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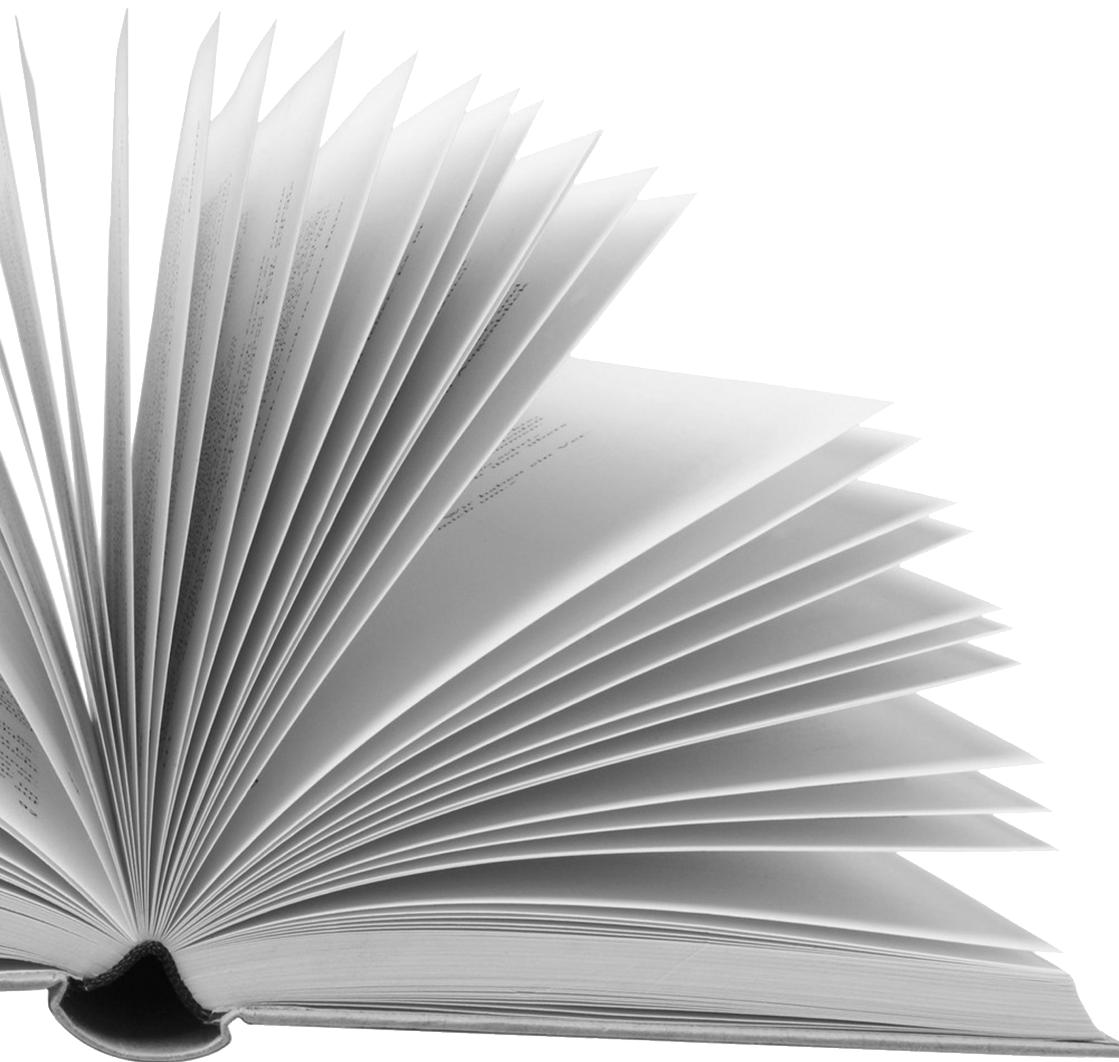
REGULATIONS

2009

Important document – please read

Please read this booklet with care. It contains important information that governs your registration as an External student and your programme of study

MSc in Community Dental Practice



Important document – please read

Regulations are reviewed and published annually, and are subject to change. Examinations, for example, are governed by the Regulations in force at the time of the examination and not at the time that a student initially registered. Students must, therefore, refer to the Regulations for the current year at all times.

All students are required to comply with the regulations, as well as the procedures, deadlines and instructions issued by the University in, for example, the student handbook/manual and Notice to candidates. The University is not responsible for any consequences arising from a student's failure to comply with these Regulations, procedures, deadlines or instructions.

Copies of the publications, proceedings and other documentation referred to in these Regulations may be obtained, on request, from the External System.

These Regulations may not be reproduced except with the written permission of the University of London External System.

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MSc in Community Dental Practice

This booklet contains the Regulations for the MSc Community Dental Practice (known as the 'Programme Regulations') plus the General Regulations which govern all awards placed at the Graduate and Masters levels of the *Qualifications Framework for the External System* of the University of London. The two sets of Regulations should be read together.

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Programme Regulations

Registration for the MSc degree in Community Dental Practice has been discontinued with the effect from 1 January 2006. The last examinations under these Regulations will be held in 2010.

1. Introduction

1.1 The University awards the degree of Master of Science in Community Dental Practice, hereafter called the MSc degree in Community Dental Practice. The award of this degree to External students is controlled by both these Programme Regulations and the General Regulations.

1.2 The MSc degree in Community Dental Practice is awarded without classification. At the discretion of the Board of Examiners a mark of distinction will be awarded to those students who have completed the examination and who have shown exceptional merit.

1.3 The date of the award of the MSc in Community Dental Practice to successful students will be **31 December**.

2. Programme of study

2.1 The MSc consists of **seven** compulsory modules studied over a three-year period, **a clinical log diary** presented in the second year and a compulsory **Research project and dissertation** taken in the third year.

2.2 Full details of the structures are given in Schedule A.

Intensive courses

2.3 Students are required to attend the following intensive courses in the United Kingdom:

Year 1

- 2 weeks of seminars and tutorials in first year modules - in **August**

Year 2

- 2 weeks of seminars and tutorials in second year modules - dates to be allocated on an individual basis.

Year 3

- 2 weeks of seminars and tutorials in the third year modules – dates to be allocated on an individual basis.

2.4 It is a student's responsibility to ensure that he or she makes all the necessary travel, accommodation and visa arrangements in order to attend the intensive courses.

3. Rules of progression

3.1 Students who fail **one** module at the Year 1 examinations may be permitted to proceed to Year 2 of the degree, but must complete the outstanding module at the next examination. Students who fail more than one module at the Year 1 examinations will be required to complete the outstanding modules successfully before proceeding to the next Year of the degree.

3.2 A student who, having successfully completed the examinations for all the Year 1 modules, fails the written papers for the Year 2 modules will be permitted to proceed to Year 3 and to make a second attempt at the written paper for the Year 2 modules at the end of Year 3.

3.3 A student who passes the written papers for the Year 2 modules but who fails the examination of the **Clinical log diary** will be permitted to proceed to Year 3 and make a second attempt at this element of the examination at the end of Year 3.

3.4 A student who fails both the written papers for the Year 2 modules and the examination of the **Clinical log diary** will be permitted to proceed to Year 3 and to make a second attempt at all elements of the examination at the end of the Year. A candidate who fails either the written paper for these modules or the examination of the **Clinical log diary** on the second occasion shall be deemed to have failed the examination for the degree as a whole and his or her registration as an External student will cease.

4. Entrance requirements

Application

4.1 Registration for the MSc degree in Community Dental Practice was discontinued with effect from 1 January 2006.

5. Period of registration

5.1 Registration for the MSc in Community Dental Practice will normally be valid for a period of **three** calendar years from the effective date of registration, subject to:

- satisfactory attendance of the intensive courses **and**
- satisfactory payment of the annual composite fee for the degree.

5.2 Reduction in the prescribed period of registration, or of required attendance on courses, is not normally permitted.

5.3 An application for an extension of registration may be considered under paragraph 5 of the Postgraduate General Regulations. A fee may be payable.

5.4 Students who have not completed all the requirements of the programme for which they are registered within the maximum period of registration may apply for a renewal of registration for a further full period, in accordance with paragraph 5.3 of the General Regulations, although not beyond 2010.

5.5 The effective date of registration for all students shall be **1 January** in the year in which the student commences course work for Year 1.

6. Assessment

6.1 Each module, except for the **Clinical log diary** and the **dissertation**, will be examined by **four** assessed assignments and by **one** three-hour unseen written paper in **October** of the year in which it is studied. Eight assignments for each module will be scheduled between **January** and **August** of each year, and examinations by written paper, wherever held, will normally take place in **October** of the same year. At that time students will be examined in all the modules which form part of their particular year of study. The best **four** assignments for each

module will be taken into account for the purpose of final assessment.

6.2 All assignments for a particular Year must be received by the Course Director not later than **30 September** in the year of the examination.

6.3 The **Clinical log diary** will be examined at the end of the intensive course during **August** of Year 2. The examination will only be held in the United Kingdom (in London). A student who cannot attend in London for this element of the examination, or who does not pass it, will not be awarded the degree.

6.4 Only in exceptional circumstances will students be granted permission to delay entry to examination to a subsequent year.

Dissertation

6.5 Students are required to submit to the Programme Director for approval the title of their proposed **dissertation**, together with a 500 word outline (protocol), not later than **1 February** in Year 3 of the degree. This outline will not form part of the final assessment, but is an essential requirement.

6.6 The completed **dissertation**, which should normally be approximately 20,000 words in length excluding bibliography, appendices and illustrations, must be submitted to the Programme Director to be received not later than **1 November** in the year of the examination.

6.7 Only those students whose performance in this module is judged by the Examiners to be borderline will be required to attend in London for an oral examination.

7. Number of attempts permitted

7.1 Details of the number of attempts permitted are given in paragraph 8 of the General Regulations.

7.2 If a student makes a second attempt at an examination, the mark for the written paper only will be taken into account (i.e. assignments will not count).

7.3 If on the second occasion a student fails to satisfy the Examiners in any module his or her registration will cease.

7.4 An assignment, once submitted, may not be revised and re-submitted in order to obtain a better mark.

7.5 If a student submits a **dissertation** which is otherwise adequate but requires minor amendment, the Examiners may require the student to make any amendments required by them and to re-submit the **dissertation** within a period of four weeks unless otherwise specified by the Examiners. If the **dissertation** is failed completely, the student will be required to make a fresh application for approval of a topic and offer a new or re-written **dissertation** at a subsequent examination (see paragraph 13).

8. Fees

8.1 There is an annual composite fee for the MSc in Community Dental Practice. This fee includes registration, tuition, the first attempt at an examination and the cost of certain materials and support, but does not include the cost of travelling, accommodation and subsistence when attending the intensive courses.

8.2 In order to be registered for the MSc in Community Dental Practice a student is required to pay the appropriate fee.

8.3 Continuing students may choose to pay the composite fee in one of two ways:

- by instalment, **£525** registration fee by **31 January** (or as soon as the results of the examination are published) and the remainder of the composite fee by **30 April**
- OR**
- the annual composite fee in one sum by **31 January** (or as soon as the results of the examination are published)

No materials will be despatched until at least the registration fee has been paid.

8.4 The annual composite fee for 2009 is as follows:

(A) - for students who pay by instalment: **£4,280**

(B) - for Year 1 students who pay in one sum by **30 November** and continuing students who pay in one sum by **31 January**: **£4,195.**

Students who do not pay by the given deadlines will be required to pay the fees given in A.

8.5 The fees above and in paragraph 8.8 refer to the 2009 calendar year only.

8.6 A fee is normally levied by all examination centres (other than London) and Overseas Examination Authorities. This fee is payable by students each time they make an examination entry. The University cannot be responsible for this fee nor can it influence the level of fee charged.

Examination re-entry

8.7 A student who enters an examination on a second occasion, having failed on the first occasion, is liable to pay an examination re-entry fee of £210. If the student wishes, further tutorial guidance is available for an additional £105 per module. The deadline for payment of an examination re-entry fee is **31 July** in the year of the examination. The deadline for payment of the additional tutorial fee to the University is **1 May** in the year of the examination.

Refunds

8.8 Fees will only be refunded in exceptional circumstances, at the discretion of the University.

Schedule A / Structure

Year 1 – Three modules

Care in the community [9980010]
Principles of epidemiology [9980020]
Principles of statistics and applied statistics [9980030]

Year 2 – Three modules and clinical log diary

Care of individual patients and special groups [9980055]
Applied psychology and sociology [9980060]
Dental health education and prevention [9980070]
Clinical log diary [9980090]

Year 3 – One module and dissertation

Community practice management [9980080]
Dental public health research project and dissertation [9980110]

Note: The examination numbers have been appended to the module titles and these numbers should be used when completing examination entry forms.

Schedule B/ Module outlines

Note: The examination numbers have been appended to the module titles and these numbers should be used when completing examination entry forms.

YEAR 1

Care in the community [9980010]

Overall introduction to the subject of Community Dental Practice. Organised health and dental services. This part of the syllabus aims to develop a philosophy of care in the context of the needs of the community: rich or poor; developed or developing country; young or old; single or multi-ethnic. There will be consideration of the role of central and local government, voluntary agencies and other groups in supporting oral health care, always applied in the context of the country in which the student lives and works.

Students will examine why and how information is collected about their local community. This will provide a basis on which to build later modules. Included will be consideration of the demographic structure of the country and region and how it influences oral disease, prevention and treatment. Social class and other divisions.

Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

Principles of epidemiology [9980020]

Quantitative and qualitative methods of study, including ethnography and epidemiology. The range of indices used for studies on dental caries, periodontal disease and malocclusion. Means of collecting and analysing data.

Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

Principles of statistics and applied statistics [9980030]

The aim of this module is to give students an understanding of the basic statistical methods that are used in the analysis of medical, dental and biological data (with particular emphasis on epidemiological and community research). It is intended that at the end of the course the students will be able to better evaluate papers which appear in scientific literature, and to understand the need for a statistical approach in research. A largely non-mathematical approach will be adopted.

There will be an introduction to (the concept of original) research and evaluation methodology and consideration of practical and ethical problems in both the provision of care and in research.

Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

YEAR 2

Care of individual patients and special groups [9980055]

Those factors which affect the provision of dental care for individuals who have a special need. Medical, environmental, cultural and dental factors in treatment planning. Recent advances in diagnosis and treatment of relevance to dental care in the community.

The specific problems of people with special needs. Handicap and disability. Mental, physical and social handicaps. The housebound, young children, people living in rural communities. Alternative systems of delivering dental care: mobile surgeries, portable equipment. Medical and social problems which influence the delivery of care. Special techniques relevant to specific groups such as elderly people.

Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

Applied psychology and sociology [9980060]

Psychology: attitudes, motivation, compliance, behaviour modification; fears, neuroses, phobias.

Sociology: barriers to care, health, illness, disability, handicap, special needs in society.

Psychology and sociology of ageing.

Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

Dental health education and prevention [9980070]

Prevention and screening strategies. Health promotion and health education. Dental health education on a national, community and individual level. Planning and implementation of community dental health education programmes. The mass media. Communication. Use of dental and non-dental manpower. Role of health and other bodies in promoting oral health care.

Preventive strategies and techniques. Diet and dental disease. The role of sugar. Water fluoridation and alternative systemic fluorides. Fissure sealants.

The design, testing, modification and evaluation of DHE programmes: identification of need for DHE; possible target groups and their social and psychological characteristics; aims and objectives; assessment of effectiveness of programme.

Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

Clinical log diary [9980090]

The aim of this module is to demonstrate the ability to plan and carry out treatment for a patient who needs special care, for example, someone who is disabled or nervous. The Diary will log the problem, treatment plan, description of care provided and evaluate the outcome; for example, does the nervous patient now accept treatment? The student will be expected to place this preventive care or treatment within a theoretical framework developed by the other modules; for example, why a particular method of prevention was chosen.

Assessment: Oral examination at the end of the intensive course in the United Kingdom in Year 2.

YEAR 3

Community practice management [9980080]
 Management of clinical resources. Audit of clinical care. Basic health economics. Health & Safety at Work including control of cross infection. Dentists and the law; ethical and legal issues concerning children, elderly and handicapped adults, including informed consent. Clinical effectiveness.
Assessment: four assignments and one three-hour unseen written paper.

Dental public health research project and dissertation [9980110]

Students will be required to carry out an approved project relating to a problem within the broad field of Community Dental Practice. The **dissertation** on this project must include a survey of the relevant literature. It should normally be approximately 20,000 words in length, excluding bibliography, appendices and illustrations.

The research topic will be chosen by the student in consultation with the Course Director. The criteria for assessing the **Dissertation** and any other written work will include:

- (a) presentation of material including layout, ease of reading, bibliographic structure and numbering
- (b) introduction and clear statement of the problem to be discussed
- (c) literature search, use of references and bibliographies
- (d) the extent to which the student has used her or his own ideas and re-assessed and evaluated previous writers and studies
- (e) relevance of conclusions to community dental practice.

Schedule C / Scheme of award

Annual assessment criteria

Year	Course work %	Written paper exam %	Contribution to final grade
Year 1	Assignments (40%)	3 papers (60%)	29%
Year 2	Assignments (40%)	3 papers (60%)	28%
	Clinical Log diary		5%
Year 3	Assignment (40%)	1 paper (60%)	10%
	Research project and dissertation (100%)		28%

Award of the final degree

Distinction	70+
Merit	60-69
Pass	50-59
Fail	<50

Scheme of award

The award of the MSc degree is normally given on the basis of achieving marks within the appropriate range in each module.

In order to be awarded the MSc degree a student must pass in all three years.

For the overall Degree to be awarded with Distinction a candidate will need to have scored an overall minimum of 70% or above, and have passed the examinations in all modules at the first attempt.

For the overall Degree to be awarded with Merit a candidate will need to have scored an overall minimum of 60% and have passed the examinations at the first attempt.

Examiners have complete discretions to take into account the student's overall performance.

Schedule C / Assessment criteria

Criteria for assessment of written answers:

70-100%	Distinction	Excellent answer
	Understanding	Authoritative, full understanding of all the issues with originality in analysis
	Selection and coverage	Full range of sources used selectively to support argument
	Structure	Coherent and compelling argument well presented
	General	90-100% - striking insight, of publishable quality 80-89% - insightful, possibly of publishable quality with minor revision 70-79% - excellent grasp of the subject, high quality in all areas
60-69%	Merit	A good, coherent answer that demonstrates critical evaluation
	Understanding	Independent, critical evaluation of wide range theories with some evidence of originality
	Selection and coverage	Complex work and concepts presented, key texts used effectively
	Structure	Argument concise and explicit
	General	65-69% - approaching excellence in some areas 60-64% - well developed relevant argument
50-59%	Pass	A satisfactory, coherent and logical answer which shows understanding of the basic principles
	Understanding	Some capacity to reflect critically but with no significant evidence of originality
	Selection and coverage	Sound knowledge base of primary & secondary sources
	Structure	Argument developed but lacks fluency
	General	55-59% - approaching merit 50-54% - broadly satisfactory, appropriate and accurate
0-49%	Fail	A superficial weak answer showing limited knowledge
	Understanding	Lack of understanding and focus
	Selection and coverage	Limited use of, or out-of-date sources
	Structure	Argument not fully developed and lacks structure
	General	Student has failed to answer the question satisfactorily. 45-49% - patchy overall knowledge, presentational weakness 35-44% - some knowledge but weak grasp of issues, poor presentation 20-35% - fundamental mistakes 0-19% - deeply flawed, irrelevant or too brief

General Regulations for Degrees and Other Awards at Masters Level

These General Regulations govern all degrees and other awards placed at the Masters Level of the *Qualifications Framework for the External System* of the University of London, and the programmes of study leading to those awards.

1. The Regulations

Introduction

1.1 These General Regulations govern all degrees and other awards placed at the Masters Level of the *Qualifications Framework for the External System*, as listed in paragraph 2.1. Individual programmes of study leading to degrees and other awards at those levels are governed by both these General Regulations and specific Programme Regulations.

1.2 The rules within these General Regulations apply, in their entirety, to all of the awards listed in paragraph 2.1, except where indicated otherwise.

1.3 Registered External students are required to comply with these General Regulations and the appropriate Programme Regulations. They must also comply with the procedures, deadlines and instructions issued by the University in, for example, the student handbook/manual and Notice to Candidates. The University is not responsible for any consequences arising from failure to comply with these Regulations, procedures, deadlines or instructions.

1.4 It is a student's responsibility to ensure that his or her choice of subjects complies with the Regulations that are current for that year.

1.5 The rules relating to a particular programme of study in any given year are those included in the Regulations for that current year and not in the year in which the student initially registered (see also paragraph 1.8).

1.6 On all matters concerning the interpretation of these Regulations, or on which they are silent, the decision of the University shall be final.

Changes to the Regulations

1.7 The Regulations are reviewed and published annually, and are subject to change.

1.8 Two years' notice will normally be given to registered students of any major amendment of the Regulations. Five years' notice will be given to registered students should the University be required to withdraw the programme of study for which they are registered.

Terminology and definitions

1.9 The programmes of study leading to degrees and other awards may be referred to, in the Regulations, as 'programmes'. Postgraduate Certificates are referred to as 'certificates', and Postgraduate Diplomas as 'diplomas'. Postgraduate degrees are referred to as 'degrees'.

1.10 These General Regulations describe the individual elements of a degree or diploma as 'subjects'. In the Programme Regulations, these may be called 'courses', 'units', 'modules' or 'sections'.

1.11 The term 'examination' used in these Regulations refers to the entire assessment for a subject, and includes not only the written paper for that subject but also any coursework, project, dissertation or online participation that contributes towards the final assessment.

1.12 'Credit' for a subject, on the basis of the same or an equivalent subject previously passed, may be awarded to a student who has been registered with the University of London for a programme of study. The mark obtained at the examination at which the subject was passed will be carried forward to the student's record and will contribute towards his or her award, in accordance with the criteria for awards given in the respective Programme Regulations.

1.13 'Exemption' from a subject may be granted to a student who has studied **either** for an award with another institution **or** for a programme of study with the University of London, where the subject passed is not sufficiently equivalent for credit to be awarded. The mark obtained at the examination at which the subject was passed will **not** be carried forward to the student's record and therefore will not contribute towards his or her award.

1.14 The 'Admission Notice' is provided to each student who has made an entry to an examination. The Admission Notice contains the student's candidate number and confirmation of the dates and time of the examination(s) for which he/she has entered.

1.15 The 'Notice to Candidates' contains prescribed rules for the examinations. The Notice to Candidates is provided to students together with their Admission Notice.

Student complaints procedure

1.16 The University has a *Procedure for External student complaints* which can be found in the student handbook/manual (or the equivalent publication) and on the External System web site.

2. Awards to External students

2.1 The University grants the following awards at Masters Level to External students:

- Postgraduate Certificates
- Postgraduate Diplomas
- Postgraduate (or Master's) degrees.

2.2 The definition, level, volume and learning outcomes of these awards are described in the *Qualifications Framework for the External System*, which can be accessed via the External System web site.

2.3 The degrees, diplomas and certificates listed in paragraph 2.1 are awarded without classification, although some may be awarded with a mark of Distinction or Merit (see paragraph 1 of the Programme Regulations).

2.4 A certificate under the seal of the University will be delivered to each successful student who is granted a degree or other award. The date of the award will be as indicated in paragraph 1 of the Programme Regulations concerned.

2.5 External students are examined to the same standard as that required of students enrolled at individual Colleges or Institutes of the University. The Ordinances and Regulations of the University state that “*candidates granted degrees and other awards shall have attained the same academic standard irrespective of mode or place of study or examination.*”

2.6 To be eligible for an award of the University as an External student, a student must have:

- registered with the University as an External student **and**
- satisfied the requirements for the relevant award and complied with the Regulations for the programme concerned in all respects **and**
- made satisfactory payment to the University of all due fees and accounts.

The University reserves the right not to grant the award to students who fail to satisfy any of these conditions.

2.7 To register for a programme of study as an External student, an applicant must satisfy the conditions given in paragraph 4 of the relevant Programme Regulations. In addition, an applicant who was previously either registered as an External student or enrolled at a constituent College or Institute of the University of London must have made satisfactory payment to the University or College/Institute of all due fees and accounts. An applicant who fails to satisfy this condition will **not** be permitted to register, or to register again, as an External student.

2.8 An intermediate award or awards (i.e. a related certificate or diploma), if applicable, may be granted to a student registered for a diploma or degree in the following circumstances:

- (a) At the discretion of the Board of Examiners, and as indicated in paragraph 3 of the Programme Regulations, a student registered for a diploma or degree who does not complete the programme of study **or** who does not satisfy the Examiners (at the level required for the award) in all subjects may be awarded a related certificate or diploma (if applicable). Such students will be required to have satisfied the Examiners (at the level required for the award concerned) in the subjects that comprise the certificate or diploma.
- (b) At the discretion of the University, and where permitted in Paragraph 1 of the Programme Regulations, a student registered for a diploma or degree, and in circumstances other than those described in (a), may be considered for the award of a related certificate or diploma (if applicable), provided that he or she has satisfied in full the requirements for the certificate or diploma concerned.

The award of the certificate or diploma will be with effect from the year in which the requirements for the certificate or diploma were satisfied.

2.9 An External student who has successfully completed the examinations for a certificate or diploma and has not accepted that award, may apply to transfer his or her registration to a related diploma or degree (if applicable) subject to the rules of progression in paragraph 3 of both these and the Programme Regulations. A student who has accepted the award of the certificate or diploma may also apply to transfer his or her registration unless the Programme Regulations state otherwise.

2.10 An applicant who has previously received an award of the University of London, or whose registration with the University was terminated because he or she had exhausted the permitted number of attempts at an examination, may apply to register again as an External student for a programme of study in a different subject or field of study.

2.11 Unless paragraph 1 of the relevant Programme Regulations states otherwise, an applicant who has previously received an award of the University of London, or whose registration with the University was terminated because he or she had exhausted the permitted number of attempts at an examination, may apply to register again for a programme of study in the same subject or field of study. All applications will be considered on an individual basis. Permission to register in these circumstances will be given at the discretion of the University and will be subject to any further conditions specified in these General Regulations and in the relevant Programme Regulations, or by the University.

2.12 A former student of the University who is applying to register again as an External student under the provisions of paragraphs 2.10 or 2.11 will be required to satisfy the entrance requirements for the programme of study for which he or she is applying and the conditions given in paragraph 2.7.

3. Application, entrance requirements and exemptions

Application

3.1 In order to be considered for registration as an External student, applicants are required to submit an application in accordance with the procedures and deadlines given in the relevant prospectus.

Entrance requirements

3.2 To be eligible to register as an External student for a programme of study leading to an award at Masters Level, an applicant must satisfy in full the entrance requirements specified in paragraph 4 of the relevant Programme Regulations.

3.3 The University reserves the right to request applicants to provide evidence acceptable to the University of oral and written competence in English before an offer of registration can be made.

Exemptions

3.4 At the discretion of the University, students who satisfy the relevant entrance requirements to register for a programme of study and are appropriately qualified may apply for exemption from specified subjects. Applications will be considered on the basis of studies successfully completed at a level considered by the University to be appropriate.

3.5 Where permitted in paragraph 4 of the Programme Regulations students can be considered for exemption from up to **one third** of the programme concerned. Exemption can be granted from core and optional subjects, but cannot be granted from the dissertation, project or final examination (as appropriate) of the programme.

3.6 No exemption will be granted unless the student has made an application in accordance with the University's procedures and deadlines.

3.7 Applications for exemption cannot be considered after a student has made entry to the examination for the subject concerned. Students who have failed an examination may not, at a later stage, apply for exemption from that examination.

3.8 A fee is payable for all applications for exemption (see paragraph 11).

3.9 All exemptions are granted at the discretion of the University.

3.10 Exemptions are valid only for a limited time and as indicated in the offer of exemption. If a student does not enter an examination within this period, then the exemption will lapse and it will be necessary to make a fresh application.

3.11 Exemptions are valid only for the particular programme of study and subject for which they have been awarded. Exemptions will no longer be valid if the programme is withdrawn before the student registers. Students who transfer their registration to another programme may be required to submit a further application for exemption.

3.12 Students who are exempt from a specific subject are not required or permitted to offer the same, or equivalent, subject at a later stage.

4. Rules of progression

Progression within a programme of study

4.1 Students are required to comply with the rules of progression given in paragraph 3 of the Programme Regulations.

4.2 Students are not required to enter examinations every year nor to enter on the date they indicate at the time of registration, unless the Programme Regulations state otherwise.

Progression from a certificate or diploma to a related award

4.3 There is no automatic progression between certificates, diplomas and degrees. Satisfactory completion of a certificate or diploma does not in itself guarantee entry to a related diploma or degree. In order to proceed to a related award, a student registered for a certificate or diploma must normally successfully complete all the prescribed certificate/diploma subjects at the required level and receive a recommendation from the Examiners that he or she may proceed.

4.4 A student who progresses from a certificate or diploma to a related award will be credited the same or equivalent subjects passed. Any restriction on the use of credited subjects is given in the Programme Regulations.

4.5 The attempts at any failed subjects which are common to the diploma or degree to which the student progresses will be carried forward and will count towards the number of attempts permitted at those subjects.

Progression from a short course

4.6 Successful completion by formal assessment of a short course or courses may be taken into account for admission to a related or unrelated certificate, diploma or degree (with the exception of the LLM degree under the Old Regulations).

4.7 Successful completion by formal assessment of a short course or courses may be taken into account for credit towards a certificate, diploma or degree, provided that the application is made within **three** years of the completion of the relevant course or courses.

4.8 Successful completion of a short course or courses does not in itself automatically satisfy entry requirements for any certificate, diploma or degree or ensure credit.

4.9 A student who does not successfully complete the formal assessment for a short course will be permitted to proceed to a certificate, diploma or degree **provided** he or she satisfies the entrance requirements for the certificate, diploma or degree concerned.

4.10 All applications for progression from a short course to a certificate, diploma or degree will be considered on an individual basis and permission to progress, and, where appropriate, to receive credit, will be at the discretion of the University.

5. Period of registration

5.1 The minimum and maximum periods of registration are described in paragraph 5 of the individual Programme Regulations. No reduction in the prescribed minimum period of registration will be permitted, except within the parameters given in paragraph 5.2 and at the discretion of the University.

5.2 Postgraduate Certificates may not be completed in less than **six months**. Master's degrees and Postgraduate Diplomas may not be completed in less than **one year**.

5.3 Where permitted in paragraph 5 of the Programme Regulations, application for a renewal of registration for a further period may be made by students who have not completed all the requirements of the programme for which they are registered within the maximum period of registration. The University will take into account the progress made by the student during registration. A fee will be payable if renewal is granted.

5.4 Where permitted in paragraph 5 of the Programme Regulations, an application for an extension of registration of **one** year beyond the prescribed maximum period may be made by students who have not completed all the requirements of the award for which they are registered. A fee may be payable.

5.5 Renewal of registration and extension of registration are approved only at the discretion of the University and will be subject to the Regulations in force at the time of renewal or extension.

5.6 Students who are permitted to proceed from a certificate or diploma to a related diploma or degree (see paragraph 4) will have the maximum period of registration for the related award counted from the effective date of initial registration for the certificate or diploma for which they were initially registered.

5.7 Students who are permitted to proceed from a short course to a certificate, diploma or degree will be given a new period of registration as an External student, effective from the date of registration for the certificate, diploma or degree concerned. The maximum period of registration permitted will be the same as for all other students registered for the same programme, as indicated in paragraph 5 of the relevant Programme Regulations.

5.8 The University reserves the right to apply *The Disciplinary Procedure* and the *Suspension and Termination of Registration of Students in Debt* process as described in the University of London Ordinances (Ordinances 26 and 28 respectively).

6. Transfer

Transfer of External students to different programmes at Masters Level, and within the same programme

6.1 Unless otherwise prohibited by the Programme Regulations concerned, an External student registered for a programme of study at Masters Level who wishes to change to another programme at one of those Levels may apply to transfer his or her registration. The student will be required to satisfy the regulations and entrance requirements for the programme to which he or she wishes to transfer.

6.2 A student registered for a programme of study with more than one 'scheme' or 'route' may apply to transfer between those schemes or routes.

6.3 The rules in paragraphs 6.4 to 6.9 apply both to students transferring between different programmes of study and to students transferring within the same programme. Further rules are given in the relevant Programme Regulations.

6.4 All applications to transfer will be considered on an individual basis, and permission to transfer will be at the discretion of the University and subject to the Programme Regulations concerned. Students may be required to cancel their registration and register afresh.

6.5 Any additional fees payable (see also paragraph 11.5) and any period of transferred registration granted shall be at the discretion of the University. Any refund of fees already paid will be subject to the conditions in paragraph 11.

6.6 An application to transfer which is submitted after a student has made entry to any examination will **not** be considered until after the result of that examination has been published. The result of that examination will then be taken into account by the University in instances when permission to transfer is dependent on the student's examination record and/or where the student is applying to transfer between the routes or schemes of the same programme of study.

6.7 In certain circumstances, students who transfer may receive credit for subjects already passed. Details of such credit arrangements are given in the Programme Regulations.

6.8 Students who receive credit for subjects passed will not be permitted to re-enter the examination for those subjects. The marks obtained at the examinations at which the subjects were passed will contribute towards the student's award, in accordance with the criteria for awards given in the respective Programme Regulations.

6.9 Students who are not permitted to transfer to a particular programme but who wish to register for that programme must cancel their registration for the other award and apply to register afresh, subject to satisfying the requirements of paragraph 4 of the Programme Regulations. Students who are permitted to register afresh in this way:

- will **not** be permitted to carry credit for any subjects previously passed either to the programme concerned, or, in the event of a subsequent transfer, to another programme **and**
- will **not** be permitted to carry any failed attempts at subjects from their previous registration.

Transfer of External students to a programme at Certificate, Intermediate or Honours Level

6.10 Students registered for a programme of study at Masters Level (see paragraph 2.1) are not permitted to transfer their registration to a programme at Certificate, Intermediate or Honours level. Students will instead be required to cancel their existing registration and to submit a fresh application for registration and comply with the Regulations for the programme concerned.

Registration and credit transfer of College-based students

6.11 A student in attendance at a College or Institute of the University of London may apply to complete their studies for the same award as an External student and may be considered for credit and/or exemption for subjects previously passed. All applications for credit and/or exemption will be considered on an individual basis and at the discretion of the University.

6.12 Students who receive credit for subjects passed will not be permitted to re-enter the examination for that subject. The mark obtained at the examination at which the subject was passed will contribute towards the student's award, in accordance with the criteria for awards given in the respective Programme Regulations.

6.13 The rules concerning exemptions are given in paragraph 3.

7. Assessment

7.1 Students are required to satisfy the assessment requirements for the subject(s) taken and may not make more than the number of attempts permitted in paragraph 8.

7.2 An examination is governed by the Regulations in force at the time of the examination and not at the time that a student was initially registered or first attempted the examination concerned (but see also paragraph 1.8).

7.3 In order to sit an examination, a student must:

- have completed the relevant application and registration/enrolment procedures with the University by the appropriate deadlines and be registered as an External student for the programme concerned **and**

- have made an examination entry in accordance with both the University's and the appropriate examination centre/Overseas Examination Centre's instructions and deadlines.

7.4 Except in the circumstances of paragraph 7.5, all examinations by written paper, wherever held, will take place on the same date and at the same time. The University reserves the right to set different papers in the same subject in separate countries and in different time zones.

7.5 In the event of any unavoidable delay in the arrangement of examinations in a country other than the United Kingdom, the Overseas Examination Centre will arrange for the relevant papers to be taken with as little deviation as possible from the original dates and times assigned to them. Students are required to abide by any such revised arrangements. The University reserves the right not to mark a paper taken at a different time from that prescribed.

7.6 Where it is deemed necessary, Examiners may change the format or rubric of a written paper, from that of a previous year, without prior notice to students.

7.7 Except where the syllabus/course outline or rubric for a written paper for a particular subject indicates otherwise, all answers to examinations must be written in English.

Examination centres

7.8 Examinations by written paper are held at established examination centres worldwide.

7.9 Outside the United Kingdom and Republic of Ireland, examinations are conducted by independent bodies known as Overseas Examination Centres.

7.10 In countries where an established Overseas Examination Centre exists, students must use the facilities provided by that Centre. The University will not establish an alternative centre in those countries.

7.11 All examinations are held at the discretion of the examination centre/Overseas Examination Centre and are subject to any conditions they may impose.

7.12 Students are required to apply to the relevant examination centre/Overseas Examination Centre for permission to sit an examination. The University can accept no responsibility for making examination arrangements on behalf of a student. It is entirely at the discretion of the examination centre or Overseas Examination Centre to accept or refuse an entry to an examination.

7.13 A fee is normally levied by all examination centres (other than London) and Overseas Examination Centre. This fee is payable by students each time they make an examination entry. The University cannot be responsible for this fee nor can it influence the level of fee charged.

8. Number of attempts permitted

8.1 A student who fails to satisfy the Examiners in an examination, and who has not yet satisfied the conditions for the Board of Examiners to determine his or her final result, will be permitted or required to make **one** further attempt at that examination. The maximum number of attempts permitted at any examination is **two**.

8.2 A student who enters an examination hall to attempt a written paper will be considered to have made an examination attempt. Unless otherwise stated in the Programme Regulations, absence from an examination will not count as an attempt.

8.3 The mark or grade awarded for a second attempt at an examination will supersede any previously awarded mark or grade for that examination, unless the Programme Regulations state otherwise.

8.4 If a student fails to satisfy the Examiners at a second attempt at any examination his or her registration will cease unless the Programme Regulations permit the student to proceed as the requirements for that award may still be satisfied, in which case the mark or grade obtained on the latest occasion may be carried forward and may count towards the final award.

8.5 Except as otherwise provided for by the University, students may not make a further attempt at any subject already passed or for which credit has been awarded.

9. Students with a disability and/or special needs

9.1 The University has a policy for External students with a disability and/or special needs and a statement explaining this policy is given on the External System web site.

9.2 As part of its policy, the University will make every reasonable effort to accommodate the requirements of a student with a disability and/or special needs by, wherever possible, providing any study materials in a different format (e.g. large print) or another medium, and/or by making special examination arrangements. If the University is unable to provide the study materials in the format which has been requested, the University will endeavour to make an alternative suggestion.

Special examination arrangements

9.3 The University has a Panel which considers special examination arrangements for students with a disability and/or special needs. The aim of the Panel is to make sure that a student with a disability and/or special needs is neither disadvantaged nor advantaged when compared to other students. The University cannot guarantee that special examination arrangements will be possible in every case.

9.4 Applications from students with a disability and/or special needs may be considered for the use of special aids or for extra time in the examinations.

9.5 Special arrangements for examinations at an *ad hoc* centre may be made in very exceptional circumstances and then only in the United Kingdom. Arrangements **cannot** be made for oral or practical examinations to be held at an *ad hoc* centre, although in exceptional cases it may be possible to permit the use of special aids. Arrangements for examinations in a student's home are **not** made. Additional fees may be payable for arrangements at an *ad hoc* centre.

9.6 A student who finds handwriting difficult due to medical or learning difficulties must apply to the University for special arrangements to be made. The University will not transcribe illegible scripts. Any script deemed illegible by the Board of Examiners will be assigned a mark of zero and a fail result will be given. This will count as an attempt at the examination.

10. Conduct of examinations

10.1 All students sitting examinations are required to comply with the rules governing the conduct of examinations given below and in the Notice to Candidates accompanying the Admissions Notice.

Representations about examinations

10.2 Students who wish the Board of Examiners to know of any illness or other adequate cause which they think may have affected their performance must **immediately** inform the Examinations Office and furnish a supporting medical certificate or other supporting certification obtained at the time of illness. Notification received more than **three weeks** after the date of the last examination will **not** be taken into account by the Examiners.

10.3 Appeals against the results of examinations **may not be made** on academic grounds. The University will consider representations concerning examination results made on the grounds of administrative error or where there is concern that the examination may not have been conducted in accordance with the relevant Instructions and/or Regulations. An administration fee (currently £50 per paper) is payable for the consideration of such representations (refundable in the event that an error is found). Any representation must be made within **one month** of the publication of the decision of the Board of Examiners to which it relates and should be addressed to the Head of Special Examination Services and be accompanied by payment of the administration fee. Representations must state the grounds on which the appeal is made and provide evidence to support it. Further information on the procedure may be obtained from the Head of Special Examination Services.

Permitted materials

10.4 A student may use in the examination only such books, notes, statutes, statistical tables, instruments, or other materials as are specifically permitted in the **Admission Notice/timetable**. No other books, notes, instruments, or other materials or aids whatsoever may be introduced into an examination room or be handled or consulted during an examination. Any such materials or aids in the possession of a student on entry to the examination room must be deposited immediately with the Invigilator before the examination starts. It is an examination offence to introduce unauthorised materials into the examination room.

10.5 The use of calculators in the examinations is strictly controlled. Students may use their own electronic calculators in the examinations provided that:

- a) the Programme Regulations permit this
- b) the calculator complies with the specification given in paragraph 10.6
- c) where no such permission is given in the Programme Regulations, calculators may **not** be used.

10.6 Where calculators are permitted, the following specification will apply, unless the Programme Regulations state otherwise:

- Non-programmable. The use of a calculator or other electronic device that communicates, stores textual or numerical information, or displays textual (except error) messages, graphical or algebraic information is strictly forbidden. The use of a calculator with alphabet and/or symbol keys not listed below is strictly forbidden.
- PDAs, mobile phones or other devices are forbidden
- Hand held
- Compact

- Portable
- Solar and/or battery powered
- Quiet in operation
- The use of calculators with the following symbols and functions **only** are permitted:
 - Digit keys 0 to 9 and decimal point;
 - Keys for basic arithmetical functions of addition, subtraction, multiplication, division and equals;
 - Percentage key;
 - Square root key;
 - Basic 3 key memory (MRC, M-, M+);
 - Clear keys (C, AC);
 - On/off key.

10.7 The use of any calculator other than the type specified in the paragraph 10.6 of the General Regulations, or in paragraph 6 of the Programme Regulations, will constitute an examination offence and will be subject to the provisions in paragraph 10.16 of these regulations. Students are responsible for ensuring that their calculators are in working order for the examination. Students must ensure that they have alternative means of calculation in the event of the calculator failing during the examination, either through the use of a second calculator, which complies with the specification given in the Programme Regulations, or to continue the examination without the use of a calculator. If students use electronic calculators in examinations they must indicate on their examination scripts the name and type of machine used. Calculators will **not** be provided by the University.

Examination offences

10.8 It is an examination offence to introduce into, or use in the examination room, unauthorised materials or aids. Any unauthorised materials or aids brought into an examination room and not deposited with the Invigilator (see paragraph 10.4) must be surrendered to the Invigilator on request. Any materials or aids so surrendered may be handed over by the Invigilator to the University which may make copies of them. The original materials or aids (together with all such copies) may be retained by the University at its absolute discretion.

10.9 Students must not pass any information from one to another during an examination of a written paper. A student may not act in collusion with another student or any other person, nor copy from another student, nor engage in any similar activity. Any of these activities constitutes an examination offence.

10.10 Plagiarism is the presentation of another person's thoughts or words as if they were the student's own: for example, copying from text books and other sources (including the Internet) without due acknowledgement that the passages quoted are copied and without giving the source of those passages (see paragraph 10.12). Plagiarism is an examination offence.

10.11 All work submitted as part of the requirements for any examination must therefore be expressed in the student's own words and incorporate his or her own ideas and judgements.

10.12 Direct quotations from the published or unpublished work of another person must always be clearly identified as such and a full reference to the source must be provided in the proper form. A series of short quotations from several different sources, if not clearly identified as such, constitutes plagiarism in the same way as an unacknowledged quotation from a single source. Equally, if another person's ideas or judgements are summarised, the student must refer to that person in the text, and give details of the work to which reference is made.

Further instructions on acknowledging other people's work and the extent to which other sources may be quoted is given in student handbooks/manuals.

10.13 It is an examination offence to submit work which has been written jointly by two or more persons, unless expressly permitted in the relevant Programme Regulations.

10.14 Assignments, essays, projects, reports, dissertations and other similar work must therefore be the student's own work and must be written without the assistance of other people, except where expressly permitted in the Programme Regulations. Students will be required to submit a signed declaration for all such work submitted, stating that they understand what is meant by plagiarism, and confirming that the work submitted is entirely their own and that the use of published or unpublished works of other people has been acknowledged in accordance with the University's requirements.

10.15 It is the responsibility of the student to safeguard his or her assignments, essays, projects, reports, dissertations and other similar work and to prevent them from being copied by other students.

10.16 The examination offences listed in the foregoing paragraphs will be treated as cheating or irregularities of a similar character under the provisions of the Regulations for Proceedings in respect of Examination Offences by Candidates for University Awards, except as otherwise provided for in the relevant Programme Regulations. Under the Regulations for Proceedings in respect of Examination Offences by Candidates for University Awards students found to have committed an offence may have the results of their examinations withheld, and may be excluded from all future examinations of the University. A copy of these Regulations may be obtained from the Head of Student Assessment.

Other matters

10.17 The University reserves the right to require students sitting an examination for a written paper to remain within the examination hall or its precincts for the duration of the relevant paper.

10.18 All examination scripts are the property of the University and will not be returned to students. Answers to assignments, essays, course projects and other similar work written in the student's own time will only be returned to the student as described in the relevant Programme Regulations. Final reports on research projects or dissertations will not be returned to students, unless indicated otherwise in the Programme Regulations.

10.19 All question papers will be retained by the University.

11. Fees

11.1 Students are required to pay the fees that are due in any particular year in full at the time when they fall due. Fees must be paid in accordance with the University's procedures and deadlines given in the prospectus and Student handbook/manual or equivalent publication (as applicable).

11.2 The University reserves the right to amend previously announced fees. The University also reserves the right to make additional charges (see paragraph 8 of the Programme Regulations).

11.3 Students who are permitted to proceed from a certificate or diploma to a related diploma or degree (see paragraph 4) will be required to pay the fees indicated in paragraph 8 of the Programme Regulations.

11.4 Students who are permitted to proceed from a short course to a certificate, diploma or degree (see paragraph 3) will be required to pay the registration fee for the relevant programme of study and the fee for the remaining subjects, unless indicated otherwise in the Programme Regulations.

11.5 Students who are permitted to transfer their registration to another programme of study (see paragraph 6) shall be required to pay the relevant fees, for the programme concerned, in order to do so. Any additional fee payable shall be at the discretion of the University. Any refund of fees already paid will be subject to the conditions in paragraphs 11.8 and 11.9.

11.6 Students who cancel their registration for one programme of study and register afresh for another programme of study (see paragraph 6.2) will be required to pay the relevant fees, for the programme concerned, in order to do so. Any refund of fees already paid will be subject to the conditions in paragraphs 11.8 and 11.9.

11.7 Students who are permitted to renew their registration at the expiry of the initial period of registration (see paragraph 6) will, as applicable, be required to pay a further full registration fee. Students who are permitted to renew their registration for a programme of study which is being phased out will be required to pay a proportion of the full registration fee (as applicable), the amount depending on the number of years remaining before the last examination for the programme concerned. In addition to the registration fee, **all** students will be required to pay the appropriate subject fees, under the Regulations in force at that time.

Refunds

11.8 Fees will only be refunded in exceptional circumstances and at the discretion of the University (but see also paragraphs 11.9 and 11.10). All refunds will be subject to an administrative charge determined by the University. Any further information is given in paragraph 8 of the Programme Regulations.

11.9 Exemption application fees are **not** refundable.

11.10 Examination entry fees where applicable are **not** refundable nor can they be transferred from one examination to a later one. A student is liable for the full fee at any subsequent entry, in accordance with the Regulations then in force.



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