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A General Undergraduate Degree Regulations

Compliance

1. These regulations apply to all categories of undergraduate study at the University of Edinburgh, except for those qualified by a Senatus approved Memorandum of Agreement or Understanding for joint or collaborative awards. Every undergraduate student must comply with these regulations. In exceptional circumstances a concession to allow relaxation of a specific regulation may be granted by the appropriate Head of College (or delegated nominee). Where the Head of College does not have authority to award a particular concession then the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee may award the concession.
2. Where the Head of College has the authority to grant permissions and concessions, this authority may be delegated to appropriate nominees in the College or Schools. Students must consult their Student Support Team or Student Adviser as to the appropriate point of contact, and must not approach the Head of College directly.
3. Students must comply with any requirements specific to their degree programme as set out in the Degree Programme Tables, the relevant College Regulations specified in sections B, C and D below and the University's Taught Assessment Regulations for the current academic session: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations
4. Where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements, the relevant College Committee must be satisfied at all times that in respect of health, conduct and any other matters which the Committee may reasonably deem relevant, whether such matters relate to the student's University programme or are unrelated to it, the student will not constitute a risk to the public, vulnerable children or adults or to patients and is a suitable person to become a registered member of the relevant professional body. Students are subject to the Fitness to Practise regulations both while actively studying and while on an interruption of study. Any student who fails to satisfy the relevant College Committee, irrespective of their performance in assessment, will be reported to the Head of College who has power to recommend exclusion from further studies and assessments or Professional Examinations, or to recommend the award of the degree be withheld, or other penalty set out in College procedures. An appeal against this decision may be submitted to the Student Fitness to Practise Appeal Committee.
 - See the Student Appeal Regulations at: www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studentappealregulations.pdf.
 - [See section 63 below for the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Fitness to Practice Procedure.](#)
 - [See section 71 below for the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Fitness to Practice Procedure.](#)

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5. The University considers that certain types of criminal offences may constitute a breach of the Code of Student Conduct and/or a degree programme's Fitness to Practise requirements. Accordingly, students must inform the Student Conduct Team if they have:

- a relevant pending charge or relevant unspent criminal conviction on matriculating at the University (students must provide this information no later than one week after matriculation); or
- been charged or convicted of a relevant criminal offence since matriculating at the University (students must provide this information no later than one week after the date of the charge or conviction).

Information about offences considered relevant and which should therefore be reported under this regulation is provided on the University website, and may be updated on occasion: www.ed.ac.uk/academic-services/students/conduct/criminalconvictions

Where a student discloses a relevant charge or conviction, the Student Conduct Team will refer the case to the Deputy Secretary, Student Experience (or delegated authority), who will decide whether to:

- take no further action; or
- refer the matter for investigation under the Code of Student Conduct; or
- (where a student's degree programme is subject to Fitness to Practise requirements) refer the matter for consideration under the relevant College's Fitness to Practice procedures.

Alternatively, action may be taken under both the Code of Student Conduct and relevant Fitness to Practise procedures, where the Deputy Secretary (or delegated authority) and the relevant College consider this appropriate.

6. The University awards the following types of undergraduate degrees, diplomas and certificates. The University's undergraduate awards and degree programmes are consistent with the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/), unless an exemption has been approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. The credit levels required for each programme are specified within the appropriate Degree Programme Table (DPT).

I	Undergraduate Certificate of Higher Education	At least 120 credits of which a minimum of 90 are at level 7 or higher.
li	Undergraduate Diploma of Higher Education	At least 240 credits of which a minimum of 90 are at level 8 or higher
A.	Single Honours (in a named subject/discipline)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.
B.	Single Honours (with a subsidiary subject)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.

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C. Combined Honours (in two disciplines)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.
D. Group Honours (more than two disciplines)	At least 480 credits of which a minimum of 180 is at levels 9 and 10, including at least 90 at level 10.
E. Non-Honours Degrees	At least 360 credits of which a minimum of 60 is at level 9.
F. General and Ordinary	At least 360 credits of which a minimum of 60 is at level 9.
G. Intercalated Honours Degrees	See appropriate Degree Programme Table
H. Integrated Masters with Honours (in named subject/discipline)	At least 600 credits of which a minimum of 120 is at level 11.
Integrated Masters (with a subsidiary subject)	At least 600 credits of which a minimum of 120 is at level 11.
Integrated Masters (with combined honours in two disciplines)	At least 600 credits of which a minimum of 120 is at level 11.
I. MBChB (5 year programme)	720 credits
MBChB (6 year programme)	780 credits
J. BVM&S Graduate Entry Programme	560 credits
BVM&S 5 Year Programme	640 credits

7. Every student must comply with the detailed requirements of the curriculum for the degree as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table, the programme handbook, the course handbook, the order in which courses are attended and the assessment for the programme, which are published in the University Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study. In exceptional cases, the Head of College may approve a concession allowing a student to substitute a course marked as compulsory in the relevant Degree Programme Table with another course (or courses) with the same credit volume and SCQF level.

8. When selecting courses, students must comply with the pre-requisite, co-requisite and prohibited combination requirements for the degree programme, unless a concession is approved by the relevant Head of College.

9. Students should commence their degree programme at the start of the academic year, and should commence the courses that they are enrolled on at the start of semester in which the courses are taught. No student may commence any year of their degree programme more than two weeks after the start of the relevant academic year without the permission of the Head of College. No student will be enrolled on a course more than two weeks after the start of semester in which the course is taught without the permission of the Head of College. Where a student withdraws from a course more than six weeks after the start of the relevant semester, the course enrolment remains on the student's record. Students in Honours years are not permitted to withdraw from a course marked as optional on the Degree Programme Table more than six weeks after the start of the relevant semester in order to substitute the course with another optional course in a subsequent semester, unless the relevant Board of Examiners has awarded a null sit for the course

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under the Special Circumstances procedure, and the requirement above to enrol on the course within the first two weeks of the relevant semester can be met.

Mode of Study

10. Programmes are offered on a full-time or part-time basis. Students' mode of study is defined when they are admitted to the degree programme.

11. Only in exceptional circumstances, and with the permission of the Head of College, is a student allowed to change mode of study. For academic reasons, the University may require a student to change their mode of study.

Study Period

12. A student must complete the requirements of the degree programme within the period of study specified in the Degree Programme Table, unless given a concession with the approval of the Head of College.

13. The maximum period for completion of an Ordinary or General degree programme is 8 years. The maximum period for completion of an MBChB or Honours degree programme is 10 years. This maximum period includes any concessions and any authorised interruptions of study.

14. With the annual permission of the Head of College, a student may take longer than the study period specified in the Degree Programme Table to undertake an Ordinary, General or Honours degree programme, provided that a minimum of 40 credit points are undertaken in each year of study.

15. Where a student needs to meet specific progression requirements, the Head of College may approve a student taking fewer than 40 credit points.

16. Certain elements of a degree programme may require full-time attendance. Students given permission to undertake study over an extended period must comply with any requirements specified for a particular degree programme.

17. For the award of a University of Edinburgh degree a student must study University of Edinburgh courses for a minimum period of two years and obtain 240 credits or the pro-rata equivalent in the case of part-time study (for part-time study, the period of study will be longer but the same minimum credit levels must be achieved). This regulation does not apply to intercalating medicine and veterinary medicine students. In exceptional circumstances, the Head of College may approve a concession to allow the award of a University of Edinburgh degree to a student who has studied University of Edinburgh courses for a minimum of one year (obtaining 120 credits or the pro-rata in the case of part-time study). This may include students studying at the University of Edinburgh on 2+2 arrangements, or students entering the University directly into year 3 of study.

18. A student studying for an Honours degree is not allowed to substitute study at another institution for the final year of their Honours programme.

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19. A student may apply for an authorised interruption of study and it may be authorised by the Head of College if there is good reason for approving the interruption. Students may be required to provide evidence to support their applications. Interruptions of study will not be applied retrospectively. Any one period of authorised interruption of study will not exceed one academic year, unless authorised by the Head of College. The total period of authorised interruption of study is the same for full-time and part-time students and will not exceed 100% of the prescribed period of full-time study.

20. Study undertaken at another institution during a period of authorised interruption of study will not be credited to a student's programme of study at the University of Edinburgh.

21. Students registered for the 5-year MBChB programme or the BVM&S may elect to take an intercalated Honours year, or undertake a postgraduate degree programme during their period of enrolment. This is not categorised as interruption of study.

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)

22. RPL can only be recognised at the point of admission to the University. The Head of College has the power to recognise the transfer of a student's credit previously gained either at the University or another institution and to count it towards their intended award. Before approval is granted the College must be satisfied that the learning to be recognised and transferred provides an adequate basis for the programme or courses as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table. The Head of College can recognise the transfer of up to 240 credits of prior learning and on this basis to admit a student to the second or later years of a programme of study. This limit does not apply where students are transferring between programmes within the University, in line with regulation 48. University of Edinburgh courses which have a substantial curriculum overlap with any of the courses that contributed to a student's admission on the basis of RPL will not count towards the student's degree programme.

23. The University can also consider prior learning for admissions purposes. [University RPL policy for admissions](#).

Attendance and Participation

24. Students must attend and participate as required in all aspects of their programme of study. This includes being available for teaching sessions, assessment, examination and meeting with their allocated Student Adviser face to face and electronically. Except when registered on a designated online or distance learning programme, or where remote participation is specifically stated, students are expected to attend and participate in person. The Degree Programme Table and programme handbook sets out programme requirements for engagement. Certain students' visa requirements may require the University to monitor attendance and engagement in specific ways.

25. It is a student's responsibility to provide a current postal contact address and to ensure that any legal requirements, including those imposed by their funding or grant authority, are met. All students are required to check their MyEd and University email account frequently for communications from the University and respond where appropriate.

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University policy on contacting students by email:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/contacting_students_by_email.pdf

26. Leave of absence is required where students undertake compulsory and optional activities related to, or as part of, the programme of study away from campus in Edinburgh. Students must have the formal approval of the College for any leave of absence to study away from Edinburgh that is 30 calendar days' duration or longer. Study location changes of less than 30 calendar days must be agreed with the Supervisor or Student Adviser. Where the activity is a compulsory part of the programme of study and is organised by the School or College, permission may be given by the College for a cohort of students without individual applications being made. Colleges and Schools must maintain records of all leaves of absence. Certain students' visa conditions may be affected by study away from Edinburgh. This regulation does not apply to students on a recognised distance learning programme.

Optional Study Abroad

27. Students may be eligible to undertake Optional Study Abroad as part of their undergraduate degree programme, providing they meet the selection criteria. Periods of Optional Study Abroad must only be undertaken at a higher education institution with which the University of Edinburgh has a formal exchange agreement. Students are not permitted to arrange their own opportunities to study at another higher education institution. Periods of Optional Study Abroad may be for one academic year, or one semester depending on the exchanges offered in each discipline.

28. Students must have achieved 240 credits before participating in Optional Study Abroad in year 3. All year 2 courses must be passed at the first attempt; resits during the summer diet are not permitted. Students must have achieved 360 credits before participating in Optional Study Abroad in year 4 of a 5 year programme.

29. Students undertaking Optional Study Abroad are required to complete a Learning Agreement in consultation with their School Exchange Coordinator prior to departure. Learning Agreements must be agreed and signed by the student, their School Exchange Coordinator, and the partner university. In the case of joint degree programmes, the Learning Agreement must be approved by both Schools, but the School which owns the programme is ultimately responsible for the Learning Agreement. If any amendments are required to the Learning Agreement at any time, including on arrival at the partner university, students must agree these changes with the School Exchange Coordinator. The Exchange Coordinator is responsible for confirming that the amended Learning Agreement corresponds appropriately with the University of Edinburgh degree curriculum for the relevant year of study.

30. Students who undertake Optional Study Abroad must undertake the equivalent volume of credits and level of courses at the partner university to that which they would study if they were remaining in Edinburgh. Credit achieved at a partner university is converted to University of Edinburgh credit, and counts towards the total credit required for the award of an Edinburgh degree. Individual marks/grades achieved at a partner university are not converted to University of Edinburgh marks/grades.

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- Students studying abroad for one semester must enrol in the equivalent of 60 University of Edinburgh credits;
- Students studying abroad for an academic year must enrol in the equivalent of 120 University of Edinburgh credits.
- For students studying at European institutions, 60 Edinburgh credits are equivalent to 30 ECTS (European Credit Transfer System) credits and 120 Edinburgh credits are equivalent to 60 ECTS.
- For students studying at non-European institutions, the credit load and level required to be undertaken at the chosen partner university will be as approved Colleges, in consultation with Edinburgh Global.

31. Students who attempt but do not achieve the required credit at the partner university may be eligible for the award of Credit on Aggregate (CA). CA can only be awarded when the student has enrolled in and attempted assessment for the equivalent to a full University of Edinburgh credit load at an appropriate level, and in accordance with the regulations and guidance available in the Taught Assessment Regulations for awarding credit on aggregate. Progression decisions for students returning from Optional Study Abroad are the responsibility of the appropriate College Study Abroad Progression Board. Terms of Reference for the College Study Abroad Progression Boards are available here:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/studyabroadcollegeboards-termsofreference.pdf

32. In cases where assessment is optional at a partner university, students are required to undertake assessment. Credit awarded on a “pass/fail” basis will only be accepted in exceptional circumstances or where the partner institution confirms there is no alternative, and with advance approval of the appropriate College.

Withdrawal and Exclusion

33. Any student may withdraw permanently from their programme of study at any point in the year. Students may be excluded for reasons outlined within the procedure for Withdrawal and Exclusion from Studies:

www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal_exclusion_from_study.pdf

Progression and Permissible Credit Loads

34. To gain a specific degree award, students must achieve the Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) credit point and level requirements of the particular programme, as set out in the appropriate Degree Programme Table.

35. Full-time undergraduate study comprises 120 credit points in each year of study. Part-time study is defined on a pro-rata basis in the relevant Degree Programme Table.

36. Students must attain the credits and other requirements for each stage of study, as outlined in the relevant Degree Programme Table and Programme Handbook. In addition, students must meet any other requirements set out in their Programme and/or Course Handbook.

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37. Any student who has not attained the full volume of credit points for their year of programme by the end of the relevant session (e.g. 120 credits for full-time students) may be required to take resit exams, supplementary or alternative assessments, or additional courses to make good the deficit.
38. In order to progress to the next year of programme, a student must attain the following minimum number of credits:
- 80 credit points by the end of Year 1 of programme;
 - 200 credit points by the end of Year 2 of programme;
 - 360 credit points by the end of Year 3 of programme;
 - 480 credit points by the end of Year 4 of programme;
 - 600 credit points by the end of Year 5 of programme for Integrated Masters
39. Where a programme requires students to attain more than the minimum number of credits in order to progress, this will be specified in the relevant Degree Programme Table and Programme Handbook.
40. Where students are allowed to progress with a credit deficit, they will be required to obtain the missing credits in order to qualify for the relevant award.
41. Students who do not attain sufficient credits to progress within the specified period may be excluded for unsatisfactory academic progress. The College will follow the procedure for Withdrawal and Exclusion from Studies:
www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/withdrawal_exclusion_from_study.pdf
42. The College may offer students who are unable to progress due to a credit deficit the opportunity to return to study the following year in order to seek to address this deficit. Such a return to study without progression may be offered on a full-time, part-time, or assessment-only basis.
43. In pre-Honours years, a student may be allowed to take up to 40 credits of additional Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) level 7 and 8 courses (in addition to the normal 120 credits), subject to the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. student's Student Adviser).
44. Exceptionally, students in their honours years, with College approval, may take up to 40 credits of additional Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) level 7 or 8 credit and, more rarely, up to 10 credits at levels 9-11 in the Honours years.
45. Students may attend courses on a class-only basis (i.e. not for credit), with the agreement of the Course Organiser and the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. Student Adviser). Decisions will be based on the overall load (credit and non-credit bearing) on the student, which must not exceed 160 credits.

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46. A student who has previously submitted work for one course at the University must not submit the same work to attempt to achieve academic credit at the University through another course.

47. Students registered on a programme of study at this University may not undertake any other concurrent credit bearing studies in this (or in any other) institution, unless the College has granted permission. The College must be satisfied that any additional credit-bearing studies will not restrict the student's ability to complete their existing programme of study.

Transfer to Different Degree Programme

48. A student may be allowed to transfer to a different degree programme in the University by permission of the receiving College. The College may approve the transfer of some or all of the credits the student has attained for their previous programme into the new programme, as appropriate.

49. Unless granted a concession by the Head of the receiving College, students must comply with the pre-requisite and co-requisite requirements of the new programme shown in the Degree Programme Table.

Awards and Qualifications

50. In order to achieve the award of the Undergraduate Certificate of Higher Education students must have attained a minimum of 120 credit points (of which a minimum of 90 are at level 7 or higher) gained from passes in courses of this University which count towards graduation.

51. In order to achieve the award of the Undergraduate Diploma of Higher Education students must have attained a minimum of 240 credit points. At least 120 credit points must be gained from passes in courses of this University counting towards graduation and at least 90 of the 120 credit points gained from courses passed at this University must be in courses at level 8 or above.

52. The attainment requirements for students for General and Ordinary degrees are specified in the relevant College regulations below.

53. The attainment requirements for students for MBChB and BVM&S degrees and the BSc in Oral Health Sciences are specified in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine regulations below (Section C).

54. The award of Honours is based on the student's performance in assessment in the Honours year(s). For information on the award of Honours see the Taught Assessment Regulations for the current academic session: www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/academic-services/staff/assessment/assessment-regulations

55. A student who satisfies the examiners in the Honours assessment shall be awarded Honours in one of following classifications: First Class, Second Class Division I, Second Class Division II and Third Class.

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56. Students who have been assessed, classed or failed for Honours may not present themselves for re-assessment in the same programme, or assessment in a closely related programme. The Head of College determines whether a programme is closely related.
57. During a single period of continuous registration, a student may be awarded only the University qualification with the highest status for which they have attained the required credits.
58. A candidate who already holds a General or Ordinary degree may be permitted by the appropriate Head of College to apply for the degree with Honours, provided that not more than three years have elapsed between their first graduation and acceptance as a candidate for the subsequent degree with Honours. Such a candidate will normally be required to achieve a further 240 credit points, or credit points as deemed appropriate by the Head of the receiving College, at the levels stipulated in the appropriate Degree Programme Table. Candidates who have exited the University with a General or Ordinary degree due to failure to meet relevant requirements for an Honours degree are not eligible to apply for readmission on this basis.
59. In exceptional circumstances, notwithstanding any existing Resolutions to the contrary, the University may confer all existing Honours degrees with unclassified Honours if insufficient information is available to the relevant Board of Examiners to classify those degrees. Where a Board of Examiners has insufficient information to enable an unclassified Honours degree to be conferred on a candidate for Honours, a General or Ordinary degree may be awarded to that candidate where they are qualified for such a degree under the existing Regulations. Conferment of an unclassified Honours degree or General or Ordinary degree in these cases is an interim measure: final awards will be confirmed when sufficient information is available to the relevant Board of Examiners.
60. Senatus may authorise the conferment of posthumous degrees, diplomas and certificates if proposed by the College and approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. A posthumous award is conferred where the student has significantly completed the relevant year of study at the time of death.
61. In exceptional circumstances Senatus may authorise the conferment of aegrotat degrees, which are unclassified. Each such conferment requires a proposal from the College concerned to be approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee. An aegrotat degree is conferred only where the student was nearly qualified to receive the degree and was unable to complete it due to circumstances beyond their control. Before any proposal is referred to Senatus, the College must check that the student is willing to receive the degree aegrotat.

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B College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

62. These degree programme requirements relate to undergraduate programmes in the College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences. They are additional to, and should be read in conjunction with, the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above, which apply to all undergraduate programmes, unless otherwise stated.

63. The College Fitness to Practise policy is available at: <https://www.ed.ac.uk/arts-humanities-soc-sci/taught-students/student-conduct/fitness-to-practise>

General and Ordinary Degrees

64. BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences)

To qualify for the award of the degree of BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) students must have obtained 360 credit points from passes (or accreditation of prior learning) normally at the rate of 120 credit points per year.

The overall curriculum must include at least:

360 credit points, of which at least 240 credit points must be at SCQF level 8, 9 or 10. Courses at SCQF level 8, 9, or 10 must include:

- A minimum of 200 credit points from courses in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.
- A minimum of 140 credit points in a major subject of study in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (which may be part of the 200 credit points listed in the point above) comprising related and consecutive courses in this subject over three years of which 60 credit points must be at SCQF level 9 or 10.

In addition, there must be at least 40 credit points at SCQF levels 7-10 in each of a minimum of two other subjects of study.

Students have a free choice of the remaining credits at SCQF levels 7-10.

BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) in a designated discipline:

To qualify for the award of the BA (Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences) in a designated discipline students must have obtained 360 credit points (or accreditation of prior learning) normally at the rate of 120 credit points per year.

The overall curriculum must include at least:

360 credit points, of which at least 240 credit points must be at SCQF level 8, 9 or 10. Courses at SCQF level 8, 9, or 10 must include:

- A minimum of 200 credit points from courses in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences.

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- A minimum of 160 credit points in a major subject of study in Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences (which may be part of the 200 credits listed in the point above) comprising related and consecutive courses in this subject over three years of which 80 credit points must be at SCQF level 9 or 10.

In addition, there must be at least 40 credit points at SCQF levels 7-10 in each of a minimum of two other subjects of study.

Students have a free choice of the remaining credits at SCQF levels 7-10.

Merit and Distinction

65. General and Ordinary degrees may be awarded with Merit or Distinction.

For Merit a student must achieve grade B or above at first attempt, in courses totalling 180 credit points, of which at least 40 credits points must be at level 9 or 10, and at least 80 of the remaining credit points must be at level 8 or higher.

For Distinction, a student must achieve grade A at first attempt, in courses totalling at least 160 credit points, of which at least 40 credit points must be at level 9 or 10, and at least 80 of the remaining credit points must be at level 8 or higher.

66. The LLB Ordinary, Graduate Entry degree may be awarded with Merit or Distinction.

For Merit a student must achieve grade B or above at first attempt, in courses totalling 120 credit points.

For Distinction, a student must achieve grade A at first attempt, in courses totalling at least 100 credit points.

67. Students of the MA Fine Art with Honours degree will be awarded a Distinction in either Art or History of Art if their performance in the subject is of first class standard but their overall degree result is lower than first class. Students are eligible for distinction in History of Art or Art Practice.

Distinction in Oral Language

68. Students of the MA with Honours which includes an Honours oral examination in any one of the following languages will be awarded a Distinction in Oral Language if their performance at the oral examination is of first-class standard: Arabic, Chinese, Danish, French, Gaelic, German, Italian, Japanese, Norwegian, Persian, Portuguese, Russian, Spanish and Swedish.

Degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science with Honours

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69. The degree programme requirements of the Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science in Veterinary Science are in the College Undergraduate Degree Regulations of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine (Section C).

C College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

70. These degree programme requirements relate to undergraduate programmes in the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. They are additional to, and should be read in conjunction with, the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above, which apply to all undergraduate programmes, unless otherwise stated.

71. The College Fitness to Practise policy is available at <https://www.ed.ac.uk/medicine-vet-medicine/edinburgh-medical-school/medicine/the-student-experience/professionalism>

MBChB

Compliance

72. Students should refer to the Programme Handbook and Virtual Learning Environment for detailed curriculum and assessment information.

73. Students entering the first year of the MBChB programme are subject to a check, carried out by Disclosure Scotland, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups legislation. Admission to the medical profession is excepted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendments) Order 1986. Students on the MBChB programme are therefore not entitled to withhold information about any conviction on the grounds that it is, for other purposes, spent under the Act. Subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, failure to disclose a conviction may result in the withdrawal of an offer of admission or exclusion from a programme of studies.

74. Students are subject to blood borne virus checks as they are admitted to the MBChB programme. Students declining testing or found to be infected by a blood borne virus will be allowed to continue on their degree programme leading to full Medical Registration, provided that they formally accept the requirement they will not be allowed to perform Exposure Prone Procedures (EPPs), and recognise that careers in some specialties may not be open to them if their infection persists.

Attendance and Participation

75. Students on the MBChB programme are required to attend all teaching throughout the year. Students should consult Course Handbooks on the Virtual Learning Environment for detailed attendance and timetable information.

76. Students in the final three years of study are required to undertake placements in hospitals across the South East of Scotland.

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77. In exceptional circumstances students may be permitted to interrupt studies or repeat a year of study because of ill-health, service or sporting commitments, or an episode of academic failure. Only in highly exceptional circumstances will students be permitted more than two such years of interrupted progress, whether taken consecutively or at intervals throughout the programme. Exceptions are very unlikely to be considered in the case of prolonged or repeated academic failure. Students who wish to be considered for a further interruption or repeat year of study must apply to the Progression Review Committee. Approved study for an intercalated degree does not constitute interrupted progress.

Progression

78. MBChB students are only entitled to two assessment attempts for courses which are part of the MBChB programme. This regulation supersedes the resit assessment regulation within the Taught Assessment Regulations.

79. A student who fails the professional requirements (attendance, engagement, and conduct) of the programme may be required by the relevant Board of Examiners to undertake additional clinical attachments before being permitted to progress.

80. No student may proceed to the next year of study for the MBChB programme until they have passed all components of the previous year of the programme, unless the Board of Examiners or Progression Review Committee has exceptionally granted permission.

81. Students on the 6-year MBChB programme may omit Year 3 of the MBChB Programme if they enter with an approved BSc degree. In this situation students proceed directly from Year 2 to Year 4 of the 6-year MBChB Programme.

82. Students on the 6-year MBChB programme may be permitted to interrupt their studies during the honours year with medical evidence and proceed directly into Year 4 of the MBChB programme the following academic year with approval of the Progression Review Committee.

Awards

Passes with Distinction

83. MBChB Distinctions are awarded for outstanding performance over a whole year of the programme.

Honours at Graduation

84. The award of MBChB with Honours may be conferred upon students who have performed at an outstanding level in the Professional Examinations throughout the degree programme.

BVM&S

Compliance

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85. Students should refer to the appropriate Course Books for detailed curriculum and assessment information. Students should refer to the Animal Husbandry and Clinical Extramural Studies (EMS) Handbooks for all detailed EMS information and arrangements.

86. Students are subject to health clearance as they are admitted to the BVM&S programmes. Failure to comply with this regulation may result in exclusion from a programme of studies.

Attendance and Participation

87. In exceptional circumstances students may be permitted to interrupt studies or repeat a year of study because of ill-health, service or sporting commitments, or an episode of academic failure. Only in highly exceptional circumstances will students be permitted more than two such years of interrupted progress, whether taken consecutively or at intervals throughout the programme. Exceptions are very unlikely to be considered in the case of prolonged or repeated academic failure. Approved study for an intercalated degree does not constitute interrupted progress.

Progression

88. Students are required to complete a specified number of animal husbandry extramural studies (AHEMS) and clinical extramural studies (cEMS). Students must submit satisfactory evidence of completion of the specified number of weeks of approved animal husbandry extramural studies (AHEMS) by the submission deadlines provided by the School. Students who fail to satisfy the AHEMS requirement will be unable to progress into third year of the BVM&S programme and will be reported to the BVM&S Progression Committee. Students who have not completed the specified number of weeks of approved cEMS prior to the end of final year will be unable to graduate. The specified number of AHEMS and cEMS weeks for each cohort are provided in the programme handbook.

89. Clinical EMS can be started in the summer vacation between second and third year, provided all animal husbandry EMS has been signed off as complete in line with the arrangements and deadlines approved by the School, and provided the Clinical EMS Driving License has been completed.

90. Students who fail to submit required clinical EMS evidence by the deadline set by the School each year will not have that EMS added to their total and will be reported to the BVM&S Progression Committee. The deadline for each preceding year is 31st January, e.g. deadline for all EMS submissions for 2017 is 31st January 2018.

91. No student may proceed to the next year of study for the BVM&S programme until they have passed all components of the previous year of the programme, unless a concession is awarded by the Head of College. Students failing to complete all components will be reported to the BVM&S Progression Committee and exclusion from further attendance at courses and examinations may be recommended.

Awards

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Distinction at Graduation

92. Students who entered the BVM&S prior to the 2022/23 academic year and have displayed special merit in the Professional Examinations over the whole degree programme will be awarded BVM&S with Distinction at the time of graduation. Awards are made based on calculations equally across all years and are weighted by course credit value. For students who entered the BVM&S in the 2022/23 academic year, criteria for the award of Distinction at graduation are set out in the relevant programme handbook. BVM&S with Distinction will not be awarded for students who entered the BVM&S from the 2023/24 academic year onwards.

Bachelor of Medical Sciences

Honours Degree

93. Every student admitted for the degree must also be a student for the degree of MBChB. A student in another University studying for a recognised primary medical undergraduate qualification may be admitted as a student for the degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences with Honours, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

94. In addition, every student must pursue studies for at least one academic year in the University of Edinburgh in one of the Honours Degree Programmes available at www.ed.ac.uk/schools-departments/medicine-vet-medicine/undergraduate/medicine/mbchb/intercalated-honours

95. For students on the 5-year MBChB programme, the Bachelor of Medical Sciences degree is intercalated after Year 2. For students on the 6-year MBChB programme, the course marks gained in Year 3 determine their classification for the Bachelor of Medical Sciences degree. Students entering the 6-year MBChB programme in Year 4 who do not already hold an Honours degree may exceptionally be permitted to take the Bachelor of Medical Sciences degree after Year 4, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine. The BMedSci (Hons) will be awarded to students who have attained 480 credits and met the other requirements for Honours degrees outlined in Regulation 6 of the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above. This may include credits awarded on aggregate.

96. Limitation on Courses Taken in Honours Years: Students in all Honours years may take Honours curriculum courses to a maximum value of 120 credit points, all of which count in the final Honours award and classification.

Ordinary Degree

97. The Ordinary degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences may be offered as an exit award to students on the 5-year or 6-year MBChB programme who have attained 360 credits and met the other requirements for Ordinary degrees outlined in Regulation 6 of the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations. This may include credits awarded on aggregate.

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98. The compliance, attendance and participation, and progression requirements for the degrees of MBChB apply.

BSc in Veterinary Science

Honours Degree

99. Every student admitted for the degree must also be a student for the degree of BVM&S, or have obtained the BVM&S degree not more than five years before the date of admission as a student for the Honours Degree. A student in another University studying for a recognised primary veterinary undergraduate qualification may be admitted as a student for the degree of BSc in Veterinary Science, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.

100. Every student for the degree must normally attend in the University of Edinburgh during not less than two academic years the courses of instruction in the classes of the first two years of the curriculum for the BVM&S degree and pass the assessments prescribed for these courses.

101. In addition every student must pursue studies for at least one year in the University of Edinburgh in one of Honours Degree Programmes available at:

www.eevec.vet.ed.ac.uk/secure/page.asp?ID=in0000id

102. The year of study in the Honours Degree Programme may be intercalated not earlier than the end of the second year of study, provided that a student has successfully completed the appropriate assessments and satisfied such conditions as the Head of the School concerned may require, subject to the approval of the College of Medicine & Veterinary Medicine.

103. Students in all Honours years may take Honours curriculum courses to a maximum value of 120 credit points, all of which count in the final Honours award and classification.

Ordinary Degree

104. No student shall be admitted as a student for the degree, except on transfer from candidature for the degrees of BVM&S 5 year programme or BVM&S 4 year Graduate Entry Programme. Students on the 5 year programme are eligible to be considered for the ordinary degree if they have successfully completed 240 credits from the First and Second Professional Examinations and, have shown sufficient attainment in the Third Year BVM&S assessments. Students on the graduate entry programme are awarded 120 credits of recognised prior learning. The Ordinary Degree of BSc (Veterinary Science) may not be conferred on any student who already holds, or is eligible to receive, the Degree of BSc in Veterinary Science with Honours.

BSc in Oral Health Sciences

Compliance

Degree Regulations and Programmes of Study

Undergraduate Degree Programme Regulations

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105. Students should refer to the Programme Handbook and appropriate Course Handbooks for detailed curriculum and assessment information

106. Students entering the Oral Health Sciences programme are subject to a check, carried out by Disclosure Scotland, under the Protection of Vulnerable Groups legislation. Admission to the profession is excepted from the provisions of Section 4 (2) of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 by virtue of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974 (Exceptions) (Amendments) Order 1986. Students on the BSc in Oral Health Sciences programme are therefore not entitled to withhold information about a previous conviction on the grounds that it is, for other purposes, spent under the Act. Subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation of Offenders Act 1974, failure to disclose a relevant conviction may result in the withdrawal of an offer of admission or exclusion from a programme of studies.

107. Students are subject to a Hepatitis B, Hepatitis C and HIV status check prior to entering the BSc in Oral Health Sciences. Failure to comply with this regulation or a positive result will lead to admission being refused or to exclusion from studies.

Attendance and Participation

108. Except in exceptional circumstances, the maximum period of enrolment on the BSc in Oral Health Sciences may not exceed five years, including any period of leave of absence.

Progression

109. BSc in Oral Health Sciences students are only entitled to two assessment attempts for courses which are part of the Oral Health Sciences programme. This regulation supersedes the resit assessment regulation within the Taught Assessment Regulations.

110. A student whose progress in any year is unsatisfactory may be required to undertake a period of remedial study before being permitted to resit.

111. No student may proceed to the next year of study for the BSc programme in Oral Health Sciences until they have passed all components of the previous year of the programme.

Bachelor of Science

Honours Degree

112. Limitation on Courses Taken in Honours Years: Students in all Honours years may take Honours curriculum courses to a maximum value of 120 credit points, all of which count in the final Honours assessment. Students may attend additional Honours courses on a class-only basis (i.e. not for credit), with the agreement of the Programme Organiser and the approval of the Director of Teaching or delegated nominee (e.g. Student Adviser).

Where a student takes level 9 courses in year 2, such courses should be regarded as part of the non-Honours curriculum and, if failed, may be repeated as a resit in Junior Honours. These courses will not be included in the degree classification.

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Students intending to graduate with an Ordinary degree may resit a failed level 9 course for the purposes of gaining the required number of credits, as specified in the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations.

Students in Junior Honours are permitted also to take up to 40 credit points of level 7/8 courses, which do not count towards the Honours assessment, as specified in the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations.

Students in Junior Honours must take 60 credit points of level 9/10 courses in semester 1 and 60 credit points of level 9/10 courses in semester 2.

Bachelor of Science General Degree

113. To qualify for the award of the degree of BSc (General) students must have obtained 360 credit points from passes (or recognition of prior learning), normally at the rate of 120 credit points per year: 240 credit points in courses listed in Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Schedule T, Science and Engineering Schedules K-Q and from subject areas Language Sciences and Psychology in Schedule I; 200 credit points at Scottish Credit and Qualifications Framework (SCQF, www.scqf.org.uk/) level 8, 9 or 10; 80 credit points at SCQF level 8, 9, 10 in courses listed in Medicine and Veterinary Medicine Schedule T, Science and Engineering Schedules K-Q and from subject areas Language Sciences and Psychology in Schedule I; 60 credit points at SCQF level 9 or 10.

Bachelor of Science Ordinary Degree

114. To qualify for the award of the degree of BSc Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline students must have obtained 360 credit points from passes (or recognition of prior learning, acceptable under General Undergraduate Regulations). The overall curriculum (including any concessions) must have met the requirement for entry to Senior Honours in that Discipline as indicated in years 3 and 4 of the Honours Degree Programme Table, subject to further restrictions and recommendations that may appear in the appropriate School Programme Guide (excluding the requirement for the Honours courses to have been passed at the first sitting, and excluding any elevated hurdles or prerequisites for Honours).

115. The BSc Ordinary Degree is awarded in designated disciplines corresponding to every BSc Honours degree and with the same titles, with the exception that the titles of the following Ordinary degrees in the designated disciplines are changed as indicated: subject specialisations for the BSc Biomedical Sciences, where the Designated Discipline will be Biomedical Sciences, i.e. without the subject specialisation.

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D College of Science and Engineering Undergraduate Degree Regulations: Degree Specific Regulations

116. These degree programme requirements relate to undergraduate programmes in the College of Science and Engineering. They are additional to, and should be read in conjunction with, the General Undergraduate Degree Regulations above, which apply to all undergraduate programmes, unless otherwise stated.

Qualifications

Bachelor of Science Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline or Combined Disciplines

117. To qualify for the award of the BSc Ordinary Degree in a Designated Discipline or Combined Disciplines students must have obtained 360 credit points (or recognition of prior learning, acceptable under General Undergraduate Regulations). The overall curriculum (including any concessions) must include at least:

- 360 credit points, of which at least 60 credit points should be at SCQF 9 or above.
- 180 credit points in the subject area or in a cognate discipline of the designated degree.

118. The BSc Ordinary Degree is awarded in designated disciplines corresponding to every BSc, BEng, MA, or Integrated Masters Honours degree offered by the College of Science and Engineering, with the same titles, with the exception that the titles of the following Ordinary degrees in the designated disciplines are changed as indicated:

- subject specialisations for the BSc Biological Sciences, where the Designated Discipline will be Biological Sciences, i.e. without the subject specialisation;
- subject specialisations within the School of Chemistry, where the Designated Discipline will be either Chemical Sciences or Chemical Sciences with Industrial Experience. The latter may be awarded to students who successfully complete the industrial experience component of the corresponding MChem programme;
- subject specialisations within the discipline of Ecological Science, where the Designated Discipline will be Ecological Science, i.e. without the subject specialisation.

119. In the case of Combined Degree programmes, the Examiners will recommend the award of the BSc Ordinary Degree in single (as above) or combined disciplines in order to best reflect the achievements of the individual student.

Degree of Bachelor of Medical Sciences

120. The Degree Programme Requirements of the Bachelor of Medical Sciences and Bachelor of Science (Veterinary Sciences) are in the College Undergraduate Regulations of the College of Medicine and Veterinary Medicine.

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Professional requirements: School of Engineering

121. An Honours student who is eligible for progression or for the award of an accredited Honours degree by the University regulations but who fails a level 9, 10 or 11 course, for which a pass is required for reasons associated with breadth of professional knowledge and/or the stipulation(s) of one or more of the Professional Accreditation bodies will be required to “resit for professional purposes” the failed course.

122. A student requiring “resit(s) for professional purposes” will be ineligible for the degree of Bachelor of Engineering with Honours / Master of Engineering with Honours unless the necessary passes at “resit for professional purposes” are achieved, but may be eligible either for the award of the degree of Bachelor of Science (Ordinary) in a Designated Discipline or for the award of the unaccredited degree of Bachelor of Engineering Technology with Honours / Master of Engineering Technology with Honours in a Designated Discipline.

123. ‘Resits for professional purposes’ should be taken at the next available opportunity. The maximum number of attempts will equal that permitted for pre-Honours or non-Honours students in the Taught Assessment Regulations. Where students are offered a third attempt at an assessment, having failed twice, they will be offered an assessment-only repeat year. Where a student has exhausted the maximum number of attempts and has still yet to pass a course or courses, they will not be eligible for the accredited Honours degree or to progress, but will be considered for an exit award in line with Regulation 122.

124. Where resits for professional purposes are required, the first (fail) mark will be recorded for the Honours degree classification.

125. It will be for each Discipline within the School of Engineering to identify the requirements for each degree programme. This may be done on the basis of individual courses, and/or on the basis of an aggregate. The requirements for each Discipline will be stated in the relevant Degree Programme Handbook.