at 40.0 or better, of which at least 30 credits must be from level 6  AND  No more than 45 credits of modules from levels 5 and 6 with a mark of less than 40.0
Pass (without Honours)	A credit-weighted mean grade of at least 35.0

10.15. Candidates who do not meet the required credit-weighted mean grade for a Pass degree should be considered for the award of a lesser qualification as detailed in section 9.4 and 9.5.

10.16. NMITE reserves the right to withhold award certificates and/or academic transcripts from a student with outstanding academic debts to the institution.

## 11. Aegrotat Awards

11.1. A student who has completed their undergraduate degree programme may be considered for an aegrotat degree where, due to exceptional circumstances, such as illness, they have been prevented from completing and passing a maximum of 60 credits for the final Level of their award.

11.2. The circumstances experienced by the student should be such that they are unlikely to be able to complete outstanding assessments at a future date and have insufficient credits for a degree to be awarded or a classification determined. In all other circumstances standard re-assessment Regulations will apply as described in NMITE's Assessment Policy.

11.3. The Assessment Board should be satisfied that, on the basis of the student's performance prior to the circumstances, the student would have been expected to pass the assessments if the circumstances had not occurred.

11.4. Students must have successfully completed 60 credits of the final Level of study, including passing the required assessments and may not be exempted from completing a dissertation or research project where this is a requirement of the programme.

11.5. A student should indicate that they are willing to accept an aegrotat award and understand that no further opportunities will be available for re-assessment.

- 11.6. An aegrotat award will be unclassified.
- 11.7. If a student has completed a degree programme but has completed fewer than 60 credits of the final Level and will be prevented from completing outstanding assessments at a later date, an Assessment Board will consider them for the intermediate award of either a Certificate or Diploma of Higher Education, based on the number of credits accumulated and marks obtained.

## **12. Posthumous Awards**

- 12.1. An Assessment Board may posthumously award an Integrated Master's Degree, a Bachelor's Degree, a Diploma of Higher Education or a Certificate of Higher Education on the basis of credit successfully completed. A Bachelor's or Integrated Master's Degree may be awarded where a pass has been obtained in at least 60 credits of the final year modules. Where fewer than 60 credits have been passed the appropriate intermediate award will be made on a posthumous basis.

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<b>Reason for update</b>	Review of regs as part of IET accreditation application – minor clarification to wording around compensation required.
<b>Date for next review</b>	August 2025
<b>Related Policies, Procedures, Guidance, Forms or Templates</b>	NMITE Assessment Policy Programme Regulations
<b>Policies superseded by this Policy</b>	N/A
<b>Summary of changes made to this version</b>	<p>Insertion of the words ‘percentage points’ into the following sentence in section 7.3 – ‘The minimum module mark for which compensation is allowed is 10 percentage points below the nominal module pass mark’.</p> <p>This clarification to wording was necessary for the purposes of accreditation, to bring the regulation in line with the requirements of The Engineering Council.</p>