

Exceptional regulations for summer 19/20: Classification.

Due to COVID-19, the University of Nottingham has taken the decision not to hold examinations in the summer exam period that require students to be present on campus, and many other items of assessment will need to be altered. These regulations should be read in conjunction with all existing regulations, as well as the Exceptional regulations on Progression, Extenuating Circumstances and Assessment. These regulations apply to all students being classified in the summer of 2020. We will keep these regulations under review and may extend the period further.

CL1. The Exceptional Regulations for Assessment make provision for cases where because of the cancelling of assessment due to COVID-19, a module will be missing marks, and neither part for whole nor substitute assessment are available. These are defined as COVID-incomplete modules.

CL2. When classifying students, Schools are asked to discount up to 40 credits of COVID-incomplete modules in the final year (this may include non-compensatable modules). This is *in addition to* UG regulation 26b (see UG regulations below) that allows Schools to discount up to 20 credits of module marks on the grounds of an upheld Extenuating Circumstances (EC) claim, when classifying a student:

<https://www.nottingham.ac.uk/academic-services/quality-manual/assessment-and-awards/student-regulations-for-undergraduate-courses-wef-2019.aspx>

CL3. Classification can then be carried out on the basis of a weighted average of the remaining marks from the final year and the relevant weighted averages from Part I (and in the case of four year programmes Part II). All students classified carrying COVID-incomplete modules should be given the option of a first-sit at the first available opportunity.

CL4. Borderline algorithms should be applied on a pro-rata basis, such that a student should be given the higher class if either of the following criteria are met:

(a) Once modules have been discounted, half or more of the remaining final stage credits are in the higher class;

or

(b) Once modules have been discounted, half or more of the remaining final and penultimate stage credits are in the higher class.

CL5. Where a student has more than 40 credits of COVID-incomplete modules, they should be offered an Unclassified Honours degree with the option of a first sit in the COVID incomplete modules at the first available opportunity.

CL6. It is recognised that those courses with Professional Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB) requirements may need to make more stringent arrangements, first receiving

guidance from the relevant PSRB Board. PSRB requirements will, in all cases, be in addition to these regulations.

CL7. To ensure that no student is disadvantaged by the outbreak of COVID-19, we are asking exam boards to operate with two routes to classification:

(a) operate the exceptional regulations on classification, described above.

(b) where higher than the classification generated by (a), and where all modules in the COVID-impacted period are passed, use a weighted average of marks achieved prior to 15/3/20 as the basis for classification under the normal classification model.