

Electronic Senate

E-Senate will commence on Wednesday 26 April 2023 and close at noon on Wednesday 10 May 2023

AGENDA

ITEMS FOR NOTING OR FORMAL APPROVAL		
1.	Resolutions To comment	e-S 22/23 3 A
2.	Conferment of the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita To approve	e-S 22/23 3 B
3.	Communications from the University Court To note	e-S 22/23 3 C
4.	College Academic Management Structure 2023/24 To note	e-S 22/23 3 D
5.	Report of the Knowledge Strategy Committee To note	e-S 22/23 3 E
6.	Report of the Senate Exception Committee To note This item is closed: This paper contains information relating to individual students. Disclosure of the contents would be breach in breach of Data Protection legislation.	e-S 22/23 3 F CLOSED
7.	Provisional dates of meetings of Senate 2023/24 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Wednesday 11 October 2023• Wednesday 7 February 2024• Wednesday 22 May 2024	

Electronic Senate

26 April – 10 May 2023

Resolutions - Degree Programme Resolutions

Description of paper

1. This paper is presented to Senate for consultation in accordance with the procedures for the creation of Resolutions as set out in the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966.

Action requested / Recommendation

2. Senate is invited to make observations on the following draft Resolutions:

No. 8/2023: Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations

No. 9/2023: Postgraduate Degree Programme Regulations

3. For E-Senate, members are invited to submit any comments, observations or reservations by email. Any comments on this paper should be emailed to SenateSupport@ed.ac.uk quoting “comment on e-S 22/23 3 A”. These comments will be added verbatim at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>. This is an EASE-protected webpage where comments can be viewed by other Senate members.

Background and context

4. Universities (Scotland) Act 1966 enabled the University Court to exercise by Resolution a wide range of powers, including ‘to approve any additions or amendments to the regulations for existing degrees’. The Act sets out the procedure for making Resolutions and stipulates that Senatus Academicus, the General Council and any other body or person having an interest require to be consulted on draft Resolutions throughout the period of one month, with the months of August and September not taken into account when calculating the consultation period.

Discussion

5. The key changes proposed to the Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations 2023/24 are as follows.

6. Links within the regulations to other information and changes in terminology have been updated as necessary. This includes changes in terminology related to the adoption of the Student Support Model.

Regulation Updated	What has changed
4 Compliance (Fitness to Practice)	Cross-reference to sections on College Fitness to Practice Procedures added.
9 Timing of admittance to degree programmes and courses	Amended to add clarification that no student may commence any year of their degree programme more than two weeks after the start of the relevant academic year. Amended to clarify that, in circumstances where a Board of Examiners awards a null sit, the requirement for students to enrol in a course in the first two weeks of semester applies.

13 Study Period	The MBChB is an Ordinary degree, but is a 6 year programme. Updated on the basis that a 10 year maximum period is more appropriate for this programme.
92 Passes with Distinction	Removed the regulation on Passes with Distinction from College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations. The College state that this regulation has been obsolete for some time.
92 (formerly 93) BVM&S Distinction at graduation	Amended to state that Distinction at graduation will not be awarded to students admitted from 2023/24 onwards.
93 onwards - College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations AND College of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations	All regulations below 92 have been renumbered to reflect the removal of a regulation from Section C.

7. The key changes proposed to the Postgraduate Degree Programme Regulations 2023/24 are as follows.

8. Links within the regulations to other information and terminology have been updated as necessary. This includes changes in terminology related to the adoption of the Student Support Model.

Regulation Updated	What has changed
6 Fitness to Practice	Links to College Fitness to Practice Procedures added
9 Late Admission	Amended to add clarification that no student may commence their degree programme (rather than 'be admitted') more than two weeks after their given start date. Amended to add clarification that students cannot enrol on courses more than two weeks after the start of the course, without College approval.
33 Authorised Interruptions of Study	Amended to permit the Head of College to exceptionally authorise an Interruption of Study which would take the total period of interruption beyond 100% of the

	prescribed period of study, provided this does not exceed the maximum allowable study period.
34 Extensions of Study	Amended to clarify that the total maximum period of permitted extensions is 24 months, provided this does not take the student past their maximum allowable study period.
41 Supervision	Amended to “Student visa” and removed “Tier 4 visa”. Amended the link to Immigration information for staff working with non-UK students.
90 Masters in Transfusion, Transplantation and Tissue Banking (MSc)	Programme specific regulations removed to reflect the programme closure.
90 onwards - College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations AND College of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations	All regulations above 90 have been renumbered to reflect the removal of a regulation from Section C.

Resource implications

9. There are no direct resource implications.

Risk Management

10. APRC has considered any risks presented by the proposed amendments.

Responding to the Climate Emergency and Sustainable Development Goals

11. N/A.

Equality and Diversity

12. There are no specific equality and diversity issues associated with the proposed amendments.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

13. Final draft Resolutions will be submitted to Court on 19 June 2023 for consideration and approval.

Consultation

14. Academic Services has consulted on the revisions to the degree regulations and these were recommended for approval by Senate’s Academic Policy & Regulations Committee. The General Council will also be invited to make observations prior to Court consideration of the final draft Resolutions.

Further information

Author(s)

Presenter(s) (if required)

Kirstie Graham, Deputy Head of Court Services
April 2023

Freedom of information

Open paper

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

Draft Resolution of the University Court No. 8/2023

Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations

At Edinburgh, the Nineteenth day of June, Two thousand and twenty three.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it desirable to produce one comprehensive set of Undergraduate Degree Regulations, including Assessment Regulations (2023/24);

AND WHEREAS the University Court considers it expedient to promulgate this Resolution to set out these Regulations in full to give effect to the essential elements contained within these Regulations including Assessment Regulations (2023/24):

THEREFORE the University Court, on the recommendation of the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraphs 2 and 8 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Undergraduate Degree Regulations are hereby set out:

Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study

Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations

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A. General Undergraduate Degree Regulations

Compliance

- 1 [Compliance and concessions](#)
- 2 [Head of College authority for concessions](#)
- 3 [Compliance with requirements](#)
- 4 [Fitness to practise](#)
- 5 [Disclosure of criminal offences](#)
- 6 [Undergraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates](#)
- 7 [Compliance with Degree Programme Tables](#)
- 8 [Pre-requisites, co-requisites and prohibited combinations](#)
- 9 [Timing of admittance onto degree programmes and courses](#)

Mode of Study

- 10 [Full-time and part-time](#)
- 11 [Changing mode of study](#)

Study Period

- 12 [Compliance with time periods](#)
- 13 [Maximum degree completion periods](#)
- 14 [Minimum credit points taken in each year](#)
- 15 [Credit points where a student needs to meet specific progression requirements](#)
- 16 [Elements requiring full-time attendance](#)
- 17 [Minimum period of study for a University of Edinburgh degree](#)
- 18 [Study at another institution](#)
- 19 [Authorised interruption of study](#)
- 20 [Credit from other institutions during interruption of study](#)
- 21 [Cases where interruption of study does not apply to BVM&S and MBChB](#)

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

- 22 [Recognition of prior learning for admission](#)

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23 [Overlapping curricula](#)

Attendance and Participation

24 [Students' responsibilities for attendance and participation](#)

25 [Student contact details](#)

26 [Leave of absence](#)

Optional Study Abroad

27-32 [Optional study abroad](#)

Withdrawal and Exclusion

33 [Withdrawal and exclusion](#)

Progression and Permissible Credit Loads

34 [Credit point and level requirements](#)

35 [Credit volumes](#)

36 [Requirement to attain credits](#)

37 [Failure to attain the full volume of credits](#)

38 [Minimum progression requirements](#)

39 [Requirement to attain more than minimum number of credits for progression](#)

40 [Progression with a credit deficit](#)

41 [Exclusion for unsatisfactory academic progress](#)

42 [Continuation without progression](#)

43 [Pre-honours: taking additional credits](#)

44 [Honours: taking additional credits](#)

45 [Limitations on courses taken in honours years](#)

46 [Work may be submitted for credit for only one course](#)

47 [Conflicting studies](#)

Transfer to Different Degree Programme

48 [Approval to transfer degree programme](#)

49 [Transferring students: compliance with Degree Programme Tables](#)

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Awards and Qualifications

50 [Requirements for Undergraduate Certificate of Higher Education](#)

51 [Requirements for Undergraduate Diploma of Higher Education](#)

52 [Requirements for General and Ordinary Degrees](#)

53 [Requirements for MBChB and BVM&S](#)

54 [Award of Honours](#)

55 [Honours classifications](#)

56 [Limits on Honours re-assessment](#)

57 [Award of the highest qualification attained](#)

58 [Use of General or Ordinary degree to apply for Honours admission](#)

59 [Unclassified Honours](#)

60 [Posthumous awards](#)

61 [Aegrotat degrees](#)

B College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

62 [College requirements](#)

63 [College Fitness to Practise Policy](#)

64 [General and Ordinary Degrees](#)

65 [General and ordinary: Merit and Distinction](#)

66 [LLB Ordinary: Merit and Distinction](#)

67 [MA \(Fine Art\): Distinction](#)

68 [Distinction in Oral Language](#)

69 [Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science \(Veterinary Sciences\)](#)

C College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

70 [College requirements](#)

71 [College Fitness to Practise Policy](#)

72-84 [MBChB](#)

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85-93 [BVM&S](#)

94-99 [Bachelor of Medical Sciences](#)

100-105 [BSc in Veterinary Sciences](#)

106-112 [BSc in Oral Health Sciences](#)

113-116 [Bachelor of Science](#)

**D College of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Degree Regulations:
Degree Specific Regulations**

117 [College requirements](#)

118 [Bachelor of Sciences Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline or Combined Disciplines](#)

121 [Degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences](#)

122-124 [Professional Requirements: School of Engineering](#)

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A General Undergraduate Degree Regulations

Compliance

1. These regulations apply to all categories of undergraduate study at the University of Edinburgh, except for those qualified by a Senatus approved Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding for joint or collaborative awards. Every undergraduate student must comply with these regulations. In exceptional circumstances a concession to allow relaxation of a specific regulation may be granted by the appropriate Head of College (or delegated nominee). Where the Head of College does not have authority to award a particular concession then the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee may award the concession.
2. Where the Head of College has the authority to grant permissions and concessions, this authority may be delegated to appropriate nominees in the College or Schools. Students must consult their ~~Personal Tutor or~~ Student Support Team or Student Adviser as to the appropriate point of contact, and must not approach the Head of College directly.
3. Students must comply with any requirements specific to their degree programme as set out in the Degree Programme Tables, the relevant College Regulations specified in sections B, C and D below and the University's Taught Assessment Regulations for the current academic session: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations
4. Where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements, the relevant College Committee must be satisfied at all times that in respect of health, conduct and any other matters which the Committee may reasonably deem relevant, whether such matters relate to the student's University programme or are unrelated to it, the student will not constitute a risk to the public, vulnerable children or adults or to patients and is a suitable person to become a registered member of the relevant professional body. Students are subject to the Fitness to Practise regulations both while actively studying and while on an interruption of study. Any student who fails to satisfy the relevant College Committee, irrespective of their performance in assessment, will be reported to the Head of College who has power to recommend exclusion from further studies and assessments or Professional Examinations, or to recommend the award of the degree be withheld, or other penalty set out in College procedures. An appeal against this decision may be submitted to the Student Fitness to Practise Appeal Committee.
 - See the Student Appeal Regulations at: www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studentappealregulations.pdf.
 - See section 63 below for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#).
 - See section 71 below for the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine [Fitness to Practice Procedure](#).

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5. The University considers that certain types of criminal offences may constitute a breach of the Code of Student Conduct and/or a degree programme's Fitness to Practise requirements. Accordingly, students must inform the Student Conduct Team if they have:

- a relevant pending charge or relevant unspent criminal conviction on matriculating at the University (students must provide this information no later than one week after matriculation); or
- been charged or convicted of a relevant criminal offence since matriculating at the University (students must provide this information no later than one week after the date of the charge or conviction).

Information about offences considered relevant and which should therefore be reported under this regulation is provided on the University website, and may be updated on occasion: www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/students/conduct/criminalconvictions

Where a student discloses a relevant charge or conviction, the Student Conduct Team will refer the case to the Deputy Secretary, Student Experience (or delegated authority), who will decide whether to:

- take no further action; or
- refer the matter for investigation under the Code of Student Conduct; or
- (where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements) refer the matter for consideration under the relevant College's Fitness to Practice procedures.

Alternatively, action may be taken under both the Code of Student Conduct and relevant Fitness to Practise procedures, where the Deputy Secretary (or delegated authority) and the relevant College consider this appropriate.

6. The University awards the following types of undergraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates. The University's undergraduate awards and degree programmes are consistent with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/), unless an exemption has been approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. The credit levels required for each programme are specified within the appropriate Degree Programme Table (DPT).

I	Undergraduate Certificate of Higher Education	At least 120 credits of which a minimum of 90 are at level 7 or higher.
ii	Undergraduate Diploma of Higher Education	At least 240 credits of which a minimum of 90 are at level 8 or higher
A.	Single Honours (in a named subject/discipline)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.
B.	Single Honours (with a subsidiary subject)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.

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C. Combined Honours (in two disciplines)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.
D. Group Honours (more than two disciplines)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.
E. Non-Honours Degrees	At least 360 credits of which a minimum of 60 is at level 9.
F. General and Ordinary	At least 360 credits of which a minimum of 60 is at level 9.
G. Intercalated Honours Degrees	See appropriate Degree Programme Table
H. Integrated Masters with Honours (in named subject/discipline)	At least 600 credits of which a minimum of 120 is at level 11.
Integrated Masters (with a subsidiary subject)	At least 600 credits of which a minimum of 120 is at level 11.
Integrated Masters (with combined honours in two disciplines)	At least 600 credits of which a minimum of 120 is at level 11.
I. MBChB (5 year programme)	720 credits
MBChB (6 year programme)	780 credits
J. BVM&S Graduate Entry Programme	560 credits
BVM&S 5 Year Programme	640 credits

7. Every student must comply with the detailed requirements of the curriculum for the degree as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table, the programme handbook, the course handbook, the order in which courses are attended and the assessment for the programme, which are published in the University Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study. In exceptional cases, the Head of College may approve a concession allowing a student to substitute a course marked as compulsory in the relevant Degree Programme Table with another course (or courses) with the same credit volume and SCQF level.

8. When selecting courses, students must comply with the pre-requisite, co-requisite and prohibited combination requirements for the degree programme, unless a concession is approved by the relevant Head of College.

9. Students should commence their degree programme at the start of the academic year, and should commence the courses that they are enrolled on at the start of semester in which the courses are taught. No student will be may commence admitted to any year of their a degree- degree programme more than two weeks after the start of the relevant academic year without the permission of the Head of College. No student will be enrolled on a course more than two weeks after the start of semester in which the course is taught without the permission of the Head of College. Where a student withdraws from a course more than six weeks after the start of the relevant semester, the course enrolment remains on the student's record. Students in Honours years are not permitted to withdraw from a course marked as optional on the Degree Programme Table more than six weeks after the start of the relevant semester in order to substitute the course with another optional course in a subsequent semester, unless the relevant Board of Examiners has awarded a null sit for the

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course under the Special Circumstances procedure, and the requirement above to enrol on the course within the first two weeks of the relevant semester can be met. -

Mode of Study

10. Programmes are offered on a full-time or part-time basis. Students' mode of study is defined when they are admitted to the degree programme.
11. Only in exceptional circumstances, and with the permission of the Head of College, is a student allowed to change mode of study. For academic reasons, the University may require a student to change their mode of study.

Study Period

12. A student must complete the requirements of the degree programme within the period of study specified in the Degree Programme Table, unless given a concession with the approval of the Head of College.
13. The maximum period for completion of an Ordinary or General degree programme is 8 years. The maximum period for completion of an MBChB or Honours degree programme is 10 years. This maximum period includes any concessions and any authorised interruptions of study.
14. With the annual permission of the Head of College, a student may take longer than the study period specified in the Degree Programme Table to undertake an Ordinary, General or Honours degree programme, provided that a minimum of 40 credit points are undertaken in each year of study.
15. Where a student needs to meet specific progression requirements, the Head of College may approve a student taking fewer than 40 credit points.
16. Certain elements of a degree programme may require full-time attendance. Students given permission to undertake study over an extended period must comply with any requirements specified for a particular degree programme.
17. For the award of a University of Edinburgh degree a student must study University of Edinburgh courses for a minimum period of two years and obtain 240 credits or the pro-rata equivalent in the case of part-time study (for part-time study, the period of study will be longer but the same minimum credit levels must be achieved). This regulation does not apply to intercalating medicine and veterinary medicine students. In exceptional circumstances, the Head of College may approve a concession to allow the award of a University of Edinburgh degree to a student who has studied University of Edinburgh courses for a minimum of one year (obtaining 120 credits or the pro-rata in the case of part-time study). This may include students studying at the University of Edinburgh on 2+2 arrangements, or students entering the University directly into year 3 of study.
18. A student studying for an Honours degree is not allowed to substitute study at another institution for the final year of their Honours programme.

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19. A student may apply for an authorised interruption of study and it may be authorised by the Head of College if there is good reason for approving the interruption. Students may be required to provide evidence to support their applications. Interruptions of study will not be applied retrospectively. Any one period of authorised interruption of study will not exceed one academic year, unless authorised by the Head of College. The total period of authorised interruption of study is the same for full-time and part-time students and will not exceed 100% of the prescribed period of full-time study.

20. Study undertaken at another institution during a period of authorised interruption of study will not be credited to a student's programme of study at the University of Edinburgh.

21. Students registered for the 5-year MBChB programme or the BVM&S may elect to take an intercalated Honours year, or undertake a postgraduate degree programme during their period of enrolment. This is not categorised as interruption of study.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

22. RPL can only be recognised at the point of admission to the University. The Head of College has the power to recognise the transfer of up to 240 credits of prior learning and on this basis to admit a student to the second or later years of a programme of study. RPL can potentially be granted for programmes taken at the University of Edinburgh, as well as those from elsewhere. Before approval is granted the College must be satisfied that the learning to be recognised and transferred provides an adequate basis for the programme or courses as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table. University of Edinburgh courses which have a substantial curriculum overlap with any of the courses that contributed to a student's admission on the basis of RPL will not count towards the student's degree programme.

23. The University can also consider prior learning for admissions purposes. [University RPL policy for admissions](#).

Attendance and Participation

24. Students must attend and participate as required in all aspects of their programme of study. This includes being available for teaching sessions, assessment, examination and meeting with ~~their Personal Tutors or~~ allocated Student Adviser face to face and electronically. Except when registered on a designated online or distance learning programme, or where remote participation is specifically stated, students are expected to attend and participate in person. The Degree Programme Table and programme handbook sets out programme requirements for engagement. Certain students' visa requirements may require the University to monitor attendance and engagement in specific ways.

25. It is a student's responsibility to provide a current postal contact address and to ensure that any legal requirements, including those imposed by their funding or grant authority, are met. All students are required to check their MyEd and University email account frequently for communications from the University and respond where appropriate.

University policy on contacting students by email:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/contacting_students_by_email.pdf

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26. Leave of absence is required where students undertake compulsory and optional activities related to, or as part of, the programme of study away from campus in Edinburgh. Students must have the formal approval of the College for any leave of absence to study away from Edinburgh that is 30 calendar days' duration or longer. Study location changes of less than 30 calendar days must be agreed with the Supervisor or ~~Personal Tutor or~~ Student Adviser. Where the activity is a compulsory part of the programme of study and is organised by the School or College, permission may be given by the College for a cohort of students without individual applications being made. Colleges and Schools must maintain records of all leaves of absence. Certain students' visa conditions may be affected by study away from Edinburgh. This regulation does not apply to students on a recognised distance learning programme.

Optional Study Abroad

27. Students may be eligible to undertake Optional Study Abroad as part of their undergraduate degree programme, providing they meet the selection criteria. Periods of Optional Study Abroad must only be undertaken at a higher education institution with which the University of Edinburgh has a formal exchange agreement. Students are not permitted to arrange their own opportunities to study at another higher education institution. Periods of Optional Study Abroad may be for one academic year, or one semester depending on the exchanges offered in each discipline.

28. Students must have achieved 240 credits before participating in Optional Study Abroad in year 3. All year 2 courses must be passed at the first attempt; resits during the summer diet are not permitted. Students must have achieved 360 credits before participating in Optional Study Abroad in year 4 of a 5 year programme.

29. Students undertaking Optional Study Abroad are required to complete a Learning Agreement in consultation with their School Exchange Coordinator prior to departure. Learning Agreements must be agreed and signed by the student, their School Exchange Coordinator, and, for Erasmus students only, the partner university. In the case of joint degree programmes, the Learning Agreement must be approved by both Schools, but the School which owns the programme is ultimately responsible for the Learning Agreement. If any amendments are required to the Learning Agreement at any time, including on arrival at the partner university, students must agree these changes with the School Exchange Coordinator. The Exchange Coordinator is responsible for confirming that the amended Learning Agreement corresponds appropriately with the University of Edinburgh degree curriculum for the relevant year of study.

30. Students who undertake Optional Study Abroad must undertake the equivalent volume of credits and level of courses at the partner university to that which they would study if they were remaining in Edinburgh. Credit achieved at a partner university is converted to University of Edinburgh credit, and counts towards the total credit required for the award of an Edinburgh degree. Individual marks/grades achieved at a partner university are not converted to University of Edinburgh marks/grades.

- Students studying abroad for one semester must enrol in the equivalent of 60 University of Edinburgh credits;

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- Students studying abroad for an academic year must enrol in the equivalent of 120 University of Edinburgh credits.
- For students studying at European institutions, 60 Edinburgh credits are equivalent to 30 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits and 120 Edinburgh credits are equivalent to 60 ECTS.
- For students studying at non-European institutions, the credit load and level required to be undertaken at the chosen partner university will be as approved Colleges, in consultation with Edinburgh Global.

31. Students who attempt but do not achieve the required credit at the partner university may be eligible for the award of Credit on Aggregate (CA). CA can only be awarded when the student has enrolled in and attempted assessment for the equivalent to a full University of Edinburgh credit load at an appropriate level, and in accordance with the regulations and guidance available in the Taught Assessment Regulations for awarding credit on aggregate. Progression decisions for students returning from Optional Study Abroad are the responsibility of the appropriate College Study Abroad Progression Board. Terms of Reference for the College Study Abroad Progression Boards are available here:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyabroadcollegeboards-termsofreference.pdf

32. In cases where assessment is optional at a partner university, students are required to undertake assessment. Credit awarded on a “pass/fail” basis will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances or where the partner institution confirms there is no alternative, and with advance approval of the appropriate College.

Withdrawal and Exclusion

33. Any student may withdraw permanently from their programme of study at any point in the year. Students may be excluded for reasons outlined within the procedure for Withdrawal and Exclusion from Studies:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal_exclusion_from_study.pdf

Progression and Permissible Credit Loads

34. To gain a specific degree award, students must achieve the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) credit point and level requirements of the particular programme, as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table.

35. Full-time undergraduate study comprises 120 credit points in each year of study. Part-time study is defined on a pro-rata basis in the relevant Degree Programme Table.

36. Students must attain the credits and other requirements for each stage of study, as outlined in the relevant Degree Programme Table and Programme Handbook. In addition, students must meet any other requirements set out in their Programme and/or Course Handbook.

37. Any student who has not attained the full volume of credit points for their year of programme by the end of the relevant session (e.g. 120 credits for full-time students) may be

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required to take resit exams, supplementary or alternative assessments, or additional courses to make good the deficit.

38. In order to progress to the next year of programme, a student must attain the following minimum number of credits:

- 80 credit points by the end of Year 1 of programme;
- 200 credit points by the end of Year 2 of programme;
- 360 credit points by the end of Year 3 of programme;
- 480 credit points by the end of Year 4 of programme;
- 600 credit points by the end of Year 5 of programme for Integrated Masters

39. Where a programme requires students to attain more than the minimum number of credits in order to progress, this will be specified in the relevant Degree Programme Table and Programme Handbook.

40. Where students are allowed to progress with a credit deficit, they will be required to obtain the missing credits in order to qualify for the relevant award.

41. Students who do not attain sufficient credits to progress within the specified period may be excluded for unsatisfactory academic progress. The College will follow the procedure for Withdrawal and Exclusion from Studies:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal_exclusion_from_study.pdf

42. The College may offer students who are unable to progress due to a credit deficit the opportunity to return to study the following year in order to seek to address this deficit. Such a return to study without progression may be offered on a full-time, part-time, or assessment-only basis.

43. In pre-Honours years, a student may be allowed to take up to 40 credits of additional Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) level 7 and 8 courses (in addition to the normal 120 credits), subject to the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. student's ~~Personal Tutor or~~ Student Adviser).

44. Exceptionally, students in their honours years, with College approval, may take up to 40 credits of additional Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) level 7 or 8 credit and, more rarely, up to 10 credits at levels 9-11 in the Honours years.

45. Students may attend courses on a class-only basis (i.e. not for credit), with the agreement of the Course Organiser and the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. ~~Personal Tutor or~~ Student Adviser). Decisions will be based on the overall load (credit and non-credit bearing) on the student, which must not exceed 160 credits.

46. A student who has previously submitted work for one course at the University must not submit the same work to attempt to achieve academic credit at the University through another course.

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47. Students registered on a programme of study at this University may not undertake any other concurrent credit bearing studies in this (or in any other) institution, unless the College has granted permission. The College must be satisfied that any additional credit-bearing studies will not restrict the student's ability to complete their existing programme of study.

Transfer to Different Degree Programme

48. A student may be allowed to transfer to a different degree programme in the University by permission of the receiving College. The College may approve the transfer of some or all of the credits the student has attained for their previous programme into the new programme, as appropriate.

49. Unless granted a concession by the Head of the receiving College, students must comply with the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of the new programme shown in the Degree Programme Table.

Awards and Qualifications

50. In order to achieve the award of the Undergraduate Certificate of Higher Education students must have attained a minimum of 120 credit points (of which a minimum of 90 are at level 7 or higher) gained from passes in courses of this University which count towards graduation.

51. In order to achieve the award of the Undergraduate Diploma of Higher Education students must have attained a minimum of 240 credit points. At least 120 credit points must be gained from passes in courses of this University counting towards graduation and at least 90 of the 120 credit points gained from courses passed at this University must be in courses at level 8 or above.

52. The attainment requirements for students for General and Ordinary degrees are specified in the relevant College regulations below.

53. The attainment requirements for students for MBChB and BVM&S degrees and the BSc in Oral Health Sciences are specified in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine regulations below (Section C).

54. The award of Honours is based on the student's performance in assessment in the Honours year(s). For information on the award of Honours see the Taught Assessment Regulations for the current academic session: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations

55. A student who satisfies the examiners in the Honours assessment shall be awarded Honours in one of following classifications: First Class, Second Class Division I, Second Class Division II and Third Class.

56. Students who have been assessed, classed or failed for Honours may not present themselves for re-assessment in the same programme, or assessment in a closely related programme. The Head of College determines whether a programme is closely related.

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57. During a single period of continuous registration, a student may be awarded only the University qualification with the highest status for which they have attained the required credits.

58. A candidate who already holds a General or Ordinary degree may be permitted by the appropriate Head of College to apply for the degree with Honours, provided that not more than three years have elapsed between their first graduation and acceptance as a candidate for the subsequent degree with Honours. Such a candidate will normally be required to achieve a further 240 credit points, or credit points as deemed appropriate by the Head of the receiving College, at the levels stipulated in the appropriate Degree Programme Table. Candidates who have exited the University with a General or Ordinary degree due to failure to meet relevant requirements for an Honours degree are not eligible to apply for readmission on this basis.

59. In exceptional circumstances, notwithstanding any existing Resolutions to the contrary, the University may confer all existing Honours degrees with unclassified Honours if insufficient information is available to the relevant Board of Examiners to classify those degrees. Where a Board of Examiners has insufficient information to enable an unclassified Honours degree to be conferred on a candidate for Honours, a General or Ordinary degree may be awarded to that candidate where they are qualified for such a degree under the existing Regulations. Conferment of an unclassified Honours degree or General or Ordinary degree in these cases is an interim measure: final awards will be confirmed when sufficient information is available to the relevant Board of Examiners.

60. Senatus may authorise the conferment of posthumous degrees, diplomas and certificates if proposed by the College and approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. A posthumous award is conferred where the student has significantly completed the relevant year of study at the time of death.

61. In exceptional circumstances Senatus may authorise the conferment of aegrotat degrees, which are unclassified. Each such conferment requires a proposal from the College concerned to be approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. An aegrotat degree is conferred only where the student was nearly qualified to receive the degree and was unable to complete it due to circumstances beyond their control. Before any proposal is referred to Senatus, the College must check that the student is willing to receive the degree aegrotat.

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B College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

62. These degree programme requirements relate to undergraduate programmes in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. They are additional to, and should be read in conjunction with, the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above, which apply to all undergraduate programmes, unless otherwise stated.

63. The College Fitness to Practise policy is available at: www.ed.ac.uk/arts-humanities-soc-sci/taught-students/student-conduct/fitness-to-practise [Review in progress, link to be updated]

General and Ordinary Degrees

64. BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences)

To qualify for the award of the degree of BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) students must have obtained 360 credit points from passes (or accreditation of prior learning) normally at the rate of 120 credit points per year.

The overall curriculum must include at least:

360 credit points, of which at least 240 credit points must be at SCQF level 8, 9 or 10. Courses at SCQF level 8, 9, or 10 must include:

- A minimum of 200 credit points from courses in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.
- A minimum of 140 credit points in a major subject of study in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (which may be part of the 200 credit points listed in the point above) comprising related and consecutive courses in this subject over three years of which 60 credit points must be at SCQF level 9 or 10.

In addition, there must be at least 40 credit points at SCQF levels 7-10 in each of a minimum of two other subjects of study.

Students have a free choice of the remaining credits at SCQF levels 7-10.

BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) in a designated discipline:

To qualify for the award of the BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) in a designated discipline students must have obtained 360 credit points (or accreditation of prior learning) normally at the rate of 120 credit points per year.

The overall curriculum must include at least:

360 credit points, of which at least 240 credit points must be at SCQF level 8, 9 or 10. Courses at SCQF level 8, 9, or 10 must include:

- A minimum of 200 credit points from courses in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

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- A minimum of 160 credit points in a major subject of study in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (which may be part of the 200 credits listed in the point above) comprising related and consecutive courses in this subject over three years of which 80 credit points must be at SCQF level 9 or 10.

In addition, there must be at least 40 credit points at SCQF levels 7-10 in each of a minimum of two other subjects of study.

Students have a free choice of the remaining credits at SCQF levels 7-10.

Merit and Distinction

65. General and Ordinary degrees may be awarded with Merit or Distinction.

For Merit a student must achieve grade B or above at first attempt, in courses totalling 180 credit points, of which at least 40 credits points must be at level 9 or 10, and at least 80 of the remaining credit points must be at level 8 or higher.

For Distinction, a student must achieve grade A at first attempt, in courses totalling at least 160 credit points, of which at least 40 credit points must be at level 9 or 10, and at least 80 of the remaining credit points must be at level 8 or higher.

66. The LLB Ordinary, Graduate Entry degree may be awarded with Merit or Distinction.

For Merit a student must achieve grade B or above at first attempt, in courses totalling 120 credit points.

For Distinction, a student must achieve grade A at first attempt, in courses totalling at least 100 credit points.

67. Students of the MA Fine Art with Honours degree will be awarded a Distinction in either Art or History of Art if their performance in the subject is of first class standard but their overall degree result is lower than first class. Students are eligible for distinction in History of Art or Art Practice.

Distinction in Oral Language

68. Students of the MA with Honours which includes an Honours oral examination in any one of the following languages will be awarded a Distinction in Oral Language if their performance at the oral examination is of first-class standard: Arabic, Chinese, Danish, French, Gaelic, German, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

Degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science with Honours

69. The degree programme requirements of the Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science are in the College Undergraduate Degree Regulations of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine (Section C).

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C College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

70. These degree programme requirements relate to undergraduate programmes in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. They are additional to, and should be read in conjunction with, the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above, which apply to all undergraduate programmes, unless otherwise stated.

71. The College Fitness to Practise policy is available at <https://www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/edinburgh-medical-school/medicine/the-student-experience/professionalism>

MBChB

Compliance

72. Students should refer to the Virtual Learning Environment for detailed curriculum and assessment information.

73. Students entering the first year of the MBChB programme are subject to a check, carried out by Disclosure Scotland, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups legislation. Admission to the medical profession is excepted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendments) Order 1986. Students on the MBChB programme are therefore not entitled to withhold information about any conviction on the grounds that it is, for other purposes, spent under the Act. Subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, failure to disclose a conviction may result in the withdrawal of an offer of admission or exclusion from a programme of studies.

74. Students are subject to blood borne virus checks as they are admitted to the MBChB programme. Students declining testing or found to be infected by a blood borne virus will be allowed to continue on their degree programme leading to full Medical Registration, provided that they formally accept the requirement they will not be allowed to perform Exposure Prone Procedures (EPPs), and recognise that careers in some specialties may not be open to them if their infection persists.

Attendance and Participation

75. Students on the MBChB programme are required to attend all teaching throughout the year. Students should consult Course Handbooks on the Virtual Learning Environment for detailed attendance and timetable information.

76. Students in the final three years of study are required to undertake placements in hospitals across the South East of Scotland.

77. In exceptional circumstances students may be permitted to interrupt studies or repeat a year of study because of ill-health, service or sporting commitments, or an episode of academic failure. Only in highly exceptional circumstances will students be permitted more than two such years of interrupted progress, whether taken consecutively or at intervals throughout the programme. Exceptions are very unlikely to be considered in the case of

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prolonged or repeated academic failure. Students who wish to be considered for a further interruption or repeat year of study must apply to the Progression Review Committee. Approved study for an intercalated degree does not constitute interrupted progress.

Progression

78. MBChB students are only entitled to two assessment attempts for courses which are part of the MBChB programme. This regulation supersedes the resit assessment regulation within the Taught Assessment Regulations.

79. A student who fails the professional requirements (attendance, engagement, and conduct) of the programme may be required by the relevant Board of Examiners to undertake additional clinical attachments before being permitted to progress.

80. No student may proceed to the next year of study for the MBChB programme until they have passed all components of the previous year of the programme, unless the Board of Examiners or Progression Review Committee has exceptionally granted permission.

81. Students on the 6-year MBChB programme may omit Year 3 of the MBChB Programme if they enter with an approved BSc degree. In this situation students proceed directly from Year 2 to Year 4 of the 6-year MBChB Programme.

82. Students on the 6-year MBChB programme may be permitted to interrupt their studies during the honours year with medical evidence and proceed directly into Year 4 of the MBChB programme the following academic year with approval of the Progression Review Committee.

Awards

Passes with Distinction

83. MBChB Distinctions are awarded for outstanding performance over a whole year of the programme.

Honours at Graduation

84. The award of MBChB with Honours may be conferred upon students who have performed at an outstanding level in the Professional Examinations throughout the degree programme.

BVM&S

Compliance

85. Students should refer to the appropriate Course Books for detailed curriculum and assessment information. Students should refer to the Animal Husbandry and Clinical Extramural Studies (EMS) Handbooks for all detailed EMS information and arrangements.

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86. Students are subject to health clearance as they are admitted to the BVM&S programmes. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in exclusion from a programme of studies.

Attendance and Participation

87. In exceptional circumstances students may be permitted to interrupt studies or repeat a year of study because of ill-health, service or sporting commitments, or an episode of academic failure. Only in highly exceptional circumstances will students be permitted more than two such years of interrupted progress, whether taken consecutively or at intervals throughout the programme. Exceptions are very unlikely to be considered in the case of prolonged or repeated academic failure. Approved study for an intercalated degree does not constitute interrupted progress.

Progression

88. Students are required to complete 12 weeks of animal husbandry extramural studies (EMS) and 26 weeks of clinical EMS. Students must submit satisfactory evidence of completion of a minimum of 12 weeks of approved animal husbandry extramural studies (EMS) by the submission deadlines provided by the School. Students who fail to satisfy the animal husbandry EMS requirement will be unable to progress into third year of the BVM&S programme and will be reported to the BVM&S Progression Committee. Students who have not completed 26 weeks of approved clinical EMS prior to the end of final year will be unable to graduate.

89. Clinical EMS can be started in the summer vacation between second and third year, provided all animal husbandry EMS has been signed off as complete in line with the arrangements and deadlines approved by the School, and provided the Clinical EMS Driving License has been completed.

90. Students who fail to submit required clinical EMS evidence by the deadline set by the School each year will not have that EMS added to their total and will be reported to the BVM&S Progression Committee. The deadline for each preceding year is 31st January, e.g. deadline for all EMS submissions for 2017 is 31st January 2018.

91. No student may proceed to the next year of study for the BVM&S programme until they have passed all components of the previous year of the programme, unless a concession is awarded by the Head of College. Students failing to complete all components will be reported to the BVM&S Progression Committee and exclusion from further attendance at courses and examinations may be recommended.

Awards

~~Passes with Distinction~~

~~92. — Students who have attained a sufficiently high standard in any of the Professional Examinations will be recorded as having passed that examination 'with distinction'.~~

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Distinction at Graduation

923. Students who entered the BVM&S prior to the 2022/23 academic year and have displayed special merit in the Professional Examinations over the whole degree programme will be awarded BVM&S with Distinction at the time of graduation. Awards are made based on calculations equally across all years and are weighted by course credit value. -For students who entered the BVM&S ~~in from~~ the 2022/23 academic year ~~onwards~~, criteria for the award of Distinction at graduation are set out in the relevant programme handbook. BVM&S with Distinction will not be awarded for students who entered the BVM&S from the 2023/24 academic year onwards.

Bachelor of Medical Sciences

Honours Degree

934. Every student admitted for the degree must also be a student for the degree of MBChB. A student in another University studying for a recognised primary medical undergraduate qualification may be admitted as a student for the degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

945. In addition, every student must pursue studies for at least one academic year in the University of Edinburgh in one of the Honours Degree Programmes available at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/medicine-vet-medicine/undergraduate/medicine/mbchb/intercalated-honours

956. For students on the 5-year MBChB programme, the Bachelor of Medical Sciences degree is intercalated after Year 2. For students on the 6-year MBChB programme, the course marks gained in Year 3 determine their classification for the Bachelor of Medical Sciences degree. Students entering the 6-year MBChB programme in Year 4 who do not already hold an Honours degree may exceptionally be permitted to take the Bachelor of Medical Sciences degree after Year 4, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. The BMedSci (Hons) will be awarded to students who have attained 480 credits and met the other requirements for Honours degrees outlined in Regulation 6 of the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above. This may include credits awarded on aggregate.

967. Limitation on Courses Taken in Honours Years: Students in all Honours years may take Honours curriculum courses to a maximum value of 120 credit points, all of which count in the final Honours award and classification.

Ordinary Degree

978. The Ordinary degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences may be offered as an exit award to students on the 5-year or 6-year MBChB programme who have attained 360 credits and met the other requirements for Ordinary degrees outlined in Regulation 6 of the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations. This may include credits awarded on aggregate.

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989. The compliance, attendance and participation, and progression requirements for the degrees of MBChB apply.

BSc in Veterinary Science

Honours Degree

99400. Every student admitted for the degree must also be a student for the degree of BVM&S, or have obtained the BVM&S degree not more than five years before the date of admission as a student for the Honours Degree. A student in another University studying for a recognised primary veterinary undergraduate qualification may be admitted as a student for the degree of BSc in Veterinary Science, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.

1004. Every student for the degree must normally attend in the University of Edinburgh during not less than two academic years the courses of instruction in the classes of the first two years of the curriculum for the BVM&S degree and pass the assessments prescribed for these courses.

1012. In addition every student must pursue studies for at least one year in the University of Edinburgh in one of Honours Degree Programmes available at:

www.eevec.vet.ed.ac.uk/secure/page.asp?ID=in0000id

1023. The year of study in the Honours Degree Programme may be intercalated not earlier than the end of the second year of study, provided that a student has successfully completed the appropriate assessments and satisfied such conditions as the Head of the School concerned may require, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.

1034. Students in all Honours years may take Honours curriculum courses to a maximum value of 120 credit points, all of which count in the final Honours award and classification.

Ordinary Degree

1045. No student shall be admitted as a student for the degree, except on transfer from candidature for the degrees of BVM&S 5 year programme or BVM&S 4 year Graduate Entry Programme. Students on the 5 year programme are eligible to be considered for the ordinary degree if they have successfully completed 240 credits from the First and Second Professional Examinations and, have shown sufficient attainment in the Third Year BVM&S assessments. Students on the graduate entry programme are awarded 120 credits of recognised prior learning. The Ordinary Degree of BSc (Veterinary Science) may not be conferred on any student who already holds, or is eligible to receive, the Degree of BSc in Veterinary Science with Honours.

BSc in Oral Health Sciences

Compliance

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1056. Students should refer to the Programme Handbook and appropriate Course Handbooks for detailed curriculum and assessment information

1067. Students entering the Oral Health Sciences programme are subject to a check, carried out by Disclosure Scotland, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups legislation. Admission to the profession is excepted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendments) Order 1986. Students on the BSc in Oral Health Sciences programme are therefore not entitled to withhold information about a previous conviction on the grounds that it is, for other purposes, spent under the Act. Subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, failure to disclose a relevant conviction may result in the withdrawal of an offer of admission or exclusion from a programme of studies.

1078. Students are subject to a Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV status check prior to entering the BSc in Oral Health Sciences. Failure to comply with this regulation or a positive result will lead to admission being refused or to exclusion from studies.

Attendance and Participation

1089. Except in exceptional circumstances, the maximum period of enrolment on the BSc in Oral Health Sciences may not exceed five years, including any period of leave of absence.

Progression

10940. BSc in Oral Health Sciences students are only entitled to two assessment attempts for courses which are part of the Oral Health Sciences programme. This regulation supersedes the resit assessment regulation within the Taught Assessment Regulations.

1104. A student whose progress in any year is unsatisfactory may be required to undertake a period of remedial study before being permitted to resit.

1112. No student may proceed to the next year of study for the BSc programme in Oral Health Sciences until they have passed all components of the previous year of the programme.

Bachelor of Science

Honours Degree

1123. Limitation on Courses Taken in Honours Years: Students in all Honours years may take Honours curriculum courses to a maximum value of 120 credit points, all of which count in the final Honours assessment. Students may attend additional Honours courses on a class-only basis (i.e. not for credit), with the agreement of the Programme Organiser and the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. ~~Personal Tutor or~~ Student Adviser).

Where a student takes level 9 courses in year 2, such courses should be regarded as part of the non-Honours curriculum and, if failed, may be repeated as a resit in Junior Honours. These courses will not be included in the degree classification.

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Students intending to graduate with an Ordinary degree may resit a failed level 9 course for the purposes of gaining the required number of credits, as specified in the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations.

Students in Junior Honours are permitted also to take up to 40 credit points of level 7/8 courses, which do not count towards the Honours assessment, as specified in the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations.

Students in Junior Honours must take 60 credit points of level 9/10 courses in semester 1 and 60 credit points of level 9/10 courses in semester 2.

Bachelor of Science General Degree

1134. To qualify for the award of the degree of BSc (General) students must have obtained 360 credit points from passes (or recognition of prior learning), normally at the rate of 120 credit points per year: 240 credit points in courses listed in Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Schedule T, Science and Engineering Schedules K-Q and from subject areas Language Sciences and Psychology in Schedule I; 200 credit points at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) level 8, 9 or 10; 80 credit points at SCQF level 8, 9, 10 in courses listed in Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Schedule T, Science and Engineering Schedules K-Q and from subject areas Language Sciences and Psychology in Schedule I; 60 credit points at SCQF level 9 or 10.

Bachelor of Science Ordinary Degree

1145. To qualify for the award of the degree of BSc Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline students must have obtained 360 credit points from passes (or recognition of prior learning, acceptable under General Undergraduate Regulations). The overall curriculum (including any concessions) must have met the requirement for entry to Senior Honours in that Discipline as indicated in years 3 and 4 of the Honours Degree Programme Table, subject to further restrictions and recommendations that may appear in the appropriate School Programme Guide (excluding the requirement for the Honours courses to have been passed at the first sitting, and excluding any elevated hurdles or prerequisites for Honours).

1156. The BSc Ordinary Degree is awarded in designated disciplines corresponding to every BSc Honours degree and with the same titles, with the exception that the titles of the following Ordinary degrees in the designated disciplines are changed as indicated:

a. subject specialisations for the BSc Biomedical Sciences, where the Designated Discipline will be Biomedical Sciences, i.e. without the subject specialisation

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D College of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

1167. These degree programme requirements relate to undergraduate programmes in the College of Science and Engineering. They are additional to, and should be read in conjunction with, the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above, which apply to all undergraduate programmes, unless otherwise stated.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Science Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline or Combined Disciplines

1178. To qualify for the award of the BSc Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline or Combined Disciplines students must have obtained 360 credit points (or recognition of prior learning, acceptable under General Undergraduate Regulations). The overall curriculum (including any concessions) must include at least:

- 360 credit points, of which at least 60 credit points should be at SCQF 9 or above.
- 180 credit points in the subject area or in a cognate discipline of the designated degree.

1189. The BSc Ordinary Degree is awarded in designated disciplines corresponding to every BSc, BEng, MA, or Integrated Masters Honours degree offered by the College of Science and Engineering, with the same titles, with the exception that the titles of the following Ordinary degrees in the designated disciplines are changed as indicated:

- subject specialisations for the BSc Biological Sciences, where the Designated Discipline will be Biological Sciences, i.e. without the subject specialisation;
- subject specialisations within the School of Chemistry, where the Designated Discipline will be either Chemical Sciences or Chemical Sciences with Industrial Experience. The latter may be awarded to students who successfully complete the industrial experience component of the corresponding MChem programme;
- subject specialisations within the discipline of Ecological Science, where the Designated Discipline will be Ecological Science, i.e. without the subject specialisation.

11920. In the case of Combined Degree programmes, the Examiners will recommend the award of the BSc Ordinary Degree in single (as above) or combined disciplines in order to best reflect the achievements of the individual student.

Degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences

1204. The Degree Programme Requirements of the Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Sciences) are in the College Undergraduate Regulations of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

Professional requirements: School of Engineering

1212. An Honours student who is eligible for progression or for the award of an accredited Honours degree by the University regulations but who fails a level 9, 10 or 11 course, for

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which a pass is required for reasons associated with breadth of professional knowledge and/or the stipulation(s) of one or more of the Professional Accreditation bodies will be required to “resit for professional purposes” the failed course.

1223. A student requiring “resit(s) for professional purposes” will be ineligible for the degree of Bachelor of Engineering with Honours / Master of Engineering with Honours unless the necessary passes at “resit for professional purposes” are achieved, but may be eligible either for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in a Designated Discipline or for the award of the unaccredited degree of Bachelor of Engineering Technology with Honours / Master of Engineering Technology with Honours in a Designated Discipline.

1234. ‘Resits for professional purposes’ should be taken at the next available opportunity. The maximum number of attempts will equal that permitted for pre-Honours or non-Honours students in the Taught Assessment Regulations. Where students are offered a third attempt at an assessment, having failed twice, they will be offered an assessment-only repeat year. Where a student has exhausted the maximum number of attempts and has still yet to pass a course or courses, they will not be eligible for the accredited Honours degree or to progress, but will be considered for an exit award in line with Regulation 123.

1245. Where resits for professional purposes are required, the first (fail) mark will be recorded for the Honours degree classification.

1256. It will be for each Discipline within the School of Engineering to identify the requirements for each degree programme. This may be done on the basis of individual courses, and/or on the basis of an aggregate. The requirements for each Discipline will be stated in the relevant Degree Programme Handbook.

2. These Regulations, including Assessment Regulations (2023/24), shall apply to degrees as set out in appendix 1 of this Resolution.

3. This Resolution shall supersede those parts of all previous Resolutions and Ordinances dealing with undergraduate regulations and assessment regulations for degrees set out in appendix 1 and specifically revokes Resolution No. 13/2022.

4. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from the commencement of the 2023/24 academic year on 1 August 2023.

For and on behalf of the University Court

LEIGH CHALMERS

University Secretary

Appendix 1 to Resolution No. 8/2023

Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations

Degrees covered by these Regulations

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Degrees of Master of Arts with Honours
Bachelor of Arts in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences
Bachelor of Music
Bachelor of Music with Honours
Bachelor of Music Technology
Bachelor of Music Technology Honours
Bachelor of Arts (Health Studies)
Bachelor of Arts (Health Studies) with Honours
Bachelor of Nursing with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Social Work) with Honours
Bachelor of Arts
Bachelor of Arts with Honours
Bachelor of Architecture
Bachelor of Architecture with Honours
Master of Arts (Architecture) with Honours
Master of Arts (Architecture in Creative and Cultural Environments) with Honours
Bachelor of Divinity
Bachelor of Divinity with Honours
Master of Divinity with Honours
Bachelor of Arts (Divinity)
Master of Arts (Divinity) with Honours
Bachelor of Arts Religious Studies
Master of Arts Religious Studies with Honours
Bachelor of Arts (Community Education)
Bachelor of Arts (Community Education) with Honours
Bachelor of Arts (Education Studies)

Bachelor of Arts (Childhood Practice)
Bachelor of Education (Design and Technology) with Honours
Bachelor of Education (Physical Education) with Honours
Bachelor of Education (Primary Education) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Applied Sport Science)
Bachelor of Science (Applied Sport Science) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Environmental Archaeology) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Sport and Recreation Management)
Bachelor of Science (Sport and Recreation Management) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Psychology) with Honours
Bachelor of Laws
Bachelor of Laws with Honours
Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours
Bachelor of Arts: Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences in a designated discipline.
Bachelor of Veterinary Sciences with Honours

College of Science and Engineering

Bachelor of Science: Ordinary degree in a designated discipline and Honours degree
Bachelor of Engineering with Honours
Degrees of Master of Arts with Honours
Master of Chemistry with Honours
Master of Chemical Physics with Honours
Master of Earth Science with Honours
Master of Engineering with Honours
Master of Mathematics with Honours
Master of Physics with Honours
Master of Informatics with Honours
Master of Earth Physics with Honours

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery
Bachelor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery
Bachelor of Science with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Medical Sciences)
Bachelor of Science (Medical Sciences) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Biomedical Sciences)
Bachelor of Science (Biomedical Sciences) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Oral Health Sciences)
Bachelor of Science (Oral Health Sciences) with Honours
Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Science)
Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Science) with Honours
Bachelor of Medical Sciences
Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours

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Draft Resolution of the University Court No. 9/2023

Postgraduate Degree Programme Regulations

At Edinburgh, the Nineteenth day of June, Two thousand and twenty three.

WHEREAS the University Court deems it desirable to produce one comprehensive set of Postgraduate Degree Regulations, including Assessment Regulations (2023/2024);

AND WHEREAS the University Court considers it expedient to promulgate this Resolution to set out these Regulations in full to give effect to the essential elements contained within these Regulations including Assessment Regulations (2023/2024):

THEREFORE the University Court, on the recommendation of the Senatus Academicus and in exercise of the powers conferred upon it by Section 3 of the Universities (Scotland) Act 1966, with special reference to paragraphs 2 and 8 of Part II of Schedule 2 to that Act, hereby resolves:

1. The Postgraduate Degree Regulations are hereby set out:

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Compliance

1. The degree programme regulations define the types of award, their key characteristics, and their grounds for award. These regulations apply to all categories of postgraduate study at the University of Edinburgh, except for those qualified by a Senatus approved Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding for joint or collaborative awards. Students must comply with any requirements specific to their degree programme as set out in the Degree Programme Tables, the relevant College Regulations and the University's Assessment Regulations for the current academic session:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/policies-regulations/regulations/assessment-regulations>

2. Every student must comply with the detailed requirements of the curriculum for the degree as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table, the programme handbook, the course handbook, the order in which courses are attended and the assessment for the programme, which are published in the University Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study. In exceptional cases, the Head of College (or delegated nominee) may approve a concession allowing a student to substitute a course marked as compulsory in the relevant Degree Programme Table with another course (or courses) with the same credit volume and SCQF level.

3. When selecting courses, students must comply with the pre-requisite, co-requisite and prohibited combination requirements for the Degree Programme, unless a concession is approved by the relevant College.

Authority Delegated to Colleges

4. Where the Head of College has the authority to grant permissions and concessions, this authority may be delegated to appropriate nominees in the College or Schools. Students must consult their ~~Personal Tutor~~, Student Support Team, Supervisor, Student Adviser or School as to the appropriate point of contact, and must not approach the College directly. Where the College does not have authority to award a particular concession then the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee may award the concession.

Code of Practice

5. The degree regulations are supported by the Code of Practice for Supervisors and Research Students:

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www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/copsupervisorsresearchstudents.pdf

The Code of Practice, although not regulatory, provides essential information for staff and students.

Fitness to Practise

6. Where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements, the relevant College Committee must be satisfied at all times that in respect of health, conduct and any other matters which the Committee may reasonably deem relevant, whether such matters relate to the student's University programme or are unrelated to it, the student will not constitute a risk to the public, vulnerable children or adults or to patients and is a suitable person to become a registered member of the relevant professional body. Students are subject to the Fitness to Practise regulations both while actively studying and while on an interruption of study. Any student who fails to satisfy the relevant College Committee, irrespective of their performance in assessment, will be reported to the Head of College who has power to recommend exclusion from further studies and assessments or Professional Examinations, or to recommend the award of the degree be withheld, or other penalty set out in College procedures. An appeal against this decision may be submitted to the University's Student Fitness to Practice Appeal Committee.

- See the Student Appeal Regulations at:
www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studentappealregulations.pdf
- See the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fitness to Practice Procedure at: [\[Link in process of being updated\]](#)
- See the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Fitness to Practice Procedure at:
https://www.ed.ac.uk/sites/default/files/atoms/files/cmvm_ftp_regulations_updated_2022.pdf

Disclosure of Criminal Offences

7. The University considers that certain types of criminal offences may constitute a breach of the Code of Student Conduct and/or a degree programme's Fitness to Practise requirements. Accordingly, students must inform the Student Conduct Team (studentconduct@ed.ac.uk) if they have:

- a relevant pending charge or relevant unspent criminal conviction on matriculating at the University (students must provide this information no later than one week after matriculation); or
- been charged or convicted of a relevant criminal offence since matriculating at the University (students must provide this information no later than one week after the date of the charge or conviction).

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Information about offences considered relevant and which should therefore be reported under this regulation is provided on the University website, and may be updated on occasion:

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/students/conduct/criminalconvictions>

Where a student discloses a relevant charge or conviction, the Student Conduct Team will refer the case to the Deputy Secretary, Student Experience (or delegated authority), who will decide whether to:

- take no further action; or
- refer the matter for investigation under the Code of Student Conduct; or
- (where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements) refer the matter for consideration under the relevant College's Fitness to Practice procedures.

Alternatively, action may be taken under both the Code of Student Conduct and relevant Fitness to Practise procedures, where the Deputy Secretary (or delegated authority) and the relevant College consider this appropriate.

Postgraduate Awards and Degree Programmes

8. The University awards the following types of postgraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates. The University's postgraduate awards and degree programmes are consistent with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF: <http://scqf.org.uk/>) unless an exemption has been approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee, or the award is not included in the SCQF. The SCQF credit levels required for each programme are specified within the appropriate Degree Programme Table.

General Postgraduate Certificate Postgraduate Certificate in a named subject discipline	At least 60 credits of which a minimum of 40 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
General Postgraduate Diploma Postgraduate Diploma in a named subject discipline	At least 120 credits of which a minimum of 90 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
Masters in a named subject discipline Master of a named discipline	At least 180 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11
Masters in a named subject discipline Master of a named discipline	At least 240 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11

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MSc by research	At least 180 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at level 11. The research element will be worth a minimum of 120 credits of which a minimum of 60 must be attributable to the research project (for example, a portfolio of artefacts, artworks and other practice-based outputs) or dissertation.
MPhil	At least 240 credits of which a minimum of 150 are at SCQF Level 11
ChM	At least 120 credits at SCQF Level 12.
Doctorate	At least 540 credits of which a minimum of 420 are at SCQF Level 12
EngD	720 credits of which at least 540 are at SCQF Level 12. Of the remaining 180 credits 150 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
PhD with Integrated Study	720 credits of which at least 540 are at SCQF Level 12. Of the remaining 180 credits 150 should be at SCQF Level 11 or above
MD, DDS, DVM&S* Doctor of a named discipline	*Note: these awards are not included in the SCQF therefore a credit value has not been included here

A General Postgraduate Degree Regulations

Late Admission

9. No student ~~will be admitted to may commence~~ a postgraduate degree, diploma or certificate programme ~~or a course that is part of their programme~~ more than two weeks after their given start date without the permission of the College. No student will be enrolled on a course more than two weeks after the start of the course without the permission of the Head of College. Students are not permitted to withdraw from a course marked as optional on the Degree Programme Table more than six weeks after the start of the relevant semester in order to substitute the course with another optional course, unless the relevant Board of Examiners has awarded a null sit for the course under the Special Circumstances procedure, and the requirement above to enrol on the course within the first two weeks of the course can be met.

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Part-time Study

10. Some postgraduate degree programmes may be pursued by part-time study on either a continuous or intermittent basis. Requirements for progression through individual programmes of study are shown in the relevant Degree Programme Table for taught postgraduate programmes and/or programme handbook for postgraduate taught and research programmes. Conditions for part-time study will be set out in the programme handbook.

Registration for University Staff

11. Members of the University staff may only be registered for part-time study. Exceptions may be approved by the College.

Conflicting Studies

12. Students registered on a programme of study at this University may not undertake any other concurrent credit bearing studies in this (or in any other) institution, unless the College has granted permission. The College must be satisfied that any additional credit-bearing studies will not restrict the student's ability to complete their existing programme of study.

Applicants Awaiting Results

13. Applicants for postgraduate study may be studying at this or another institution just prior to the start of their postgraduate studies. Such applicants must have finished these studies before the start of the programme to which they have an offer.

14. If successful completion of this prior study is a requirement of admission, applicants are expected to provide evidence of achievement before the start of the programme.

Consecutive Registration

15. At the time of application, MSc by Research applicants may be invited to be registered for consecutive MSc by Research, followed by PhD study within the same School. This option may not be available in all Schools. Depending on the outcome of assessment the student will be invited to follow one of three routes:

- a. Start First Year of Doctoral Programme. If successful in the MSc by Research programme, the student graduates and also registers in the next academic session on the first year of the doctoral programme; or

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- b. Start Second year of Doctoral Programme. Prior to the completion of the masters research project or dissertation, the School is content that the quality of the student's work merits treating the masters year as the first year of doctoral study. No research project or dissertation is submitted, no masters degree is awarded, and the student registers in the next academic session on the second year of the doctoral programme; or
- c. Graduate with MSc by Research Degree and Exit. If successful in the MSc by Research programme, the student graduates and permanently withdraws.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

16. RPL can only be recognised at the point of admission to the University. The Head of College has the authority to recognise the transfer of a student's credit previously gained either at the University or another institution and to count it towards their intended award. Before approval is granted the College must be satisfied that the learning to be recognised and transferred provides an adequate current basis for the programme or courses as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table. The maximum number of credits that the Colleges will grant RPL for taught programmes is one-third of the total credits for the award for which the student is applying, that is 20 credits for a postgraduate certificate; 40 credits for a postgraduate diploma; and 60 credits for a masters (or 80 credits where a masters programme is comprised of 240 credits). For research programmes, the maximum number of credits that the Colleges will grant RPL is 360 credits. These restrictions do not apply to credit transferred when a student starts an associated Diploma or Masters, in line with regulation 60.

17. University of Edinburgh courses which have a substantial curriculum overlap with any of the courses that contributed to RPL will not count towards the student's degree programme.

18. The University can also consider prior learning for admissions purposes. [University RPL policy for admissions](#).

Permissible Credit Loads

19. Exceptionally, with College approval, students may take up to 20 credits of additional study at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) levels 7-11 during each year of study.

20. Students may take courses on a class-only basis (i.e. not for credit), with the agreement of the course organiser, and the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. Programme Director or Student Adviser), or supervisor.

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Decisions will be based on the overall load (credit and non-credit bearing) on the student in the year. Students may not take more than 40 additional credits in any year.

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Credit Award

21. A student who has submitted work for one course or programme at the University must not submit the same work to attempt to achieve academic credit through another course or programme.
22. A student cannot, except under recognition of prior learning or application for associated postgraduate diploma or masters, or a formally approved collaborative programme of study, achieve an award comprising academic credit that contributed (or will contribute) to another award.

Transfer to Another Programme

23. A student may be allowed to transfer to a different degree programme from another within the University by permission of the receiving College. When such permission is granted, the student shall, in addition to satisfying the requirements for the degree to which transfer is made, pursue such further courses of study as the College may require. The College may approve the transfer of some or all of the credits the student has attained for their previous programme into the new programme, as appropriate.

Attendance and Participation

24. Students must attend and participate as required in all aspects of their programme of study. This includes being available for teaching sessions, assessment, examination and meeting, ~~Personal Tutors or~~ Student Adviser(s), Programme Directors or Cohort Leads or supervisors face-to-face and/or electronically. Except when registered on a designated online or distance learning programme, or where remote participation is specifically stated, students are expected to attend and participate in person. The Degree Programme Table and programme handbook sets out programme requirements for attendance and participation. Certain students' visa conditions may require the University to monitor attendance and participation in specific ways.

25. It is a student's responsibility to provide a current postal contact address and to ensure that any legal requirements, including those imposed by their funding or grant authority, are met. All students are required to check their University email account frequently for communications from the University and respond where appropriate. See the University policy on Contacting Students by Email: www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/contacting_students_by_email.pdf

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Study Period

26. A student must complete the requirements of the degree programme within the prescribed period of study, plus any permitted submission period, unless given a concession with the approval of the College.

See the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

The Prescribed Period of Study

27. The University defines the prescribed period of study for each authorised programme. These are as stated in the study period table, unless the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee (APRC) has approved a different prescribed period of study for the programme. The prescribed period of study for each programme is recorded in the offer of admission. See the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

Reductions to the Prescribed Period of Study

28. The College may reduce the prescribed period of study as indicated below:

- Postgraduate Certificate:
 - for **part-time continuous** students by up to 4 months.
 - for **part-time intermittent** by up to 12 months.
- Postgraduate Diploma:
 - for **part-time continuous** students by up to 8 months.
 - for **part-time intermittent** students by up to 24 months.
- Postgraduate Masters:
 - for **part-time continuous** students by up to 12 months.
 - for **part-time intermittent** students by up to 36 months.
- MPhil:
 - Members of the University staff and students holding a MPhil research appointment under the auspices of the University may be registered for a minimum period of 24 months part-time.
 - Members of staff of Associated Institutions who can devote the whole of their period of study to research and who have regular and adequate involvement in the work of the University School may also be registered for a minimum period of 24 months part-time.
 - For full-time students the College may reduce the prescribed period by up to two months. The College may reduce the prescribed period by up to 24 months for part-time students. Reductions to the prescribed period are not available to those members of staff who are registered for the minimum period of 24 months.

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- Doctorate:
 - Members of the University staff and students holding a PhD research appointment under the auspices of the University may be registered for a minimum period of 36 months part-time.
 - Members of staff of Associated Institutions who can devote the whole of their period of study to research and who have regular and adequate involvement in the work of the University School may also be registered for a minimum period of 36 months part-time.
 - For full-time students the College may reduce the prescribed period by up to three months. The College may reduce the prescribed period by up to 36 months for part-time PhD students. Reductions to the prescribed period are not available to those members of staff who are registered for the minimum period of 36 months.

See the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

Submission Period

29. The submission period for doctoral and MPhil degrees begins three months prior to the end of the prescribed period of study. In addition, some research degree programmes permit students to have a submission period following the prescribed period of study. This is for a maximum of a year, for either full-time or part-time students. The MSc by Research does not have a submission period.

See the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

Leave of Absence

30. Leave of absence is required where students undertake compulsory and optional activities related to, or part of, the programme of study away from campus in Edinburgh. Students must have the formal approval of the College for any leave of absence to study away from Edinburgh that is 30 calendar days' duration or longer. Study location changes of less than 30 calendar days must be agreed with the Supervisor or Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. ~~Personal Tutor or~~ Student Adviser). Where the activity is a compulsory part of the programme of study and is organised by the School or College, permission may be given by the College for a cohort of students without individual applications being made. Colleges and Schools must maintain records of all leaves of absence. Certain students' visa conditions may be affected by study away from Edinburgh. This regulation does not apply to students on a recognised distance learning programme.

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Withdrawal and Exclusion

31. Any student may withdraw from their programme of study at any point in the year. Students may be excluded for reasons outlined within the procedure for Withdrawal and Exclusion from Studies:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal_exclusion_from_study.pdf

Collaborative Degrees

32. The University of Edinburgh and one or more partner universities can collaboratively offer an approved degree programme. This can be awarded jointly or dually. The University maintains a record of approved collaborative degrees.

Authorised Interruptions of Study

33. A student may apply for an Authorised Interruption of Study, and it may be authorised by the College if there is a good reason for approving the interruption. Students may be required to provide evidence to support their applications. Interruptions of study will not be applied retrospectively. Any one period of authorised interruption of study will not exceed one year, unless authorised by the College. The total permitted period of Authorised Interruption of Study is the same for full-time and part-time continuous students and will not exceed 100% of the prescribed period of full-time study. For part-time intermittent students, the total permitted period of Authorised Interruption of Study is calculated as half of the prescribed period of study, for example, three years for a six-year Master's programme. The Head of College may exceptionally authorise an Interruption of Study which would take the total period of interruption beyond 100% of the prescribed period of study, provided this does not exceed the maximum allowable study period.

<https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/authorisedinterruption.pdf>

Also see the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

Extensions of Study

34. In exceptional circumstances, a student may apply through the supervisor or School postgraduate director to the College for an extension and it may be authorised by the College if there is good reason. Colleges may authorise individual extensions of up to 12 months. The total maximum period of permitted extensions is 24 months, provided this does not take the student past their maximum allowable study period.

See the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

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Maximum Degree Completion Periods

35. The maximum periods for completion of research degree programmes are the total of the prescribed period of study, any submission period, any interruptions of study, any extensions of study, and any other concessions. The maximum period includes any concessions. The Study Period Table sets out maximum degree completion periods. See the Study Period Table:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyperiodtable.pdf

Additional Regulations for Doctoral and MPhil Research Degrees

Supervision

36. Each student will work under the guidance of at least two supervisors appointed by the College. Supervision continues until the final version of the thesis is submitted. There are two types of supervisory arrangement: Principal Supervisor plus Assistant Supervisor (or supervisors if more than one); or Co-Supervisors, one of whom is designated the Lead Supervisor. The former option is the usual arrangement, but the latter option may be chosen when it is clear that the student's work involves interdisciplinary research.

37. Schools are responsible for ensuring that all supervisors who are members of University staff (including honorary staff), and staff at Associated Institutions, have attended a supervisor briefing at the University (for example, one delivered by the relevant College or School) within the last five years. Schools are also responsible for ensuring that supervisors who are not University staff, honorary University staff, or staff at Associate Institutions, for example staff at other higher education institutions, have either attended a supervisor briefing at the University within the last five years, or undertaken an equivalent training / briefing elsewhere within the same timescale.

38. The Principal/Lead Supervisor must be appointed prior to registration, and the other supervisor should be appointed within two months of the programme start date. Schools are responsible for recording supervisors on the student record.

39. The Principal/Lead Supervisor is responsible to the School's Postgraduate Director for the duties set out in the Code of Practice for Supervisors and Research Students, and must be:

- a) a salaried member of the academic staff of the University; or
- b) a non-academic member of staff employed by the University who has appropriate expertise in research; or

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- c) an honorary member of staff; or
- d) (when the student is studying full time in an Associated Institution) an employee of an Associated Institution.

40. Where the Principal/Lead Supervisor is an employee of an Associated Institution, the Assistant Supervisor(s) must be a University employee. A Principal/Lead Supervisor who is an employee of an Associated Institution has exactly the same responsibilities as one working within the University.

41. Students, including those on leave of absence, must maintain frequent contact with their supervisor as and when required and at least twice in each three month period. Students attending the University on Tier 4 Student visas may be required to make more frequent contact with their supervisor according to the terms of their visa. Students should contact the Student Immigration Service for advice about this.

[Tier 4 information for staff: Immigration information for staff working with non-UK students \(EASE login required\): https://www.edweb.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration/tier-4-staff](https://www.edweb.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration/tier-4-staff)
www.ed.ac.uk/student-administration/immigration/tier-4-compliance

Changes to supervision

42. In order to ensure that postgraduate research students are provided with appropriate supervision for the duration of their programme, it may be necessary on occasion to make changes to supervisory arrangements. The College is responsible for decisions on changes to supervisory arrangements and for notifying students of any changes to their supervisory arrangements at the earliest opportunity. The College reserves the right to:

- make variations to supervisory arrangements; and / or
- alter the approach to methods of delivery of supervision.

If the Principal/Lead Supervisor is absent for more than six consecutive weeks, the College will ensure alternative arrangements are in place.

Termination of supervision

43. In the event that the College considers that it is necessary to make changes to supervisory arrangements, and the College has not been able to provide alternate supervision despite having undertaken all reasonable endeavours, the College may request that the Senate Academic Policy and Regulations Committee consider terminating supervision of the student. Where the Senate Academic Policy and

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Regulations Committee is satisfied that it is necessary for the College to make changes to supervisory arrangements, and that no alternate supervision can be provided to the student, supervision of the student will be terminated, and the student required to withdraw from the University.

Transfers from Another Institution

44. The research studies of students who apply to transfer from another institution in order to study for a doctoral or MPhil degree of the University of Edinburgh may be counted towards the prescribed period of study for the degree. In such cases the prescribed period of study at the University of Edinburgh must be at least 12 months.

Request for Reinstatement

45. A student who has been excluded for lapse of time may ask the College to reinstate their registration at a later date to permit examination of a completed thesis. The College will decide whether or not a student should be reinstated, and factors such as the passage of time and its implications for the topic of study will be taken into account. The student must provide good reason for the previous failure to complete. If reinstatement is approved, the student's thesis will be examined in accordance with the Postgraduate Assessment Regulations for Research Degrees, subject to payment of a reinstatement and examination fee.

Vacation Leave for Research Students

46. Research Students are entitled to a maximum of eight weeks' vacation leave (including public holidays) in a year without applying for an interruption of study. Students must seek approval for vacation leave from their supervisor and the School Postgraduate Office. Visa restrictions may also apply in the case of International students.

Grounds for the Award of Doctoral and MPhil Research Degrees

Demonstration by Thesis and Oral Exam for the Award of PhD

47. The student must demonstrate by the presentation of a thesis and/or portfolio, and by performance at an oral examination:

- capability of pursuing original research making a significant contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of study;
- adequate knowledge of the field of study and relevant literature;
- exercise of critical judgement with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field, relating particular research projects to the general body of knowledge in the field; and
- the ability to present the results of the research in a critical and scholarly way.

The thesis must:

- represent a coherent body of work; and

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- contain a significant amount of material worthy of publication or public presentation.

PhD Thesis Length - Word Count

48. The thesis must not exceed a maximum word count of 100,000. There is no minimum word count. The word count of the thesis includes the main text, preface material, footnotes and references but does not include material in the appendices, bibliography, abstract or lay summary. In exceptional circumstances, on the recommendation of the supervisor, permission may be granted by the College to exceed the stated length on the ground that such extension is required for adequate treatment of the thesis topic.

Additional Doctoral Programme Considerations

49. Some doctoral programmes will have additional entrance, curriculum and examination requirements. Information is provided in relevant Degree Programme Tables and programme handbooks. Students must successfully complete all additional requirements to be awarded the degree.

MPhil by Research

50. The student must demonstrate by the presentation of a thesis and/or portfolio and by performance at an oral examination:

- capability of pursuing original research making a contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of study;
- adequate knowledge of the field of study and relevant literature;
- exercise of critical judgement with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field, relating particular research projects to the general body of knowledge in the field; and
- the ability to present the results of the research in a critical and scholarly way.

The thesis must:

- represent a coherent body of work, and
- contain material worthy of publication or public presentation.

51. The thesis must not exceed a maximum of 60,000 words. There is no minimum word count. The word count of the thesis includes the main text, preface material, footnotes and references but does not include material in the appendices, bibliography, abstract or lay summary. In exceptional circumstances, on the recommendation of the supervisor, permission may be granted by the College to

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exceed the stated length on the ground that such extension is required for adequate treatment of the thesis topic.

PhD (by Research Publications)

52. Applicants must be either graduates of the University of Edinburgh of at least five years' standing; or members of staff of the University of Edinburgh or of an Associated Institution of not less than three years' standing. Permission to register will not be granted to applicants who are in a position to submit a PhD thesis for examination or who already possess a doctoral degree. Applicants must have been active postgraduate researchers in their field of expertise for a minimum of five years, and they must not submit material published more than ten years prior to the date of registration for the degree.

53. Applicants must apply to the relevant College for approval of their candidature. Applicants are required to submit a list of their published or creative work, together with a statement (including the theme and summary of the work) and their CV. If the College approves registration, it will appoint an adviser to assist the applicant with the format of their submission and to guide them on the selection, coherence and quality of the portfolio of research work, the abstract and critical review.

54. In order to qualify for the award of PhD (by Research Publications) the applicant must demonstrate by the presentation of a portfolio of published or publicly exhibited creative works and by performance at an oral examination:

- capability of pursuing original research making a significant contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of study;
- adequate knowledge of the field of study and relevant literature;
- exercise of critical judgement with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field, relating particular research projects to the general body of knowledge in the field; and
- the ability to present the results of the research in a critical and scholarly way.

The portfolio submitted for the PhD by Research Publications must present a coherent and substantial body of work, which would have taken the equivalent of three years of full-time study to complete.

55. Students must submit their portfolio within 12 months of registration for the degree. The submission for assessment will include: the portfolio of published work or publicly exhibited creative work; an abstract; and a critical review of all their submitted work. The portfolio must consist of either one or two books or creative

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works, or at least six refereed journal articles or research papers, which are already in the public domain. The total submission, including the critical review should not exceed 100,000 words.

- The critical review must summarise the aims, objectives, methodology, results and conclusions covered by the work submitted in the portfolio. It must also critically assess how the work contributes significantly to the expansion of knowledge, indicate how the publications form a coherent body of work and what contribution the student has made to this work. The critical review must be at least 10,000 words, but not more than 25,000 words in length. Where the portfolio consists of creative works, the critical review should be close to, but not exceed, the maximum word length.
- Students must either be the sole author of the portfolio or must be able to demonstrate in the critical review of the submitted work that they have made a major contribution to all of the work that has been produced by more than one author.

Additional Regulations for Postgraduate Taught Degrees and MSc by Research, Postgraduate Diplomas and Postgraduate Certificates

Programme-Specific Regulations

56. These regulations may be supplemented by certain programme-specific regulations for degrees offered in collaboration with other institutions.

Period of Study

57. The prescribed period of study is defined in the Degree Programme Table. This period may not be reduced, and may be extended only in exceptional circumstances.

Assessment

58. Students must comply with any assessment requirements specific to their degree programme and the University's taught or research (as appropriate) assessment regulations for the current academic session:

www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations

MSc by Research Degrees only

59. In addition to any requirements as detailed in the relevant Degree Programme Table, the student must present:

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- a research project or dissertation; or
- a critical survey of knowledge in the field of study, combined with a satisfactory plan for a more advanced research project.

The research must demonstrate competence, knowledge and be presented in a critical and scholarly way. The assessed work, including the research project or dissertation must not exceed 30,000 words. The word count includes the main text, preface material, footnotes and references but does not include material in the appendices, bibliography, or abstract.

Application for Associated Postgraduate Diploma or Masters

60. A candidate who already holds a postgraduate certificate or diploma from the University of Edinburgh may be permitted by the appropriate College to apply for candidature for the associated postgraduate diploma or masters degree, provided that not more than five years have elapsed between their first graduation and acceptance as a candidate for the subsequent award. Marks awarded for courses taken previously as part of the certificate or diploma may be used in progression and award decisions relating to the new programme. Credit for courses taken previously which form part of the Degree Programme Table for the new programme does not count against the credit allowance for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).

Posthumous Awards

61. Senatus may authorise the conferment of posthumous degrees, diplomas and certificates if proposed by the College and approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. A posthumous award is conferred where the student has significantly completed the relevant year of study at the time of death.

Aegrotat Awards

62. In exceptional circumstances, Senatus may authorise the conferment of *aegrotat* degrees to postgraduate students. Each such conferment requires a proposal from the relevant College to be approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. An *aegrotat* degree is conferred only where the student was nearly qualified to receive the degree and was unable to complete it due to circumstances beyond their control. Before any proposal is referred to Senatus, the College must check that the student is willing to receive the degree *aegrotat*.

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B College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Postgraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

Doctor of Clinical Psychology (DClinPsychol)

63. The degree specific regulations are:
- Grounds for Award.** Awarded on successful completion of supervised clinical practice, written examination, assessed essay and research portfolio, including thesis, small-scale research projects and experimental case reports.
 - Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme can be taken on a full-time or mixed full-time/part-time basis, but the first year is taken on a full-time basis only. The prescribed period of study is 36 months full-time, or between 48 and 60 months on a mixed full-time/part-time basis.
 - Thesis Length.** The thesis must not exceed 30,000 words unless, in exceptional cases, the College has given permission for a longer thesis.

Doctor of Psychotherapy and Counselling (DPsychotherapy)

64. The degree specific regulations are:
- Placement.** Students will undertake a practice placement, consisting of 300 hours of supervised counselling practice and 60 hours of counselling supervision.
 - Thesis Length.** The thesis will be between 35,000 and 55,000 words in length unless in exceptional cases the College has given permission for a longer thesis.
 - Prescribed period.** The prescribed period of study for students undertaking the programme on a full-time basis is 48 months, and for students undertaking the programme on a part-time basis is 84 months.
 - Resits.** A student who fails the practice placement may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement if in the opinion of the Board the failure was attributable to illness, hardship or other relevant circumstances beyond the student's control. A repeat placement is to be completed within a further 24 months.
 - Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL).** In the case of formal, certificated study, up to 60 credits of prior learning at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 11 may be recognised. In the case of non-certificated study, up to 20 credits of prior learning may be recognised.

Doctor of Education (EdD)

65. The degree specific regulations are:

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- a. **Grounds for Award.** The degree of EdD may be awarded on the basis of successful completion of assessed coursework, a research project and a thesis.
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The prescribed period of study is 60 months part-time, but this may be increased to a maximum of 72 months.
- c. **Thesis Length.** The thesis length should be no more than 75,000 words.

PhD in Musical Composition

66. **Grounds for Award.** The student must compose to a high creative level as demonstrated both by the student presenting a portfolio of compositions as well as attendance at an oral examination. The portfolio of compositions must comprise original work which:

- a. is suitable for professional performance and worthy of publication;
- b. shows competence in the ancillary technical skills appropriate to the chosen style;
- c. contains material which presents a body of work such as could reasonably be achieved on the basis of three years postgraduate study;
- d. is presentationally satisfactory and intelligible to any musician who might have to use it.

67. The portfolio of compositions should include at least one major and extended work, except where a shorter submission may be accepted in the case of electronic compositions. If a substantial part of the portfolio was completed before registration for the degree, the student should indicate this and identify the part of the portfolio so completed.

PhD- Submission by Portfolio in Art, Design and Landscape Architecture

68. The degree specific regulations, when a student is submitting for award of PhD by means of a portfolio of artefacts, artworks and other practice-based outputs, are:

- a. The portfolio of artefacts or artworks must comprise original work of a high creative level which is worthy of public exhibition and also an integral part of the contribution to knowledge made by the overall work of the candidate submitted in fulfilment of the requirements of the PhD. It must show competence in the appropriate ancillary technical skills; must contain material which presents a body of work such as could reasonably be achieved on the basis of three years postgraduate study; must be satisfactory and intelligible in its presentation. There should also be a permanent record of the work; and

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- b. The portfolio of artefacts and artworks will be accompanied by a thesis of not more than 50,000 words (including bibliography and footnotes but excluding appendices).

MPhil- Submission by Portfolio in Art, Design and Landscape Architecture

69. The degree specific regulations, when a student is submitting for award of MPhil by means of a portfolio of artefacts, artworks and other practice-based outputs, are:

- a. The portfolio of artefacts or artworks must comprise original work of a high creative level worthy of public exhibition. It must show competence in the appropriate ancillary technical skills; must contain material which presents a body of work such as could reasonably be achieved on the basis of two years postgraduate study; must be satisfactory and intelligible in its presentation. There should also be a permanent record of the work; and
- b. The portfolio of artefacts or artworks should normally be accompanied by a thesis of not more than 20,000 words (including bibliography and footnotes but excluding appendices).

Master of Fine Art

70. The Master of Fine Art is gained upon the successful completion of 240 Credits of study. A maximum of 30 credits can be taken below Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) Level 11. The degree specific regulations are:

- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed by a combination of practical studio work with theoretical and written studies, including professional practice elements.
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 21 months full-time.

Master of Social Work/Diploma in Social Work (MSW/DipSW)

71. The degree specific regulations are:

- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will undertake two practice placements
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 21 months full-time.
- c. **Re-Sit Options.** A student who fails a unit of academic assessment other than the dissertation on the first occasion may be allowed one further attempt to complete the assessment requirements. A student who fails a practice placement may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement.

Master of Chinese Studies (MCS)

72. The degree specific regulations are:

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- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed by essays, examinations, a placement report and a dissertation. An oral examination will be required in the Chinese language and may be required for other courses. Students must carry out their studies at the University of Edinburgh and in a Chinese institution approved by the Programme Director.
- b. **Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study is 24 months, full-time.

Diploma in Educational Leadership and Management/Scottish Qualification for Headship Programme

73. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will be assessed on each course through coursework (assignments, portfolios, reports and oral assessments) and through school visits by SQH field assessors in the case of course 5. In accordance with the national agreement all courses are assessed only on a pass/fail basis. Students who fail a course will be permitted one further attempt to pass the assessment of that course within six weeks of the result being made known to the student.
 - b. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme is available by part-time study only, and the period of study is between 27 and 60 months.

Master of Counselling/Diploma in Counselling (MCouns/DipCouns)

74. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students will undertake a practice placement, consisting of at least 150 hours of supervised counselling practice and 30 hours of counselling supervision.
 - b. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 24 months full time or 48 months part-time. Each student must complete the requirements of the degree before the expiry of a further 12 months.
 - c. **Re-Sits.** Students who fail a unit of academic assessment other than the dissertation on the first occasion may be allowed one further attempt to complete the assessment. A student who fails the practice placement may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement. A repeat placement must be completed within a further 24 months.

MSc in Transformative Learning and Teaching

75. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Prescribed period.** The prescribed period of study for students undertaking the programme is 21 months.

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b. **Assessment.** As part of the assessment of the programme, students are required to submit a portfolio of work and undertake a professional viva to provide evidence that they have met the GTCS Standard for Provisional Registration. The portfolio and professional viva comprise one 30 credit assessment.

MSc in Middle Eastern Studies with Arabic

76. The degree specific regulations are:
- Collaboration.** The first year of study is taken at the University of Edinburgh. An intensive course is taken in an Arabic speaking country during the summer, followed by year two at the University of Edinburgh.
 - Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study will be 24 months, full-time.

Postgraduate Certificate in Democracy and Public Policy (Edinburgh Hansard Research Scholars Programme)

77. The degree specific regulations are:
- Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The period of study is 13 weeks full time.
 - Assessment Type.** Students will be assessed on each unit through coursework, examination and a research project linked to a placement. All units are assessed only on a pass/fail basis. Students who fail a unit will be permitted one further attempt to pass the assessment of that unit within six weeks of the result being made known to the student.

MSc in Architectural Project Management

78. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme is delivered by distance learning over a period of 48 to 84 months. Each institution will provide 60 credits of teaching material in addition to a dissertation of 60 credits.

MSc in Advanced Sustainable Design (mixed mode)

79. **Mode of Study and Prescribed Period of Study.** The programme is delivered on campus and by distance learning over a period of 24 months (mixed mode).

PhD in Creative Music Practice

80. **Grounds for Award.** The degree is assessed on a single output that consists of two components:
- A text of not more than 50,000 words; and

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- b. A portfolio, performance(s), recording(s), and/or other musical output containing original or interpreted pre-existing works such as composition, installation, sound design, interactive music software etc. Such work would be supported by documentation of the process (e.g. video, photographs, recordings, sketches, studies, web pages) by which it was made.

PhD in Trans-Disciplinary Documentary Film

81. **Grounds for Award.** There are three possible variations for final submission, which combine the submission of audio-visual material and a thesis:
- a. audio-visual material to a maximum of 1 hour documentary film or 100 photographs, plus an extended critical essay of 25,000 - 30,000 words; or
 - b. audio-visual material to a maximum of 40 minutes documentary film or 70 photographs, plus an extended critical essay of 45,000 - 50,000 words; or
 - c. audio-visual material to a maximum of 20 minutes documentary film or 40 photographs, plus an extended critical essay of 65,000 - 70,000 words.

PhD in Architecture by Design

82. The thesis for the PhD in Architecture by Design must not exceed 50,000 words. In addition to the thesis the student will be required to submit a body of design work including studies, sketches and maquettes, which will be in addition to and fully integrated with the text and presented in a format which can be archived.

Master of Architecture

83. **Grounds for Award.** The programme will be delivered by a series of advanced level design exercises and projects, engaging with structural, environmental, cultural, theoretical and aesthetic questions. Students must pass the Academic Portfolio for exemption from ARB/RIBA Part 2.

Master of Public Policy (MPP/DipPP), PG Dip and PG Cert of Public Policy

84. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Prescribed Period of Study – Master.** The period of study is 12 months.
 - b. **Prescribed Period of Study – PG Dip and PG Cert.** Students on the PG Certificate in Public Policy may complete this full-time over four months or part-time over a two year period. On successful completion of the PG Certificate, students may transfer to the PG Diploma in Public Policy (within a three year time period). Students on the PG Diploma in Public Policy may complete this full-time over nine months or part-time over a four year period. On successful completion of the PG Diploma, students may transfer to the Master Public Policy programme (within a three year time period).

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- c. **Grounds for Award.** Students will complete a compulsory programme of courses in the first and second semesters, comprising eight 15-credit courses, and a three-month placement in a policy organisation on which the Capstone Project/dissertation will be based. Students who decide not to complete the Capstone Project may, at the discretion of the College, be awarded a Postgraduate Diploma in Public Policy.
- d. **Resits.** Students who fail a unit of academic assessment other than the Capstone Project on the first occasion may be allowed one further attempt to complete the assessment.
- e. **Placement.** A student who fails the placement component of the Capstone Project may, on the recommendation of the Board of Examiners, be offered a second opportunity to undertake the placement. A repeat placement must be completed within a further 12 months.

Diploma in Professional Legal Practice

85. The degree specific regulations are:
- a. **Grounds for Award.** Students must pass all of the core courses and three elective courses to be awarded the Diploma in Professional Legal Practice. Attaining a mark of 60% or more is required for a pass in the coursework for the following courses: LAWS11250 Company and Commercial; LAWS11249 Financial Services and Related Skills; LAWS11310 Professional Skills and Responsibility.
 - b. **Assessment Type.** Students will be assessed in writing in each course of the curriculum. Students may only present themselves for examination in a course if they have been certified as having given regular attendance and having successfully completed the requisite work of the class in that course. Students may be permitted a single re-sit examination for each course of the curriculum in which they have failed.

PhD in Creative Writing

86. Grounds for award. The programme is assessed via a portfolio of writing which should include:
- a. A substantial piece or pieces of creative work of no more than 75,000 words of creative prose; or 75 page of verse; or a dramatic composition of no more than three hours length and
 - b. An extended critical essay of no more than 25,000 words reflecting on the work's aims and context(s).

The balance between creative and critical elements should be 75% Creative, 25% Critical.

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C College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Postgraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClin Dent) (Orthodontics/Paediatric Dentistry/Prosthodontics/Oral Surgery)

87. Students will pursue an integrated programme of teaching and taught clinical practice. Work for an independent research dissertation will commence during the first year and will be spread over the duration of the programme. The independent research component will be assessed by examination of the written dissertation and subsequent oral examination.

Masters in Surgical Sciences (MSc)

88. Students may be given the opportunity of one resit attempt for their final written examinations at the end of their year 1 and /or year 2, if they have failed their first attempt. If they pass the resit they will be awarded the Postgraduate Certificate (Year 1) or Postgraduate Diploma (Year 2); they will not progress into Year 3 (Masters Year).

Master of Surgery (ChM)

89. The ChM suite of programmes are two year Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF) level 12 programmes worth 120 credits. In order to be awarded the ChM students must:

- a. pass at least 80 credits at SCQF level 12 with a mark of at least 50% in each of the courses which make up these credits; and
- b. attain an average of at least 50% for the 120 credits at SCQF level 12 and;
- c. satisfy any other specific requirements for the ChM degree programme, that are clearly stated in respective handbooks.

An exit award is available to students leaving the programme without qualifying for the award of ChM. Based on the criteria set out in the Taught Assessment Regulations, a named Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) will be awarded if students:

- a. pass at least 80 credits at SCQF level 12 with a mark of at least 40% in each of the courses which make up these credits; and
- b. attain an average of at least 40% for the 120 credits at SCQF level 12
- c. satisfy any other specific requirements for the ChM degree programme, that are clearly stated in respective handbooks.

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~~Masters in Transfusion, Transplantation and Tissue Banking (MSc)~~

~~90. Students may be given the opportunity of one resit attempt for their final written examinations at the end of their year 2, if they have failed their first attempt.~~

Professional Higher Degrees

Doctor of Medicine (MD)

901. An applicant for the degree of Doctor of Medicine (MD) must:

- a. hold a qualification which is registrable with the General Medical Council and must have been engaged since graduation for at least one year either in scientific work bearing directly on the applicant's profession, or in the practice of Medicine or Surgery, and will be performing their work in the South East of Scotland*, either employed as a member of staff of the University of Edinburgh; or as an NHS employee or as a research worker employed or self-financed or grant-funded, in the University of Edinburgh or an Associated Institution or an NHS establishment
- b. all applicants are required to meet the University of Edinburgh standard postgraduate research admissions requirements.

912. The grounds for the award of the degree of MD are:

- a. a student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis, a significant amount of material worthy of publication or public presentation, and by performance in an oral examination (unless this is exceptionally waived by the College) that the student is capable of pursuing original research in the field of study, relating particular researches to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the researches in a critical and scholarly way.
- b. the thesis must deal with one or more of the subjects of study in the curriculum for the degrees of MB ChB of the University or with subjects arising directly from contemporary medical practice. It must be an original work making a significant contribution to knowledge in or understanding of the field of study; contain material worthy of publication; show a comprehensive knowledge and a critical appreciation of the field of study and related literature; show that the student's observations have been carefully made; show the exercise of independent critical judgment with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field; contain material which presents a unified body of work; be satisfactory in its literary and general presentation, give full and adequate references and have a coherent structure understandable to a scholar in the same general field with

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regard to intentions, background, methods and conclusions. A concise and informative summary should be included with the thesis.

923. Supervisors must accommodate the student and the project within their research facilities, and obtain permission from line managers as required. Supervisors will be located in the University of Edinburgh or in NHS facilities within the supervision of the NHS Education for Scotland South East Scotland* postgraduate deanery.

934. Registration may be full-time or part-time.

- a. Full-time registration will apply to students who will spend >80% full-time equivalent devoted to research related to the MD project. They may be either not in employment for >20% full-time equivalent, or employed in a post in which at least 80% full time equivalent time is available for research related to their MD project rather than for clinical training or practice or other duties. Full time students have a prescribed period of two years in which they will conduct the research with up to two years to write up the thesis thereafter. Thesis submission is permitted at two years at the earliest and within four years.
- b. Part-time registration will apply to students who are in employment unrelated to their MD project for >20% full-time equivalent, or who elect not to devote as much as 80% of their time to the MD research project. Students may opt to study either at 40% full-time equivalent, for which they will have a prescribed period of research of four years, or at 60% equivalent, for which the prescribed period is 3 years. Students will have two years to write up the thesis at the end of the prescribed period. Thesis submission is permitted at the end of the prescribed period of study at the earliest.

MD Timetable for submission

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
MD full time	Prescribed Period		submission period			
MD part time 60%	Prescribed Period			submission period		
MD part time 40%	Prescribed Period				submission period	

945. A student who is registered for a MD may apply to the College for conversion to an alternative degree, including abbreviating the prescribed period to 1 year full time equivalent in order to complete a MSc by Research, completing a 2 year full time equivalent prescribed period to complete a MPhil, or extending the prescribed period to 3 years full time equivalent in order to complete a PhD. Conversion can only be considered prospectively, in advance of completing the necessary prescribed period of research, and will incur fees applicable for the new degree.

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956. A student must submit a thesis specially written for the degree concerned and must not have submitted it in candidature for any other degree, postgraduate diploma or professional qualification. The thesis length should be no more than 60,000 words. Material to be included in a thesis may be published before the thesis is submitted. The thesis must record the fact of such publication. The thesis must conform to the Postgraduate Research Degree Assessment Regulations.

*for this purpose, South-East Scotland is the areas covered by the Borders, Fife and Lothian Health Boards.

Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)

967. An applicant for the degree of Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS) must hold a qualification which is registrable with either the General Dental Council or the General Medical Council or both and must have been engaged since graduation for at least two years either in scientific work bearing directly on the applicant's profession, or in the practice of Dentistry or other related disciplines, and will perform their research work in the South-East of Scotland*, either employed as a member of staff of the University of Edinburgh; or as an NHS employee or as a research worker employed or self-financed or grant-funded, in the University of Edinburgh, or an Associated Institution or an NHS establishment.

All applicants are required to meet the University of Edinburgh standard postgraduate research admissions requirements.

978. The grounds for the award of the DDS are that:

- a. the student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis and by performance in an oral examination (unless this is exceptionally waived by the College) that the student is capable of pursuing original research in the field of study, relating particular researches to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the researches in a critical and scholarly way.
- b. the thesis must deal with one or more of the subjects arising directly from contemporary dental or surgical practice relevant to oral health. It must be an original work that:
 - makes a significant contribution to knowledge in or understanding of the field of study;
 - contains a significant amount of material worthy of publication or presentation;
 - shows a comprehensive knowledge and a critical appreciation of the field of study and related literature;
 - shows that the student's observations have been carefully made;

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- shows the exercise of independent critical judgment with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field;
- contains material which presents a unified body of work;
- is satisfactory in its literary and general presentation, gives full and adequate references and has a coherent structure;
- is understandable to a scholar in the same general field with regard to intentions, background, methods and conclusions.

A concise and informative summary should be included with the thesis.

989. The supervisors must undertake that they will accommodate the student and the project within their research facilities, and obtain permission from line managers as required.

99100. Registration may be full-time or part-time.

- Full-time registration will apply to students who will spend >80% full-time equivalent devoted to research related to the DDS project. They may be either not in employment for >20% full-time equivalent, or employed in a post in which at least 80% full time equivalent time is available for research related to their DDS project rather than for clinical training or practice or other duties. Full time students have a prescribed period of two years in which they will conduct the research with up to two years to write up the thesis thereafter. Thesis submission is permitted at two years at the earliest and within four years.

Part-time registration will apply to students who are in employment unrelated to their DDS project for >20% full-time equivalent, or who elect not to devote as much as 80% of their time to the DDS research project. Students may opt to study either at 40% full-time equivalent, for which they will have a prescribed period of research of four years, or at 60% equivalent, for which the prescribed period is three years. Students will have two years to write up the thesis at the end of the prescribed period. Thesis submission is permitted at the end of the prescribed period of study at the earliest.

DDS Timetable for submission

	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
DDS full time	Prescribed Period		Submission period			
DDS part time 60%	Prescribed Period			Submission period		

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DDS part time 40%	Prescribed Period	Submission period
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1004. The thesis length should be no more than 60,000 words. Material to be included in a thesis may be published before the thesis is submitted. The thesis must record the fact of such publication. The thesis must conform to the Postgraduate Research Degree Assessment Regulations.

*for this purpose, South-East Scotland is the areas covered by the Borders, Fife and Lothian Health Boards.

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (DVM&S)

1012. A thesis for the degree of DVM&S must deal with one or more of the subjects of study in the curriculum for the degree of BVM&S of the University or with subjects arising directly from contemporary veterinary practice.

1023. The grounds for the award of the degree of DVM&S are:

- a. the student must have demonstrated by the presentation of a thesis and by performance in an oral examination (unless this is exceptionally waived by College) that the student is capable of pursuing original research in the field of study relating particular researches to the general body of knowledge in the field, and presenting the results of the researches in a critical and scholarly way.
- b. the thesis must be an original work making a significant contribution to knowledge in or understanding of the field of study; contain material worthy of publication; show a comprehensive knowledge and a critical appreciation of the field of study and related literature; show that the student's observations have been carefully made; show the exercise of independent critical judgement with regard to both the student's work and that of other scholars in the same general field; contain material which presents a unified body of work; be satisfactory in its literary and general presentation, give full and adequate references and have a coherent structure understandable to a scholar in the same general field with regard to intentions, background, methods and conclusions.

1034. Registration is five years part-time. An intending student shall submit to the College a suggested topic and description of the work on which the thesis will be based. A registration fee is paid upon initial registration, an annual advisory fee is paid at the beginning of each year of study (including the first year) and an examination fee is paid at the time of thesis submission. After formal acceptance of

Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study

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the suggested topic and description, a period of normally at least 18 months must elapse before the thesis is submitted.

1045. The thesis length should be no longer than 60,000 words.

Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVetMed)

1056. DVetMed students will undertake courses to obtain 180 credits in each year of the four year programme. In order to qualify for the award of Doctor of Veterinary Medicine, students must obtain a total of 720 credits across the duration of the programme, in accordance with the progression requirements below.

1067. Students are permitted one re-sit attempt for each SCQF Level 12 course on the programme. Students may be awarded credit on aggregate for up to 60 credits of SCQF Level 11 courses in each year, provided they meet the following criteria:

- Achieve a mark of 50% or more in 120 credits worth of courses (at the first or second attempt for SCQF Level 12 courses);
- Achieve an average of 50% or more across 180 credits of courses (based on performance at the first or second attempt for SCQF Level 12 courses).

1078. Exit awards are available to students leaving the programme without qualifying for award of the DVetMed.

Based on the criteria set out in the Taught Assessment Regulations relating to Postgraduate degree, diploma and certificate award, the following will be awarded:

- PGCert (VetMed) upon completion of 60 credits of courses
- PGDip (VetMed) upon completion of 120 credits of courses

In order to qualify for the award of MSc (VetMed), students must meet the following criteria:

- Achieve a pass in 180 credits of courses;
- Achieve an average of 50% across 180 credits of courses based on performance at the first attempt in each course;
- Achieve a mark of at least 50% in a minimum of 120 credits of courses based on performance at the first attempt in each course; this must include a minimum of 50 credits worth of research courses*

*Research Proposal; Study design and methods of research; Research project part 1, 2, 3

D College of Science and Engineering Postgraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

Doctor of Engineering (EngD)

1089. The Prescribed Period of Study is 48 months full-time and 96 months part-time.

MSc Engineering degrees: professional requirements

1094. An MSc student who is eligible for progression or for the award of an accredited MSc degree by the University regulations but who fails an MSc course, for which a pass is required for reasons associated with breadth of professional knowledge and/or the stipulation(s) of one or more of the Professional Accreditation bodies, will be required to “resit for professional purposes” the failed course.

1104. A student requiring “resit(s) for professional purposes” will be ineligible for the accredited MSc degree unless the necessary passes at “resit for professional purposes” are achieved, but may be eligible for the award of the unaccredited degree of MSc in Engineering Technology in a Designated Subject.

1112. ‘Resits for professional purposes’ should be taken at the next available opportunity. Only one resit attempt will be permitted. Where a student has exhausted the maximum number of attempts and has still yet to pass a course or courses, they will not be eligible for the accredited MSc degree, but will be considered for an exit award in line with Regulation 111.

1123. Where resits for professional purposes are required, the first (fail) mark will be recorded for the MSc degree classification.

1134. It will be for each MSc Programme Director within the School of Engineering to identify the requirements for each degree programme. This may be done on the basis of individual courses, and/or on the basis of an aggregate. The requirements for each Programme will be stated in the Degree Programme Handbook.

2. These Regulations, including Assessment Regulations (2023/24), shall apply to degrees as set out in appendix 1 of this Resolution.

3. This Resolution shall supersede those parts of all previous Resolutions and Ordinances dealing with postgraduate regulations for degrees set out in appendix 1 and specifically revokes Resolution No. 14/2022.

4. This Resolution shall come into force with effect from the commencement of the 2023/24 academic year on 1 August 2023.

For and on behalf of the University Court

LEIGH CHALMERS

University Secretary

Appendix 1 to Resolution No. 9/2023

Degrees covered by these Regulations

Research Degrees

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
MSc by Research (MScR)
Master of Research (MRes)
PhD with Integrated Study (PhD)
PhD (by Research Publications)

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Master of Letters (MLitt)
Master of Education (MEd)
Doctor of Education (EdD)
Master of Theology by Research (MTh by Research)
Master of Laws by Research (LLM by Research)

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

Master of Medical Sciences by Research (MMedSci by Research)
Master of Veterinary Sciences by Research (MVetSci by Research)

College of Science and Engineering

Doctor of Engineering (EngD)

Higher Professional Degrees

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

Doctor of Clinical Psychology (DClinPsychol)
Doctor of Psychotherapy and Counselling (DPsychotherapy)

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

Doctor of Medicine (MD)
Doctor of Dental Surgery (DDS)
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine and Surgery (DVM&S)
Doctor of Veterinary Medicine (DVetMed)
Doctor of Clinical Dentistry (DClinDent)

Postgraduate degrees (by coursework)

Master of Science (MSc)

College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

European Masters in Landscape Architecture (EMLA) 52
Master of Architecture (MArch)
Master of Art (eca) MA (eca)
Master of Fine Art (MFA)
Masters in Architecture (MArch)
Master of Architecture (Studies) (MArch (Studies))
Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
Master of Architecture (Design) (MArch (Design))
Master of Architecture (Digital Media Studies) (MArch (Digital Media Studies))
Master of Business Administration (MBA)
Master of Counselling (MCouns)
Master of Chinese Studies (MCS)
Master of Laws (LLM)
Master of Music (MMus)
Master of Nursing (MN)
Master of Public Policy (MPP)
Master of Social Work (MSW)
Master of Teaching (MTeach)
Master of Theology (MTh)
Master of International Relations (MIA)

College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine

Master of Clinical Dentistry (MCLinDent)
Master of Public Health (MPH)
Master of Surgery (General Surgery) (ChM (General Surgery))
Master of Surgery (Trauma and Orthopaedics) (ChM (Trauma and Orthopaedics))
Master of Surgery (Urology) (ChM (Urology))
Master of Surgery (Vascular and Endovascular) (ChM (Vascular and Endovascular))
Master of Veterinary Sciences (MVetSci)
ChM Master of Surgery (Clinical Ophthalmology)
Master of Family Medicine (MFM)

Electronic Senate

26 April – 10 May 2023

Conferment of the Title of Emeritus / Emerita Professor

Description of paper

1. The Senate is invited to confer the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita upon those professors who retired recently or whose retirement is imminent.

Action requested / recommendation

2. For approval.
3. For E-Senate, a nil response is regarded as approval. A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection / suggest corrections. In this context any comments on this paper should be emailed to SenateSupport@ed.ac.uk quoting “comment on e-S 22/23 3 B.” These comments will be added verbatim at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>. This is an EASE-protected webpage where comments can be viewed by other Senate members.

Discussion

4. This Senate is invited to confer the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita upon those professors listed below:

Professor Lani Florian, Moray School of Education and Sport
Professor Julian Goodare, School of History, Classics and Archaeology
Professor Wilson McLeod, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures
Professor Sir John Savill, College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine
Professor Neil Turner, Deanery of Clinical Sciences

5. The Special Minutes are attached as an appendix.

Resource implications

6. None.

Risk management

7. Not applicable.

Equality & diversity

8. Not applicable.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

9. Those Professors who have been conferred with the title of Professor Emeritus / Emerita will be contacted by Senate Secretariat in due course.

Author

Senate Secretariat
January 2023

Freedom of Information

Open paper

Special Minute
Lani Florian B.Sc. M.Sc. PhD
Emerita Professor of Bell Chair of Education

Professor Florian has held the Bell Chair at the University since 2012. The Chair was founded in 1876, using funds bequeathed by the Rev Andrew Bell (1753-1832). Before he died in 1832, Bell transferred £120,000 of his estate to trustees. The residue of his estate, some £25,000, was used to set up a trust dedicated 'to the maintaining, carrying forward, and following up the system of education introduced by him, according to circumstances and occasion, and the existing state of things'. The trustees agreed to contribute to the foundation of a Bell Professorship in the Theory, History, and Practice of Education at Edinburgh and St Andrews Universities. These two Chairs were instituted in 1876 and were the first Professorships of Education founded in any English-speaking country. Lani is the first woman to hold this distinction.

Lani qualified as a teacher of children with special educational needs in the United States in 1978 when a new federal law guaranteeing the right to education for all school-aged children broke new ground in addressing issues of social justice in education. This shaped her professional identity, and her interest in this area set her on a teaching and research career that has continued to this day.

Upon the completion of her PhD, she was appointed to the University of Maryland where she began an academic career as a teacher educator and researcher in the emerging area of inclusive education. She is well known for her work on the concept of inclusive pedagogy, an influential theoretical idea that emerged from her research. Her research was cited in the 2020 Global Education Monitoring Report, Inclusion and Education.

While at Cambridge University, she was elected Fellow of St Edmund's College and served as Executive Editor of the Cambridge Journal of Education. She was elected Fellow of the Academy of Social Sciences in 2012. She received a Distinguished Public Service Award from the Council of Exceptional Children, the leading professional organization for special education in the US. In 2016, she was awarded the Council's Division of Early Childhood President's Award of Merit celebrating her contribution to the enduring legacy of this legislation on its 30th anniversary.

Over the years, she has worked with UNICEF, the OECD, Open Society Foundations, the British Council, the Council of Europe and the European Agency for Special and Inclusive Education to ensure the results of her research are being applied in schools and integrated into first and higher degrees in universities in around the world. She has contributed to the peer review process for national research councils, including the ESRC, the Austrian, Belgian and Canadian Research Councils. She maintains close contact with researchers in universities in North America and elsewhere in the world. Although looking forward to spending more time with her large extended family in the US and the UK, she plans to stay professionally active, serving as Series Editor for Springer's Inclusive Learning and Educational Equity book series and enjoying continued engagement with colleagues in Moray House and the wider University.

Special Minute
Julian Goodare MA, PhD, FRHistS, FSAScot, FHEA
Emeritus Professor of History

Julian Goodare gained both his degrees from the University of Edinburgh. His PhD, completed in 1989, was followed by a postdoctoral fellowship in the University in the early 1990s. He then went on to hold lectureships in the University of Wales, Lampeter, and in the University of Sheffield, and a Visiting Fellowship in the University of London. In 1998 he was appointed Lecturer in the University of Edinburgh, and was promoted to Professor of History in 2018.

Professor Goodare is primarily a historian of Scotland in the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries. The main themes of his research are government, finance and politics; witchcraft; popular belief; and agriculture. He is also interested in the history of witchcraft and witch-hunting. This is partly a Scottish interest, but it has broadened to include the whole of Europe. Related to this, he has become interested in the popular beliefs and practices that are sometimes revealed by witchcraft interrogations. These include visionary experiences in which people experienced encounters with fairies, ghosts, angels or other supernatural beings. He has recently become interested in the history of agriculture. Throughout his work he has been interested in the ways in which the study of history can be enriched by engaging with other disciplines including sociology, anthropology, folklore, literary studies and psychology.

He was Publication Secretary of the Scottish History Society from 1989 to 2002. He is Director of the Survey of Scottish Witchcraft which went online in 2003. In 2019 the Witchcraft Survey was enhanced by an interactive map. Since 1998 he has been an Associate Editor of the Oxford Dictionary of National Biography (published in 2004, and periodically updated since then), responsible for entries on sixteenth-century Scotland. He has been a visiting lecturer in Nanjing University, China.

Professor Goodare has published three monographs (*The European Witch-Hunt* (2016); *The Government of Scotland* (2004) and *State and Society in Early Modern Scotland* (1999) and has edited or co-edited a further nine books (*The Supernatural in Early Modern Scotland* (2020); *Demonology and Witch-Hunting in Early Modern Europe* (2020); *Scotland in the Age of Two Revolutions* (2014); *Kings, Lords and Men in Scotland and Britain, 1300-1625* (2014); *Scottish Witches and Witch-Hunters* (2013); *Sixteenth-Century Scotland* (2008); *Witchcraft and Belief in Early Modern Scotland* (2008); *The Scottish Witch-Hunt in Context* (2002) and *The Reign of James VI* (2000). He has also published twenty-five articles and thirty-six book chapters.

He remains actively engaged in research in his areas of interest.

Special Minute
Wilson McLeod BA, JD (Harvard), MSc, PhD
Emeritus Professor of Gaelic

Professor McLeod received the Saltire Society's Fletcher of Saltoun Award in 2020 for his contribution to Scottish public life. He is a regular commentator in both Gaelic and English media in relation to Gaelic policy and related matters. He has served on the boards of a range of Gaelic organisations, including Comunn na Gàidhlig, Comunn an Luchd-ionnsachaidh, Ionad Gàidhlig Dhùn Èideann, the Scottish Gaelic Texts Society, Catherine McCaig's Trust and the Highlands and Islands Educational Trust.

Professor McLeod was appointed Lecturer in Celtic in 2001 and promoted to Senior Lecturer in 2005 and then a Personal Chair in Gaelic in 2013, before stepping down from his post in 2022.

Professor McLeod has made a notable contribution to the field of Scottish Gaelic Studies, having published extensively on a wide range of topics involving linguistics, language policy and literature. In addition to two monographs, two major literary anthologies, 11 edited volumes and more than 80 journal articles and book chapters, Professor McLeod has authored or co-authored more than 20 reports on a range of policy matters involving education, linguistics and language planning, many of them for public agencies such as Bòrd na Gàidhlig, the statutory Gaelic language board. As a member of staff in Celtic & Scottish Studies he supervised 17 PhDs to completion and is currently supervising three additional students. His work on Gaelic language policy in Scotland has had strong public impact and was featured prominently in REF impact studies in 2014 and 2021.

A particular strength of Professor McLeod's work has been its breadth and range. His legal background has strongly informed his work on minority language policy, including work on language legislation in Scotland and beyond. His most important contribution has been the monograph *Gaelic in Scotland: Policies, Movements, Ideologies* (2020), the first-full length analysis of the role of Gaelic in modern Scotland. His work on Gaelic literature has included work on the late medieval period as well as studies dealing with literature from the eighteenth century to the present. Particular topics of interest have been language politics, cultural identity and problems concerning translation. Professor McLeod's major contributions in this area include his monograph *Divided Gaels: Gaelic Cultural Identities in Scotland, c. 1200-c. 1650* (2004) and the anthologies *Duanaire na Sracaire/Songbook of the Pillagers: Anthology of Scotland's Gaelic Verse to 1600* (2007) (co-edited with Meg Bateman) and *The Highest Apple/An Ubhal as Àirde: An Anthology of Scottish Gaelic Literature* (2019) (co-edited with Michael Newton). *The Highest Apple* is the first general anthology of Scottish Gaelic literature ever published; it covers all genres, including poetry, fiction and drama, from the early Middle Ages to the present and was awarded the Gaelic Books Council's Donald Meek Prize for Best Non-fiction Book in 2020.

**Sir John Savill, MBChB (Hons) PhD
FRCP FRCPE FMedSci FAHMS FRSE FRS
Emeritus Professor of Medical Science**

Professor Sir John Savill is an internationally recognised leader of academic medicine and has been a Regius Professor of Medical Science in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine since 2018. He has been a member of the staff of the University of Edinburgh for nearly 25 years when in October 1998 he was appointed as the University's Professor of Medicine and Honorary Consultant Physician in Renal and General Medicine at the Royal Infirmary of Edinburgh, NHS Lothian, providing an excellent clinical opinion for over two decades.

Soon after arriving in Edinburgh Professor Sir John Savill brought together and won MRC Centre status for the Centre for Inflammation Research (CIR) serving as its inaugural Director from 2000 to 2002; the CIR continues to go from strength to strength. John's personal research has focused on the resolution and control of inflammatory responses with a particular interest in phagocyte clearance of leucocytes and resident cells dying by apoptosis. As Principal Investigator, he secured over £25m in competitive research grants and supervised over 40 PhD students, post-doctoral fellows and clinical fellows. His first Journal of Clinical Investigation (JCI) paper, senior authored by his research mentor and friend Professor Chris Haslett, described Haslett's discovery that neutrophils are programmed to die by apoptosis leading to non-phlogistic clearance by macrophages which has proved to be a major contribution in their field. In subsequent JCI and Nature papers with Haslett, John was the first to describe mechanisms by which macrophages recognise apoptotic cells as senescent self, opening up new fields in inflammation research.

Testimony to John's leading work in the field of inflammation have been his successes with a prestigious Senior Wellcome Clinical Fellowship and subsequently a series of Wellcome and MRC Programme Grants. He was a founding Fellow of the Academy of Medical Sciences (FMedSci). In 2005 he was elected to the Fellowship of the Royal Society of Edinburgh (FRSE) and in 2013 to Fellowship of the Royal Society (FRS).

From 2002 to 2018, Professor Sir John Savill was the inaugural Vice Principal and Head of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine and during this appointment was a Non-Executive Director on the NHS Lothian Health Board from 2002-2010. Over the 15 years during which John was Head of College, his leadership saw a 7-fold growth in annual competitive external research awards and development of cross-cutting Research Centres and Institutes. This included new developments in regenerative medicine and medical informatics led respectively by his recruits Professor Sir Ian Wilmut and by Professors Andrew Morris and Professor Sir Aziz Sheikh, the creation of new national and international undergraduate courses in biomedical and medical sciences and successful raising of funds for major building projects, delivered on-time and on-budget at Little France, the Western General and Easter Bush campuses.

Throughout his career with the University, John has freely offered invaluable strategic leadership and advice in research, innovation and career development to many of his colleagues. Indeed he has worked tirelessly at both national and local levels to improve clinical academic training opportunities. In his 2000 "Savill Report", the Chair of Academy of Medical Sciences' first ever report "The Tenure track clinician scientist: A new career pathway to promote recruitment into clinical academic medicine", he led the case for the progression of clinical academic training in the UK. This was subsequently developed in the 2006 Walport Report on which he served, into the successful implementation of the UK's sustained Integrated Academic Training Programme now envied world-wide. Through

membership of Scotland's Board for Academic Medicine, chaired by Professor Sir David Carter, and by securing support from NHS Education for Scotland, the Chief Scientist Office and the Scottish Funding Council, John was able to design and implement the nation's distinctive "graduate to professor" Scottish Clinical Research Excellence Development Scheme. To promote the recruitment and retention of women into Edinburgh's academic medicine system he led the thinking behind a successful collaboration with the Wellcome Trust and NHS Education for Scotland that Professors John Iredale, Brian Walker, Moira Whyte and Bill Reid developed into the successful ECAT (Edinburgh Clinical Academic Track) Programme, which over 13 years has trained over 90 clinician scientists, around 50% being women.

In 2008 John was honoured by the Queen when made Knight Bachelor "for services to Clinical Science". His activities in promoting careers in clinical research also led to Honorary Fellowships of the Royal College of Surgeons of Edinburgh and the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health.

From 2008 to 2010, Professor Sir John Savill held the role of Chief Scientist to the Scottish Government Health Directorates leading mobilisation of £42m pa to provide a national network of clinically embedded NHS R&D support staff with over 150 in NHS Lothian. Between 2002 and 2008 he was a member of the Medical Research Council, chairing two research boards, and in 2010 he was appointed as Chief Executive of the Medical Research Council a position he held until Spring 2018. During his leadership of the MRC John successfully lobbied for an improved level of Government funding for clinical and biomedical research and played key roles in the delivery of the Francis Crick Institute and establishment of both the UK Dementia Research Institute and Health Data Research UK, each of which has a competitively allocated node in Edinburgh.

Since 2019, John has progressively invested time in leadership of the Melbourne Academic Centre for Health (MACH) and its sister scheme to ECAT, the MACH-Track, being elected as a Fellow of the Australian Academy of Medical Sciences. In retirement, John will continue living in Melbourne where he and his family now reside.

Special Minute
Neil Turner MA, MB BChir, PhD, FRCP, FRCPE
Emeritus Professor of Nephrology

Neil Turner has held the Chair of Nephrology since 1998 and is retiring from this post in 2023. Before this he was Senior Lecturer in Nephrology and General Medicine in Aberdeen, following broad clinical experience in General Medicine, then clinical and research training in nephrology in London.

His laboratory research interests began in autoimmune kidney disease, using protein chemistry and recombinant DNA technology to identify the target of attack in anti-glomerular basement membrane (anti-GBM) disease, showing it to be the C-terminal NC1 domain of a tissue specific type IV collagen chain, COL4a3. Subsequently he produced the domain in insect cells in an immunologically recognised form, and investigated how this molecule becomes targeted; how it is handled and identified by immune cells. These led to a series of publications in Journal of Clinical Investigation, Journal of Biological Chemistry, as well as immunology and kidney journals. Major sources of funding were the Medical Research Council and Kidney Research UK.

Later experimental and clinical studies and publications were around understanding the close correlation between protein leak into urine and long-term prognosis after an episode of kidney damage, into genetic conditions that affect the GBM, and more recently clinical studies and trials into genetic and other conditions.

In Edinburgh he focused on building up the clinical and research quality and strength of renal medicine in the NHS and in the University. This included developing specialist services for children with kidney disease moving into the adult sector, and in the last decade developing new services for patients with genetic kidney diseases. In a national initiative he built on IT project experience in a group establishing registries for multiple rare kidney diseases, 'Radar', which is just now beginning to show rewards from its remarkable aggregation of data.

A strong theme since coming to Edinburgh has been communicating information about kidney disease to patients, staff, and students. After establishing a widely used kidney information website (edren.org) for patients and staff about kidney diseases, in 2004 he led development of a national service, PatientView, co-designed with patients, that delivered live test results online, with supporting information, to over 70,000 patients across the UK. That service continues.

He was an early adopter of online teaching, after establishing a course in 2000 in which student groups built websites to demonstrate their projects. Later focus was on international education for students and clinical staff, including a number of initiatives in medical education in Malawi. He led the development and 2012 launch of a successful international, part-time online MSc programme in Internal Medicine jointly with the Royal College of Physicians of Edinburgh, before becoming Head of Medical Education at Edinburgh Medical School 2012-16. From 2012-21 he was also Undergraduate Teaching Dean for CMVM. He went on to develop a specific undergraduate programme, HCP-Med, that enables other health care professionals to obtain the Edinburgh MBChB. This is now in its third year. Its several unique elements include its adaptation for existing healthcare workers, and being part-time and mostly remote for the first 3 years.

He is a former chair of trustees of Kidney Research UK, and remains a trustee of the patient association Alport UK, and co-organiser of international and national meetings that have

brought together Alport researchers, clinicians and patients in an exceptionally productive, collaborative manner.

In retirement he is continuing his involvement in Alport research, as one of three PIs in a 2022 award for a national Alport Research Hub. This is physically based in Manchester with virtual elements in Edinburgh and London. His wife Helen Cameron is also retiring after establishing the new medical school at Aston University, Birmingham. Neil remains editor-in-chief for a major international textbook, the Oxford Clinical Textbook of Nephrology, and is also involved in groups promoting Medical Humanities in Scotland, study of the History of Nephrology, and the history of Edinburgh Medicine.

Electronic Senate

26 April – 10 May 2023

Communications from the University Court

Description of paper

1. To update Senate on certain matters considered by the University Court at its meeting held on 27 February 2023.

Action requested / recommendation

2. Senate is invited to note the report.
3. For E-Senate, members are invited to submit any comments, observations or reservations by email. Any comments on this paper should be emailed to SenateSupport@ed.ac.uk quoting "comment on e-S 22/23 3 C". These comments will be added verbatim at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>. This is an EASE-protected webpage where comments can be viewed by other Senate members.

Resource implications

4. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Risk management

5. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Equality and diversity

6. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

7. Regular reports on the Court's work of interest to Senate will continue to be submitted.

Author

Dr Lewis Allan
Head of Court Services
20 April 2023

Freedom of Information

Open Paper

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY COURT

27 February 2023

1 Introductory Remarks

Court's congratulations to all staff and visiting staff members recognised in the 2023 New Year Honours were recorded:

- Peter Mathieson, Principal & Vice-Chancellor, Knighthood, for services to higher education;
- Ewen Harrison, Professor of Surgery and Data Science, OBE for services to the Covid-19 response; and,
- Gillian Wright, Visiting Professor at the Institute for Astronomy, CBE for services to Astronomy through International Missions.

2 Principal's Report

A summary of the Principal's main activities since the last meeting was noted, with the Principal commenting on the following:

- People & Money System – i) the University's external auditors have been invited to undertake additional assurance work. This is being done with the involvement of the Director of Finance and the Convener of Audit & Risk Committee, and ii) The appointment of a Special Advisor to the Principal on People & Money, who will provide an initial assessment of the new system to the Principal in the next month. It was confirmed that this is separate to the external review of the People & Money System's implementation to be commissioned by Court (covered later in the agenda);
- The recommendation that Professor Tina Harrison be appointed as Deputy Vice-Principal Students (Enhancement), in a change of title from Professor Harrison's current appointment as Assistant Principal for Academic Standards and Quality Assurance;
- The UK Government's appointment of George Freeman MP as Minister of State in the new Department for Science, Innovation and Technology (DSIT) has been welcomed by the sector. It is hoped that the recent Windsor Framework regarding trade in Northern Ireland can help enable the UK to re-join the EU's Horizon Europe research funding scheme and that the return of £1.6bn to HM Treasury from the UK Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy of unspent funds earmarked for EU collaborations can be reversed; and,
- A reception held earlier this month to celebrate and recognise staff members with 25 or 40 years or more of service. Those invited had achieved a cumulative 1,920 years of service to date, including a staff member with 60 years of service and two partners each with 40 years of service.

Members raised the following points:

- The recent announcement that a pay award would be made and whether this is a breach of sector-wide negotiations – the Director of Human Resources clarified that sector-wide talks held with Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service (Acas) had concluded, with an impasse reached. The Universities and Colleges Employers' Association (UCEA) subsequently advised that institutions implement the pay award for 2023-24, which includes a partial uplift for the remainder of the current year, which the University will do in March, ahead of the new financial year; and,
- The cancellation of the planned screening of the film 'Adult Human Female', plans for a future screening, the Code of Student Conduct in relation to behaviours displayed by attendees/protestors at the event and more widely, the University's

commitment to freedom of expression, the views of the Students' Association, comparison with other events and the experiences of some of those present. The University Secretary confirmed the intention to reschedule the screening, reiterated the University's commitment to academic freedom and freedom of expression and noted the establishment of a working group on this topic, which Court will be updated upon, and that a Resolution containing an updated version of the Code of Student Conduct was approved by Court at its last meeting but as with all similar documents can be reviewed and further updated as appropriate.

The appointment of Professor Tina Harrison as Deputy Vice-Principal Students (Enhancement) was approved.

3

People and Money

• People and Money Systems Update

An update on the implementation of the People and Money systems and processes was reviewed. Work since the previous meeting has concentrated on operational improvements, including reducing the volume of outstanding payments and bolstering resources in central Finance and Information Services areas to allow College finance leads to resume usual duties. Meetings have been held with College leadership teams to help inform areas of future focus, with comments on: improving the visibility of information in the system; a sense from regular users of a dilution of autonomy and difficulty in being able to complete tasks; and, a need to support resourcing at a local level. Near term priorities for further improvement work include research finance elements and reviewing purchase to pay processes, to be informed by the work of the Special Advisor to the Principal on People & Money.

The following points were raised in discussion:

- School-level experience of the new system continuing to impact on time and resources available for other activities – it was acknowledged that some staff continue to be diverted from their usual roles and will return to these as soon as possible but timing will vary. There has been a budgetary impact in many local areas and this can be considered within the Planning Round process;
- Training on the new system for relevant staff – this was a key issue raised in feedback as an area to improve and has been challenging given the need to follow system and process improvements that continue to be made, as well as difficulties in recruiting staff who can lead training on the system;
- The role of the Special Advisor to the Principal on People & Money and the Special Advisor's interaction with stakeholders – the Special Advisor has been encouraged to meet any individuals or groups that may assist in providing an initial assessment of the new system. Findings and recommendations will be submitted to the Principal, who will share these as appropriate with the Senior Leadership Team and Enactment Group;
- Resourcing any permanent changes made and assessing workload implications of the new system before other strategic change projects are progressed – changes will continue to be made over the coming months so it is not yet possible to finalise the number of permanent changes and any workload implications but this will be considered and will inform other projects, as shown in the 'Recommendations for Future Provision of Strategic Change and Continuous Improvement Support' University Executive paper shared at the previous meeting. Resourcing needs will continue to be monitored and can be considered within the Planning Round;
- Process changes should be in order to optimise the working and benefits of the new system rather than a return to previous processes that will not realise benefits from the new system;

- What an improved position would look like – a successful system will be one that is not regularly raised as an issue of concern and provides staff with the agency and capacity to complete necessary system tasks; and,
- Colleagues involved in progressing work in this area were recognised and thanked.

- **People and Money External Review**

A proposal for an external review of the implementation of the People & Money System was considered. It was noted that this has been developed by the Head of Internal Audit following agreement at the previous meeting that a proposal covering the commissioning, scope and timescale of an external review should be submitted for approval to this meeting. The outcomes of the external review should help inform future decision-making and oversight for major change projects and system procurement and implementation. The following points were raised in discussion:

- Scope and coverage: the scope as drafted is broad and could be tightened to focus predominantly on the implementation of the finance aspects; the review could compare examples of the implementation of similar systems in other organisations to identify issues that are generic and those that are specific to this implementation; considering the escalation of any concerns raised during the implementation, responses to these and stakeholder engagement was suggested – noting that these can be encompassed within the existing text included within the aims and objectives section; consultation with Senate – it was noted that the Head of Internal Audit will update Senate and seek input at the next meeting; how lessons learned can be applied to ongoing strategic change projects – the Provost and Vice-Principal Corporate Services are presently considering the approach to strategic change projects and lessons from the external review can be incorporated within this, while continuing to progress change projects and other continuous improvement work to help achieve the University's ambitions;
- Selection panel: options for the Court membership of the selection panel involved in final interviews/presentations from bidders along with procurement and Internal Audit staff and the University Secretary or delegate – noting that this is to conduct a technical review of bids and not a review of the scope or other aspects, which is being agreed at this juncture;
- Timing: the timeframe for the review will influence the costs given that costs will accrue on a daily rate basis; the timing should be balanced against the current priority of completing stabilisation work on the system; a deadline of producing a report to the December 2023 Court meeting was proposed;
- Reporting: it was noted that most advisory/consultancy firms work on the premise that their reports are for internal management and organisational purposes and not for broader dissemination and any alternative approach should be reflected in the procurement process from the outset;

It was agreed that:

- The review's scope and coverage is with the intention of learning lessons to inform future projects of this ilk and should focus predominantly on the implementation of the finance aspects;
- The selection panel should include the Senior Lay Member and the Convener of Audit & Risk Committee given relevant experience, with the option of a Senate Assessor;
- The review should produce a final report for the December 2023 Court meeting; and,
- It should be specified within the procurement process that the report is for the use of the Court and management in the first instance but that Court will likely wish to

share the key findings, recommendations or actions arising (or a summary of these) more widely as it considers appropriate.

The proposal was approved with the incorporation of the four points agreed above.

4 Students' Association and Sports Union Reports

Regular reports from the Students' Association and Sports Union were presented. The extension of the student participation fund into the second semester was welcomed, noting the continuing difficulties faced by many students given increased costs of living and that this remains a key campaigning priority for the Association, particularly accommodation costs. Engagement levels in student elections was discussed, noting that the upcoming elections will be well contested, with the current sabbatical officers focused on communications to improve turnout. It was commented that being able to demonstrate ways in which the Association has helped deliver improvements for students would be beneficial in building engagement. It was noted that, unlike some other institutions, the Association continues to have an active Student Council, demonstrating a continued level of student engagement.

5 Engineering Hub

A revised funding request for the Engineering Hub project was considered. It was noted that the project's funding had been previously approved by Court in September 2019 but had been deferred in 2020 along with other non-contractually committed capital projects as part of the initial response to the pandemic. The project has now been updated to reflect recent cost increases in the construction sector and seeks funding approval. Construction sector inflation was discussed and its likely impact on the capital plan more widely and whether the contingency allocated in the project budget is sufficient – noting that this will be more accurately forecasted when the tender is finalised shortly. It was noted that the building design remains unchanged and that the urgency and importance of the project has led to its prioritisation. The Hub's focus on interdisciplinary research in climate and sustainability, particularly in energy, was highlighted. Court:

- Noted the revised Full Business Case, approved by Estates Committee;
- Approved funding to progress the project to completion; and,
- Noted that this is in addition to previously approved funding for Design Team fees and enabling works.

6 Update on Research Excellence Framework (REF) Planning

An update on planning for the next Research Excellence Framework exercise was presented. More information on the shape and timing of the next exercise should be known from June 2023, when the Future Research Assessment Programme is expected to report. Research output quality was discussed, including ensuring consistent messaging on its importance, including in appointment and promotion assessments – acknowledging variances by discipline, seniority and in different research cultures in different countries in the weighting of quality and volume of research. Other peer institutions with strong performances in the previous exercise were discussed, with work to analyse these in greater depth to identify points of comparison and learning.

7 Development & Alumni Annual Report; Donations and Legacies; Alumni Activities

An overview of work led by the Development & Alumni Office in the 2021/22 academic year was presented along with a regular update on donations and legacies and alumni activities. It was noted that philanthropic giving continued during the pandemic period owing to strong

relationships with existing donors who made repeat donations. As restrictions have receded new donor relationships have been able to be established in addition to existing relationships. Donors have been attracted by areas within the University's Strategy 2030 relating to inclusive excellence and the research themes of climate, health and data/Artificial Intelligence and it was noted that these are expected to be growth areas for future philanthropic giving.

8 Student Pulse Survey Update

A report on the recent Student Pulse Survey undertaken in December 2022 was considered. Improving the response rate was discussed and difficulties in making year on year comparisons. It was noted that the survey has moved from a classroom-based evaluation to an online survey, which has reduced the response rate. A response to the survey has now been circulated to students and may aid future engagement. An alternative approach of following a selected cohort over time was also suggested.

9 Update on arrangements for Senate and Senate Standing Committee Elections, and proposed amendment to Senate Election Regulations

Arrangements for forthcoming Senate and Senate Standing Committee Elections were noted and a proposed amendment to the Senate Election Regulations relating to the treatment of Senate Assessor positions within the overall count of elected Senate staff members considered. Advice from the University's Legal Services department and from external solicitors that the proposed amendment would be in breach of University Ordinance 212 (Composition of the Senatus Academicus) was reviewed. It was noted that further commentary from the author of the proposed amendment had been circulated and that the legal advice had been reviewed in light of this and remained unchanged. Recording the abstention of the Senate Assessors from voting on this item, Court resolved that the proposed amendment should not be approved and agreed that the treatment of the Senate Assessor positions within the Senate Election Regulations should be considered further to identify any alternative approaches to improve upon the current drafting.

10 Laigh Year Regulations

It was noted that the Laigh Year Regulations (which allow student sabbatical officers to matriculate as students of the University without, during the academic year concerned, having to fulfil the normal academic requirement of their programme of study in order to undertake their full-time sabbatical officer duties) are reviewed on a quinquennial basis, with no changes proposed following the current review, then submitted to Senate and Court for dual approval. Recording the abstention of the Students' Association President and Students' Association Vice-President Community on this item, Court approved the Laigh Year Regulations as presented.

11 Resolutions

The following Resolutions were approved:

- No. 1/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Hepatobiliary Cancer
- No. 2/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Digital Health and Data Science
- No. 3/2023: Foundation of a Chair of Robot Systems
- No. 4/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Engineering Biology
- No. 5/2023: Alteration of the Title of the Chair of Health in Social Science
- No. 6/2023: Foundation of a Chair of Statistical Learning
- No. 7/2023: Foundation of a Personal Chair of Plant Engineering Biology

12 Other items

Regular reports from Court's committees and from the Director of Finance were reviewed.

Electronic Senate

26 April – 10 May 2023

College Academic Management Structures 2023/24

Description of paper

1. The paper lists the College Academic Management Structures for 2023/24.

Action requested / recommendation

2. For noting.
3. For E-Senate, a nil response is regarded as approval / agreement. A comment need only be submitted to raise an objection / suggest corrections. In this context any comments on this paper should be e-mailed to Senate.Support@ed.ac.uk quoting “comment on e-S 22/23 3 D.” These comments will be added verbatim at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>. This is an EASE-protected webpage where comments can be viewed by other Senate members.

Resource/Risk/Compliance

4. These will have been considered by each College when deciding on their College Academic Management Structures for 2023/24.

Equality and Diversity

5. Considered by the relevant College.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

6. Not applicable.

Originator of the paper

Senate Secretariat
April 2023

Freedom of Information

Open paper.

College Academic Management Structures 2023/24

Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences

Head of College	Vice-Principal Professor Sarah Prescott
Dean of Research	Professor Laura Jeffery
Dean of Education	Professor Mary Brennan
Dean of Postgraduate Research	Professor Laura Bradley
Dean of Students	Professor Jeremy Crang
Dean International	Professor Soledad Garcia-Ferrari
Dean Quality Assurance and Curriculum Approval	Dr Emily Taylor
Dean Equality, Diversity and Inclusion	Ms Jenny Hoy
College Academic Misconduct Officer	Dr Dave Saunders (plus additional appointment tbc)
Associate Dean (Research Impact)	Professor Ailsa Henderon
Associate Dean (Research Ethics and Integrity)	Dr Sudeepa Abeysinghe
Associate Dean (Widening Participation)	Professor G Trousdale
College Registrar	Dr L Lovejoy

Medicine & Veterinary Medicine

Head of College	Vice-Principal Professor David Argyle
Executive Dean of Research and innovation	Professor Stuart Forbes
Head of Edinburgh Medical School and Dean of Clinical Medicine	Professor Siddharthan Chandran
Dean of Education	Professor Jamie Davies
Dean of Postgraduate Research	Professor Rob Semple
Director of Postgraduate Taught	Dr Sarah Henderson
Director of Quality Assurance and Enhancement	Professor Matt Bailey
Dean of Students	Dr Debbie Shaw
Dean International	Professor Rebecca Reynolds
Deputy Dean Culture and Integrity	Professor Julia Dorin and Professor Thamarai Dorai-Schneiders
Deputy Dean Research Strategic Change	Professor Liz Baggs
Deputy Dean Research Management	Professor Matt Nolan
Deputy Dean Clinical Academic Training	Professor Jurgen Schwarze
College Registrar	Dr Anne-Marie Coriat

Science & Engineering

Head of College	Vice-Principal Professor Iain Gordon
Dean of Learning and Teaching	Professor Tim Stratford
Dean of Student Experience	Professor Stephen Warrington
Dean of Postgraduate Research	Professor Antony Maciocia
Dean of Research	Professor Andrew Mount
Dean, International – Students	Professor Tom Bruce
Dean, International – Partnerships	Professor Neil Robertson
Dean of Education Quality Assurance and Culture	Professor Linda Kirstein
Dean of Research Computing	Professor Mark Parsons
Dean of Innovation	Dr Graham Spittle
Dean of Systematic Inclusion	Professor Karen Halliday
College Registrar	Dr A Payne

Electronic Senate

26 April – 10 May 2023

Knowledge Strategy Committee Report

Description of paper

1. The paper reports on the Knowledge Strategy Committee meeting held on a hybrid basis on 21 March 2023.

Action requested / recommendation

2. Senate is invited to note the report.
3. For E-Senate, members are invited to submit any comments, observations or reservations by email. Any comments on this paper should be emailed to SenateSupport@ed.ac.uk quoting “comment on e-S 22/23 3 E”. These comments will be added verbatim at <https://edin.ac/2DYSYJT>. This is an EASE-protected webpage where comments can be viewed by other Senate members.

Resource implications

4. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Risk management

5. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Equality & diversity

6. Where applicable, as covered in the report.

Communication, implementation and evaluation of the impact of any action agreed

7. Regular reports on aspects of the Committee’s work of interest to Senate will continue to be submitted.

Author

Jamie Tait
Clerk to Knowledge Strategy Committee
April 2023

Freedom of Information

Open paper

REPORT FROM THE KNOWLEDGE STRATEGY COMMITTEE

21 March 2023

1 Chief Information Officer Update

Key activities and updates since the last meeting were reported, including:

- **Recruitment and retention of specialist information services staff:** continued recruitment difficulties in the information services sector were reported, however it was noted that the recent use of a search agency had been beneficial;
- **Supply chain disruption:** the global supply chain disruptions reported at previous meetings were continuing. Improvements have been seen in the availability of some computing equipment such as laptops, however there was still a shortage of specialised computer chips, networking equipment, some specialised audio visual equipment, along with increased costs in shipping and delivery;
- **Sustainable IT Sub-Group:** it was noted the Sub-Group would have an academic chair, to be appointed following a recommendation from the Vice-Principal & Head of College of Science and Engineering and the Committee would be updated on its work. One of the initial areas of interest for the Sub-Group is expected to be the sustainability of the University's data centres;
- **Vendor price increases:** an increase in many software vendor prices was highlighted. This is being experienced sector-wide and sector body JISC has issued a [statement](#) appealing to digital content, hardware and software vendors seeking "pricing constraint" given budgetary pressures on the Higher Education sector; and,
- **Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI):** significant developments in recent months were commented on, most notably ChatGPT. Numerous other systems are also being launched including one from Stanford University (Alpaca) rapidly and inexpensively developed using other generative AIs.

The University's approach to generative AI was discussed. Initial [guidance](#) had been issued to students on the use of generative AI (such as ChatGPT), noting that the technology, ethics and use of AI was a fast moving area, with the guidance to be updated as necessary. The Deputy Vice-Principal Students (Enhancement) noted the University position was not to impose a blanket restriction on the use of generative AI, but rather to:

- Emphasise the expectation that assignments should contain students' own original work;
- Highlight the limitations of generative AI and the dangers of relying on it as a source of information; and,
- Emphasise the need to acknowledge the use of generative AI where it is permitted to be used.

It was noted that further guidance may be needed in other areas, including the completion and submission of administrative forms and on research and intellectual property rights. It was also noted that Turnitin (an internet-based plagiarism detection service) will shortly launch an AI writing and ChatGPT detection capability. It was agreed that regular updates on AI should be received by the Committee given the rapid development of this area.

2 Information Services Group Planning 2023/24 to 2028/2029

An Information Services Group (ISG) planning update was presented, including the draft narrative Plan submitted as part of the Planning Round in February 2023. The following areas were highlighted:

- The expectation that Curriculum Transformation will quickly become a key priority and major IT and Library service change project within ISG; and,
- The identification of priorities for the Digital Estate, which will inform future budget planning. This will be shaped by the outcomes of the Digital Estate Prioritisation Group, chaired by the Provost.

The draft was welcomed and in discussion it was noted the following would be helpful to consider: setting out the expected future pipeline of projects more clearly; showing the relative scale of investment in comparison to peer universities; and, explaining and refining the optimism bias process used. Members were encouraged to send on any further comments and it was agreed that a presentation setting out the key projects covered within the Planning Round submission would be given at the next meeting.

3 Learn Ultra Upgrade and Early Adopter Programme – Update on Progress

An update on progress with the Learn Ultra (Virtual Learning Environment) Upgrade and Early Adopter Programme was presented. It was reported the programme is half-way through its envisaged three year timeframe, with training for users to be delivered from late March onwards. Progress made was welcomed and the following points were raised in discussion: encouraging buy-in and the importance of local contacts such as learning technologists and School/College Office staff; a wider conversation on accessibility would be beneficial; ensuring support areas such as the Information Services Helpline are prepared at the start of semester; the shared budget available and the additional use of student interns by some Schools to help with preparatory work; and, the importance of spreading awareness of the programme's timetable and training for users prior to implementation.

4 People & Money System Update

An update on the implementation of the People & Money systems and processes was reviewed. It was reported that the Principal has appointed an external advisor on People & Money to assist in diagnosing key process or system issues and to recommend actions, and that Court has commissioned an external review of the system's implementation and will be updated on progress with this at the next meeting. It was raised that with any additional interventions that might take place, there was a need to be mindful of any impact these might have on individuals and teams.

5 Internet of Things Service Multi-Year Procurement Framework

A paper on an Internet of Things Service Multi-Year Procurement Framework was discussed. It was noted that, in putting in place the framework, experience from previous procurements had been used, with the main learning being to build in the option of multiple potential suppliers. The Committee agreed to recommend to Estates Committee that a multi-year purchasing route be established to support construction of the Data-Driven Innovation's regional sensor network and to facilitate purchasing of suitable equipment for wider University research projects and operational Smart Campus projects, as set out in the paper.

6 Other items

The Committee noted: an update on University Strategic Business Intelligence work; an updated forecast for the ISG 5-year capital envelope, 2022-28; a progress report on the deployment of the new University data network; a progress report on the replacement of the University's Enterprise Infrastructure; and, received regular reports on information security and from the IT Committee, Library Committee and the University Collections Advisory Committee.