

## Significant Changes to your Contract with the University: September 2022

As outlined within the terms and conditions of entry to Queen's University Belfast which were issued to applicants after they were made an offer, the University committed to informing students directly of any significant changes to the regulations and policies that form part of their contract with the University.

The changes also apply to students continuing on their programmes of study.

### Summary of Revisions to the University Calendar: General Regulations for 2022-23

The most significant changes to the University Calendar: General Regulations for 2022-23 are summarised in each section below.

| Regulations for Students                             |  |
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| 5.22   | Amendment to clarify and streamline regulations by providing the requirements relating to student disclosure of criminal offences and investigations under Regulations for Students.   |
| Study Regulations for Postgraduate Taught Programmes |  |
| 2.1.2/2.1.4  | Additional condition for return to postgraduate study; to satisfy any specific requirements outlined in the relevant programme specification.  |
| 7.1.4  | Clarification that the weighted average of the taught modules should be truncated to an integer to determine eligibility for a pass with distinction for Master's Degrees, to align with current practice for calculating programme marks. |
| Study Regulations for Research Degree Programmes     |  |
| 6.1.1  | Change to permit the appointment of a third external supervisor where the student's research would benefit from external input, such as from an industry expert, or where this   |

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|   | would enhance external collaborations.   |
| 6.1.9:  | Removal of the limit on the number of students that a staff member can be assigned as principal supervisor, as there are a variety of valid reasons why a member of staff may have capacity to go beyond this limit.   |
| 7   | Minor amendments to reflect the change to online thesis submission.  |
| 7.7.3   | Amendment to allow both in-person and online oral examinations (vivas) with the School Postgraduate Research Committee responsible for determining the specific arrangements for each examination.   |
| 7.7.4   | Inclusion of a standard timeframe for oral examinations to take place to support timely assessment.  |
| Study Regulations for Higher Doctorates       |  |
| 5   | Minor amendments to reflect the change to online thesis submission.  |
| Conduct Regulations                           |  |
|   | A major review of the Conduct Regulations was completed which will result in a fully revised set of Conduct Regulations, and new discrete regulations to deal with interim measures, as well as standalone general provisions relating to Academic Appeals, Conduct, Academic Offences and Student Complaints. Further information on these regulations will follow in due course. |
| Procedures for Dealing with Academic Offences |  |
| 1.1.2   | Amendment so that Procedures cover all taught modules, including those taken by Postgraduate Research Students.  |
| 4/5   | Inclusion of an 'Initial Review Stage' at sections 4 and 5, for minor and major offences. This has been introduced to assist with low-level offences, so that these can be addressed without requiring an investigation and panel meetings, if appropriate.  |

## Student Complaints Procedure

1.3.4

People and Culture will be implementing their new policies for dealing with complaints against staff during academic year 2022-23. In particular, student complaints of alleged misconduct or inappropriate behaviour by staff (currently covered under the Student Complaints Procedure, section 1.3.4(ii)), will be dealt with under the new People and Culture policies. As such, the suspension of section 1.3.4(ii) of the Student Complaints Procedure will apply from the date that the new People and Culture policy becomes operational.