

Summary of Revisions to the University Calendar: General Regulations for 2020-21

The most significant changes to the University Calendar: General Regulations for 2020-21 are summarised in each section below.

Study Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes	
	The word 'element' has been amended to 'component' throughout the Study Regulations to reflect the current terminology used for assessed components of modules.
5.4.2	Addition to confirm existing practice that assessed components of modules must be marked to an integer on a scale of 0-100.
7.1.2	Clarification that the programme mark must be calculated from the weighted average of the module marks, truncated to one decimal place. For students first enrolled in 2020-21 and thereafter, this mark must be used for the purposes of degree classification, rather than rounding to an integer.
7.2.4	For students first enrolled in 2020-21 and thereafter, removal of the possibility of discounting a module for the purposes of degree classification.
7.2.5	For students first enrolled in 2020-21 and thereafter, the zone of consideration for predominance has been reduced from 3% to 1%.
Annex 1 Conceptual Equivalents Scale	Addition of mark bands and discrete marks for the first-class range and the lower range of the Undergraduate Conceptual Equivalents Scale.
Study Regulations for Postgraduate Taught Programmes	
	The word 'element' has been amended to 'component' throughout the Study Regulations to reflect the current terminology used for assessed components of modules.
2.1.2	Addition to promote greater flexibility in students who have been awarded a Postgraduate Certificate from this University to be

	admitted on request to a related Postgraduate Diploma or Master's Degree programme of study.
2.1.4	Addition to promote greater flexibility in students who have been awarded a Postgraduate Diploma from this University to be admitted on request to a related Master's Degree programme of study.
5.4.2	Addition to confirm existing practice that assessed components of modules must be marked to an integer on a scale of 0-100.
7.1.2	Clarification that the programme mark must be calculated from the weighted average of the module marks, truncated to one decimal place. For students first enrolled in 2020-21 and thereafter, this mark must be used for the purposes of determining postgraduate awards, rather than rounding to an integer.
Conduct Regulations	
2.12	Deletion of specific reference to disciplinary meetings as should also include investigating officer meetings.
2.2	Addition of the following terms to be used throughout the regulations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. The reporting student ii. The reporting person iii. The responding student
	Addition of the terms set out in 2.2 throughout the Regulations to provide clarification
2.20	Addition of 'graduates'
2.21	Addition of <i>Prima Facie</i> Screening process to determine whether sufficient evidence has been presented to warrant investigation and to determine which University regulations or procedure should be followed. <p>2.21.2 ii inclusion of words 'which had a demonstrable impact on the decision' to reflect the grounds of appeal set out in other procedures.</p>

3.1.12	<p>Addition of the following disciplinary offences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Breach of Covid-19 guidance and/or regulations. • Misuse of learning materials, including online and recorded materials, provided to students by the University.
3.1.13	<p>Addition of the following disciplinary offences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Major breach or repeated breaches of Covid-19 guidance and/or regulations. • Repeated or serious/gross misuse of learning materials, including online and recorded materials, provided to students by the University. <p>The disciplinary offence of “<i>Abusive and threatening or intimidating behaviour</i>” has been amended to “<i>Abusive, threatening or intimidating, bullying or harassing behaviour</i>”. The standard penalty for a first offence of this nature has been amended to expulsion.</p>
3.2.4 and 3.2.5	<p>Addition of new Formal Statement of Complaint form – not mandatory</p>
7.1.4	<p>Clarification about information disclosed to a student in relation to a precautionary suspension relating to confidentiality and GDPR requirements</p>
7.1.5	<p>Change of name from Review Panel to Appeal Panel to avoid confusion with the review process</p>
7.1.6	<p>Clarification of the possible outcomes of the Precautionary Suspension Appeal Panel.</p>
7.3	<p>Addition of Emergency Precautionary Suspensions following an alleged breach of the COVID-19 Regulations and/or Guidance. This Emergency Precautionary Suspension may include total prohibition on attendance at, or access to, University facilities (including online teaching and the library) and exclusion from the entirety of the University campus. There is no right of appeal against this suspension.</p>
10.	<p>Addition of the Serious Misconduct Protocol, which details how cases deemed to be particularly serious, complex or sensitive will</p>

	<p>be dealt with. This could include allegations of sexual misconduct, bullying/harassment, discrimination and hate crime.</p> <p>The words 'or pose a high reputational risk to the University' to be removed as this may prove controversial and any high risk case will be serious, complex or sensitive.</p>
12	This section has been re-ordered to provide clarity and reference to prima facie case deleted in light of 2.21
Fitness to Practise Procedure	
4.17, 5.4, 5.5, 7.13, 10.1.6	Addition to permit Head of School to nominate appropriate member of staff to act on their behalf.
6.2	Addition to permit the Investigating Officer to include their recommendations within the Investigating Officer report.
10.5.4	Clarification that the decision of the Faculty Pro-Vice-Chancellor (or nominee) and senior colleague regarding whether a student has presented a prima facie case on the grounds of appeal will be a final decision; meaning that those students that remain dissatisfied have the right to submit a complaint to NIPSO.
Student Complaints Procedure	
1.2	Addition and clarification of the following definitions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. Feedback ii. Concern iii. Complaint
1.3.3	Removal from the procedure of allegations of misconduct committed by a registered student. All allegations of misconduct by another registered student will henceforth be dealt with under the Conduct Regulations. Amendments made throughout the Student Complaints Procedure to remove reference to complaints against another registered student.
1.7.2	Deletion of paragraph in light of inclusion of new <i>Prima Facie</i> Screening
1.10 and 1.11	Amendments to Facts About Future Behaviour and Future Conduct Agreements to reflect the removal of complaints of

	misconduct against a registered student from the scope of the Procedure.
1.14.1 and 1.14.3	Deletion in light of removal of allegations of misconduct by a registered student
2.1	Addition of <i>Prima Facie</i> Screening process to determine whether sufficient evidence has been presented and to determine which University regulations or procedure should be followed. Removal of the Investigating Officer initial evaluation (originally 2.2.5).
2.2.3	Deletion in light of addition of 2.1.4
2.2.5	Deletion in light of inclusion of new <i>Prima Facie</i> Screening
2.3.4	Addition of words 'will decide the scope of the investigation' to permit the Investigating Officer to limit the scope of the investigation where appropriate
2.5.8	Clarification of the possible outcomes of the Appeal Panel.
3	Clarification that students aggrieved by a decision of either the Prima Facie Review Panel or the Complaints Appeal Panel may submit a complaint to NIPSO.