



Summary of Key Changes for 2021-22 Edition of the *University Regulations*

Please note that the provisions in the new edition of the *University Regulations* apply to all students. An exception to this rule is that continuing students will be governed by the degree regulations in place in the year of first registration on their current programme of study. (For Honours students, this means the year in which they commenced their Honours programme.)

In response to the Covid-19 global pandemic the University introduced the [No Detriment policy](#) in 2019-20 and applied a series of Assessment Support Measures in 2020-21. Both varied some aspects of published degree regulations and the Code of Assessment. At the time of publication of the *University Regulations 2021-22*, the course of the pandemic remains uncertain. The most up to date information on any special arrangements for assessment in 2021-22 will be made available on the Senate Office webpages dedicated to [Assessment Regulations and Support Relating to the Covid 19 Pandemic](#).

In response to the pandemic, examinations have predominantly been moved online. Some of the relevant arrangements have not yet been formalised in the Code of Assessment (e.g. duration of online exams, penalties for late submission) as these remain under review. Please refer to the Senate Office website which will be updated with information for assessments taking place during the 2021-22 session.

The following key changes have been made in the 'Fees & General Information' Section of the *University Regulations*:

Code of Assessment – Regulation 16

- **Abolition of Exam Board discretion in the award of Honours degrees and PGT degrees/awards**

This applies to the award of:

- Honours degree classifications (including integrated masters programmes): First class, 2.1, 2.2 and Third class
- Postgraduate taught masters degrees and diplomas/certificates: Merit and Distinction

Following a University-wide consultation led by the Academic Standards Committee (https://frontdoor.spa.gla.ac.uk/committees/senate/ASC/Minutes/minutes_2020-11-20.htm and https://frontdoor.spa.gla.ac.uk/committees/senate/ASC/Minutes/minutes_2021-01-22.htm), Senate has agreed that the award of classifications will for most students be determined solely by grade point average (GPA). For the remaining students, whose GPAs fall in narrow defined GPA ranges, classification will be determined by grade profile.

For Honours degrees, this is set out in the Code of Assessment sections §16.36 – §16.37.

For postgraduate taught programmes, this is covered in the regulations applying to the specific programme of study (published in the relevant College section of the *Regulations*).

The change will ensure consistency of awards being made to all students on the same programme and to students from different areas of the University. Exam Boards will no longer have discretion to refer to any other criteria in determining the appropriate award.

The change takes effect for all awards made for students registered for their final year of study in 2021-22.

- **Nomination of internal examiners §16.55 a) iii)**

In previous years the Code required the nomination of some categories of internal examiners to be approved by the Clerk of Senate. From 2020-21, all internal examiners should be approved at College level only.

Complaints Handling Procedure – Regulation 29

During session 2020-21 changes to the Complaints Handling Procedure were made following an update to the Model Complaints Handling Procedure (MCHP) introduced by the Scottish Public Service Ombudsman. The new version includes a core text (which is consistent across all public services in Scotland) and additional guidance, with sector specific examples.

There are no changes to the key principles; the way that the CHP operates in terms of stages, timeframes etc. remains the same.

- The structure: The revised version is now in separate parts with the aim of separating guidance from the procedure.
- Stronger emphasis on constructive resolution. The aim is to resolve complaints to the satisfaction of the complainant wherever possible. Where this is not possible, the University will provide the complainant with a clear response to each of their points of complaint. We will try to respond as quickly as we can (and on the spot where possible).
- Greater clarification on identifying what is and what is not a complaint and the interaction of complaints and other processes.

Lecture Recording Policy – Regulation 31

A revised version of the Lecture Recording Policy is under development to cover live on-campus (in class) and online teaching events. This should be confirmed early in Semester 1 for implementation in academic session 2021-22.

Code of Student Conduct – Regulation 33

A fully revised Code of Student Conduct is in place for session 2021-22 following an extensive review which commenced prior to the Pandemic.

The main change is to separate academic from non-academic misconduct in the Code. Although the same principles apply, the revised Code attempts to recognise the increasing complexity of some non-academic conduct issues and the impact on those involved. Two new roles are therefore included in the non-academic procedures:

- a. an Investigating Officer who will investigate non-academic conduct issues and make a recommendation to the Director of Academic Services or nominee who will act as decision maker, and
- b. a Student Liaison Officer who will be appointed in complex cases to ensure that the students (the Reporting Student who has made the allegation, where there is one, and the Responding Student against whom the allegation has been made) understand the procedures and are kept well informed throughout what can be a lengthy process in potentially distressing circumstances.

The Senate Assessors for Student Conduct will continue to consider the majority of cases of academic misconduct, with very serious cases continuing to be referred to the Senate Student Conduct Committee.

Code of Practise for Determining Fitness to Practise – Regulation 36

A new section has been added (§36.7.14) to describe procedures for an Interim Finding by a School Fitness to Practise Committee.

If you have any queries regarding the *University Regulations* please contact Helen Butcher (Helen.Butcher@glasgow.ac.uk) or Ruth Cole (Ruth.Cole@glasgow.ac.uk) in the Senate Office.

August 2021