Regulations for the Academic Awards of the Manchester Metropolitan University
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Regulations for the Academic Awards of the University

The Regulations for the Academic Awards of the University provide a definitive list of awards offered by Manchester Met, including credit thresholds, FHEQ level and titling conventions.

Scope and Purpose

1.1 The University is responsible for the academic standards and quality of its programmes and awards. This document outlines the responsibility of the University in respect of its awards. Award titles and information pertaining to the standards for each award are specified. The responsibilities associated with conferment of awards are provided.

Key Responsibilities

The Board of Governors

2.1 The Board of Governors is the University’s governing body and is responsible for exercising the powers of the University as defined in the Constitutional Provisions, containing the Instrument and Articles of Government; the Education Reform Act 1988 and the Further and Higher Education Act 1992.

The Academic Board

2.2 The Academic Board is responsible for the academic affairs of the University, including the academic standards and quality of the University’s awards and programmes.

2.3 In exercising its responsibilities, the Academic Board shall act as the principal academic authority of the University, controlling and regulating research, scholarship, learning and teaching and programmes of study for which the University is responsible through such policies, Institutional Codes of Practice, and procedures as it may approve. To help carry out its duties, the Academic Board delegates responsibility for some matters relating to quality management to its committees, and also, in certain cases that are specified in its Schedule of Delegated Authority, to individual senior officers of the University.

The committees of the Academic Board are:

Education Committee

2.4 The Education Committee has delegated responsibility for the operation of the educational oversight of all taught provision, wherever delivered; its focus is on priority issues of an institutional nature. The Education Committee is responsible to the Academic Board for the oversight of the operation of strategies, policies, systems, procedures and codes of practice relating to the strategic enhancement of the education of students.

The Research and Knowledge Exchange Committee

2.9 The Academic Quality and Standards Committee is authorised to delegate responsibility for routine procedural matters, their enactment, implementation and monitoring, to the Head of CASQE (e.g. programme approval in principle; external examiner appointment) who reports to the Academic Quality and Standards Committee on consistent compliance with University procedures on an annual basis.

The Research Degrees Committee

2.10 The Research Degrees Committee is responsible to the Academic Board for the oversight of matters relating to research degrees, including ensuring that the standard and quality of awards is maintained and the interests of registered research degree candidates are protected.

The Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee

2.11 The Research & Knowledge Exchange Committee has oversight of matters related to research policy and strategy at the University. Research is here conceived as covering the whole spectrum of activity from initial idea through the investigative process, whatever form it may take, to the delivery of impact, encompassing engagement and knowledge exchange with potential users, stakeholders or beneficiaries as a part of any or all stages of this process.

Version: 1.0
Document Title: Regulations for the Academic Awards of the Manchester Metropolitan University
Author Name: Centre for Academic Standards & Quality Enhancement (CASQE)
Approved Date: 17th June 2015
Approved By: Academic Board
Date for Review: 17th June 2020

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CertHE
Addition of new section relating to Posthumous Awards

Addition of new award: Doctor of Medicine (MD) 10/06/2016 Academic Board
Amendment to section 7 to specify Assessment Panels are chaired by the PVC Research and Knowledge Exchange 29/09/2016 Registrar
3.1 Manchester Metropolitan University was granted the right to award taught and research degrees as provided for under section 76 of the Further and Higher Education Act 1992. The University is a recognised body with the power to grant degrees and has the power to determine the terms and conditions for the conferment of its academic awards. Accordingly, it has the right to confer academic and honorary awards on persons who have completed and satisfied the required academic assessment for an appropriate programme of study offered by the University, whether at the University, through online delivery, or through an approved partner. It also has the right to award grants to persons who complete appropriate programmes of supervised research and satisfy an appropriate assessment.

3.2 The awards granted shall be such degrees, diplomas, certificates or other academic distinctions as the Academic Board may determine from time to time in accordance with the provisions of these Regulations.

3.3 The main external points of reference for the award of degrees are:

- The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ).
- The QAA Subject Benchmark Statement.
- The QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education.
- The QAA Foundation Degree Quality Benchmark.
- The QAA Master’s Degree Characterising.
- The Programme Frameworks for Qualifications of the European Higher Education Area, European Credit Transfer System (ECTS).
- The Academic Standards of Awards.

3.4 The Academic Board shall have the power, on behalf of the University, to:

- Grant honorary degrees and awards on persons selected by the University according to criteria and conditions determined by the University and with the agreement of the Board of Governors;
- Grant degrees and awards to members of the academic and other staff of the University;
- Authorise other institutions to grant awards of the University jointly with one or more institutions;
- Approve, modify and review, on such conditions as the University may from time to time determine, programmes of study or programmes of supervised research pursued by candidates to qualify for the University’s academic awards and distinctions;
- Accept in partial fulfilment of the study and assessment requirements for awards of the University, certificated and experiences gained by persons granted to him/her by or on behalf of the University or, in the case of an award granted to a person jointly with one or more other institutions, to do so jointly with the other institution(s).

3.5 The Academic Board shall have the power to withdraw such conditions as it may determine, for programmes of study or programmes of supervised research pursued by candidates to qualify for the University’s academic awards and distinctions. This is achieved through the University’s committee structure, which is described in the Committee Handbook.

3.6 The Academic Board shall have the power to make, amend and revoke regulations prescribing the programmes of study, assessment and other requirements for the granting of the awards of the University and also for such other matters relating to Academic awards for which the Academic Board may be responsible. The University observes the following Assessment Regulations:

- Undergraduate Assessment Regulations
- Taught Postgraduate

3.7 The Academic Board shall have the power to amend or rescind it considers necessary under these Regulations to protect the quality of programmes for which it is responsible and the standard of the awards of the University.

3.8 Subject to the Articles of Government, to the overall responsibility of the Board of Governors, and to the responsibilities of the Vice-Chancellor, the Academic Board shall have the power to amend or revoke these Regulations and such others as it may make from time to time.

3.9 Taught programmes approved by the Academic Board shall comply with the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations or Taught Postgraduate Assessment Regulations, as appropriate. These Regulations provide for:

- The progression of students through the programme;
- The assessment of students on the programme;
- The reassessment of students on the programme.

3.10 Programmes may seek approval from the Academic Quality and Standards Committee to apply for programme-specific variations to the regulations relating to assessment and reassessment, normally where these conflict with Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body (PSRB) requirements.

3.11 Taught postgraduate research programmes, approved by the Academic Board, shall comply with the Regulations for Postgraduate Research Degrees. Certain elements of the regulations for undergraduate and for taught postgraduate research programmes may be applicable for programmes as may be approved to postgraduate research students.

Academic Standards of Awards

4.1 The academic standards required by the University are the same irrespective of the organisation delivering the programme.

4.2 The final responsibility for academic standards of programmes leading to awards of the University rests with the Academic Board irrespective of where the programme is delivered. Approval cannot be delegated. A full list of current awards and their associated assessment and regulations is detailed in the Specific Awards of the University, Designatory Letters and Standards Regulations section of this Handbook. The awards of the University (other than Honorary ones), and their designatory letters, shall be those listed in these Regulations, as amended from time to time in the light of decisions made by the Academic Board to add or remove awards from it.

4.3 The Academic Board shall ensure that Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic awards and distinctions (other than Honorary awards), granted and conferred under these Regulations are consistent and comparable in standard to similar awards granted and conferred throughout higher education in the United Kingdom within the context of the guidance provided in the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations, as amended from time to time in the light of decisions made by the Academic Board to add or remove awards from it.

4.4 Awards may be titled to reflect the particular subject area of study.

4.5 Where the title of a programme, or course within a programme, is to be an award title, that title must be approved by the Academic Board in accordance with such procedures as it deems necessary and may not be changed without the approval of the Academic Board.

4.6 The minimum standard of the degrees awarded by the University must be comparable in standard to similar degrees awarded by other Universities in the United Kingdom. The standard of the Bachelor’s Degree for each subject must be approved by the Academic Board in accordance with such procedures as it deems necessary.

4.7 In approving the addition of new awards to those listed at any time, the Academic Board shall have regard to:

- the proposed new award in the context of the whole range of the University’s awards, their relative weightings and to the awards of other bodies;
- the characteristics and level of the University’s awards that would both distinguish it from existing awards and relate it to them;
- the suitability of existing awards for the proposed programme(s) of study;
- the likely demand for, and recognition of, the proposed award by institutions, students and employers.

4.8 Academic awards (other than Honorary awards) are determined by reference to national qualification frameworks and standard statements as set out in the Qualification Frameworks and Qualification Descriptors of the QAA.

4.9 The University operates a unit-based credit-rated curriculum framework for taught awards. Credit provision provides a system of calculating and quantifying learning at a given level. It is awarded to learners who have demonstrated attainment of specified learning outcomes. It is attached to units and is normally quantified on the basis of notional learning time. A unit of credit is based upon 10 hours of student learning time. In delivery of programmes leading to an award of University aligns with the European Commission’s European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System (ECTS), and promotes ease of transfer between European programmes of study through the use of ECTS credits as a form of equivalence. Under ECTS, 10 credits are equal to 20 University credits.

4.10 A programme is defined as the approved curriculum represented by one qualification descriptor and a single Continuous Improvement Plan. It may be identical with a comparable programme, committed to the use of courses or routes available within a larger network. All programmes of student study leading to awards of the University shall comply with these regulations, the Undergraduate Assessment Regulations or Taught Postgraduate Assessment Regulations. The University’s Curriculum Frameworks and such other documents as the Academic Board may approve.

4.11 The programme specification, which is approved as part of the approval process must be aligned to the requirements set out in the QAA UK Quality Code for Higher Education. The Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ), and Curriculum Framework for Accredited Provision.

4.12 The Academic Board shall be responsible for approving all programmes of study leading to an academic award of the University (and may approve arrangements for the delivery of such programmes which do not themselves lead to an award but may count towards one).

4.13 The structure of the University’s awards and programmes should promote the development of students who satisfy the University’s educational requirements to gain the highest level of qualification that are capable. Opportunities to gain the University’s awards shall be available to students without any form of discrimination on non-academic grounds.

4.14 Taught programmes approved by the Academic Board must conform in terms of standards and learning outcomes to the requirements of the University. Mode, structure and award titles must be specified in the Programme Specification and comply with the requirements set out in the University’s Curriculum Frameworks:

- Curriculum Framework for Undergraduate Programmes of Study
- Curriculum Framework for Taught Postgraduate Programmes
- Flexible Curriculum Framework for Accredited Provision

4.15 Qualification descriptors exemplify the outcomes of the course of study or programme and demonstrate the nature of progression to each level.

4.16 Manchester Met must ensure that the language of delivery and assessment is in English, in line with the Educational Code of Practice for Collaborative Provision and Academic Partnerships. Only in exceptional cases may other language components be delivered and assessed in another language and the express approval of the Academic Board must be gained before the programme is developed.

4.17 Designatory letters shall be established for awards in accordance with standard practice in higher education. The holder of an award shall be entitled to use the designatory letters in their title, or otherwise in a manner consistent with academic convention.

4.18 The Academic Board shall approve the discontinuation of any
of the University’s awards and when it does so the Specific Awards of the University, Designatory Letters and Standards shall be amended accordingly.

Classification and Endorsement of Awards

5.1 Except as provided for in 5.3 below, all Bachelor’s Degrees of the University shall be classified as Bachelor’s Degrees with Honours. The classification used for Honours shall be First Class, Second Class Upper, Second Class Lower, Second Class and Third Class. Details of honours classifications and the process for determining them are outlined in the Assessment Regulations for Undergraduate Programmes of Study.

5.2 All Bachelor’s Degrees with Honours shall include provision for a Pass Degree for those students whose performance on the Honours programme is considered to have fulfilled requirements equivalent to those of a Pass Degree but not those of a Degree with Honours. The University Registrar shall have the power to award such a Degree but shall be awarded with Distinction as provided for in these regulations.

Awards with Merit and Distinction

5.4 Taught awards of the University at undergraduate level except Degrees with Honours may be conferred with Merit or Distinction but shall be awarded with Distinction as provided for in these regulations.

5.5 Taught awards of the University at postgraduate level may be conferred with Merit or Distinction and provision for the recommendation of a Distinction shall be made in the regulations for such awards.

Awards with Commendation – specified courses

5.6 The University does not normally provide the opportunity for students to achieve a Distinction with Commendation. However, provision shall be made where professional bodies require students to obtain such a commendation or otherwise recognised by them for professional purposes to be granted with Commendation.

Certificate and Diploma of Credit

5.7 The Academic Board shall approve arrangements for the issue of a Certificate of Credit to students for whatever studies and periods of supervised practical work experience they may have successfully completed, postgraduate and/or post-experience levels, studies in which they in themselves do not meet the criteria laid down below whether of these Regulations for the granting of an award of the University. Where appropriate, the context and level of such studies shall be agreed with the professional body responsible for the professional recognition of the practitioners in the field concerned. Neither a Certificate of Credit nor an associated Diploma Supplement constitute an academic award of the University.

Programmes of Study Delivered by Partner Institutions and Leading to Awards of the University

6.1 The University may, under collaborative arrangements approved by the Academic Board, agree with partner organisations the delivery of educational services to its students or specific programmes of study or part(s) thereof, leading to awards of the University or credit towards such awards.

6.2 The University’s Institutional Code of Practice for Collaborative Provision and Academic Partnerships defines the principles of collaboration, and addresses the expectation contained within Chapter B10 of the QAA UK Quality Code, ‘Assessment for Higher Education: Managing Higher Education Provision with Others’, under which all collaborative arrangements must operate.

6.3 All students undertaking a programme of study that leads to a Manchester Award or credit leading to a Manchester Award under a collaborative arrangement are entitled to use the collaborative arrangements and learning resources. The level of access is determined by a number of factors including the location of the study and the permissions allowed by licence providers.

6.4 All such students are registered with Manchester Met for any or all of the academic provisions of their programme of study which might lead to the award of a Manchester Award. Registration creates an academic association with the University so as to enable the collaborative arrangement to be made to those students who satisfactorily complete their programmes of study.

6.5 Some students, such as those located on non-Manchester Met sites or by flexible and distributed learning (including e-learning) programmes, may be studying remotely from Manchester Met in the physical sense but the status of any such students will depend on where or how they follow their programme but on whether or not they have been registered as students of the University.

6.6 As the awarding body, the University, through the appropriate instrument of the Collaborative Agreement, seek to ensure that students registered for a Manchester Met award or credit leading to a Manchester Met award through a collaborative arrangement are not disadvantaged in respect of the level and quality of educational services they receive which have been approved as being appropriate to their programme of study.

6.7 The University’s Assessment Regulations apply in full to taught provision leading to a Manchester Met award or credit leading to a Manchester Met award in partnership with others. The Regulations for Postgraduate Research Degrees apply in full to graduate research joint supervision.

Joint Awards

6.8 A joint award is one conferred jointly by two or more institutions empowered to do so. The University is empowered by the Further and Higher Education Act 1992 to joint award jointly with other institutions. Prior to entering into a joint award arrangement, the University will ensure, through its approval process, that all other institution(s) are legally empowered to confer a joint award. Awards are subject to the requirements determined by the Academic Board.

Dual and Multiple Awards

6.9 Dual and multiple awards are arrangements where two or more bodies with degree-awarding powers award a single jointly delivered programme (or programmes) leading to separate awards (and or credit towards such) being granted by both, or all, institutions. For multiple awards the higher degree may be awarded by an institution of higher education in the United Kingdom or of a quality recognised as being equivalent standard; or:

• holders, of at least four years’ classified in accordance with the classification used for Honours their performance on the Honours be awarded by an institution of higher education in the United Kingdom. They shall be awarded a certificate only from the institutions where they studied and from which they received academic credit. Dual and Multiple awards are subject to the requirements determined by the Academic Board.

Higher Doctorate Degrees

7.1 The Academic Board may, on behalf of the University, award higher doctors for work of high distinction in accordance with these Regulations.

7.2 Awards of higher doctorates are made only to those individuals who apply for such an award and who are deemed by the Academic Board to have met the standard required for such an award.

7.3 A non-refundable application fee shall be payable at the time the application is submitted. The application fee goes towards covering the costs involved in processing and assessing the application and in meeting the examination fees payable to the external assessors.

7.4 The basis of an award of a higher doctorate shall be the submission to the University of a work of high distinction which should constitute an original and significant contribution to the advancement of knowledge to knowledge to or of knowledge to, and should establish that the applicant is a leading authority in the field(s) of study concerned.

7.5 The higher doctorates awarded by the University shall be:

• Doctor of Laws (LLD)

Doctor of Science (DSc)

Doctor of Technology (D Tech)

7.6 The Degree of D Tech shall be the appropriate award where the applicant’s contribution has been principally in the field of application of knowledge.

7.7 Applicants shall normally be:

• holders, of at least seven years’ contribution to the University or credit towards such

7.8 An applicant, other than one who holds a degree of the University or of another UK awarding institution, must be ordinarily resident in a member state of the European Union. The University Registrar shall report to the Chair of the Academic Board.

7.9 Applicants shall submit three copies of the work upon which the application for a higher Doctorate is based. The submission may take the form of books, contributions to journals, patent specifications, reports, specifications, lecture notes, studies and may also include other relevant evidence of original work.

7.10 In addition to the copies of the work on which the application is based, the applicant shall submit one copy of each of the following:

• a statement of not more than one thousand words setting out the applicant’s view of the nature and significance of the work submitted; and

• a full statement of the extent of the applicant’s contribution to any of the work submitted which involves joint authorship or other types of collaboration.

7.11 The completed application shall be submitted to the University Registrar either in person or by a registered post. The application shall be recorded and registered delivery.

7.12 The University Registrar shall delegate the responsibility for the management of the assessment of higher doctorate applications to the Graduate School, who shall:

• ensure that support is provided for the operation of the Assessment Panel;

• consult with External Examiners; and

• ensure that all of the necessary steps to the University for consideration.

7.13 The Graduate School shall present the complete application to a specially constituted Assessment Panel appointed by the Chair of the Academic Board. It shall comprise the PVC Research and Knowledge Exchange, three members of the senior Academic Staff of the University who may be but need not be members of the members of the Academic Board.

7.14 The PVC Research and Knowledge Exchange shall chair the Assessment Panel and be responsible for the operation of the Assessment Panel to be presented to the Chair of the Academic Board.

7.15 The initial role of the Assessment Panel shall be to consider a prima facie case for proceeding to a formal examination of the submission has been submitted for another academic award. The contents of a statement should be submitted to the official languages of the United Kingdom or the University. The assessment shall be in the official languages of the United Kingdom. The specific statement to the contrary has been given by the University.

7.16 In addition to the copies of the work on which the application is based, the applicant shall submit one copy of each of the following:

• a statement of not more than one thousand words setting out the applicant’s view of the nature and significance of the work submitted; and

• a full statement of the extent of the applicant’s contribution to any of the work submitted which involves joint authorship or other

7.17 The Assessment Panel, by the PVC Research and Knowledge Exchange

www.mmu.ac.uk/academic/taesec | 7
8.5 Nominations for honorary degrees shall be strictly confidential. No nominations shall be accepted without the prior consent of the Chair of the Honorary Awards Committee.

8.7 The following shall not be eligible for the award of an honorary degree:

- current members of staff or students of the University;
- anyone currently serving politician;
- anyone from whom, by virtue of their current employment or public office, the University has benefited or might potentially benefit;
- anyone who, in the view of the Honorary Awards Committee, is likely to damage the reputation of the University or discredit its awards.

8.8 Exceptionally the University may withdraw an honorary award if, in the view of the Honorary Awards Committee, there is a risk to the reputation of the University from continued association with the individual concerned.

8.9 In all of the matters stated above, the decision of the Honorary Awards Committee shall be final.

8.10 Honorary degrees shall be conferred at a University awards ceremony or other suitable event or occasion. They shall not normally be conferred in absentia, except in the case of posthumous awards (see section 11).

8.11 Subject to such amendments, additions or deletions as the Academic Board may from time to time make, the Honorary Degrees of the University shall be:

- Honorary Doctorate
- Doctor of Arts (DArt)
- Doctor of Business Administration (DBA)
- Doctor of Design (DDes)
- Doctor of Education (DEd)
- Doctor of Laws (LLD)
- Doctor of Letters (DLitt)
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
- Doctor of Technology (DTech)
- Doctor of Engineering (DEng)
- Doctor of Health (DHi)

10.1 The University’s academic awards shall be subject to the Academic Board or its Boards of Examiners in accordance with these Regulations.

10.2 Institutions authorised by the Academic Board to deliver the University’s programmes on its behalf shall comply with these regulations.

10.3 The University may confer awards of other institutions by validating and accrediting bodies where it is agreed between the University and the validating and accrediting body that this should be the case.

10.4 Except for honorary academic degrees and degrees awarded to the staff of the University, an academic award shall only be deemed to have been conferred as and when the Academic Board (or the relevant academic body of another institution) has confirmed the recommendation for an award of an Assessment Board (or another institution) has confirmed, constituted and acting under approved regulations for this purpose.

10.5 The University regards the recommendations of Assessment Boards, which are committees of the Academic Board, as sufficient authority for the conferring of awards. It is not standard practice for conferment lists to be presented to the Academic Board for formal approval.

10.6 All recommendations for the granting of academic awards of the University shall be confirmed in accordance with these Regulations for the granting of its awards confirmed on the Academic Board’s behalf and another institution shall be presented to the Academic Board for its confirmation or information respectively and the decision in respect thereof recorded in its official minutes.

10.7 The University shall maintain a register of all the academic awards it has conferred or shall not have more than three years who holds a Degree of equal or similar rank in another University or who holds an equivalent status at the time of his/her attainments is deemed worthy of a Degree of the University. A Degree awarded under any Regulation shall not be higher than that of Master’s and shall not entitle the holder to proceed to a higher degree.

10.10 The University’s academic awards shall be subject to the Academic Board or its Boards of Examiners in accordance with these Regulations.

10.12 Recipients of honorary degrees may use the approved designatory letters and the University’s wish to maintain a body of honours and awards that reflects the diversity of backgrounds and interests of its staff and students.

8.6 Honorary Doctorate

9.1 The Academic Board may grant degrees to members of the academic and other staff of the University in accordance with these Regulations.

9.2 A member of staff of the University shall, subject to satisfying the entry and/or any other requirements specified in these Regulations and the relevant administration, be eligible to enrol on a programme leading to the award of an honorary degree. They shall be able to do so in compliance with the terms and conditions of his/her appointment to the University.

9.3 A member of staff of the University shall be eligible for consideration for the award of a Higher Doctorate of the University provided he/she satisfies the specific provisions made in these Regulations for Higher Doctorates.

9.4 In addition to the above, a Degree may be granted to a member of staff whether or not less than three years who holds a Degree of equal or similar rank in another University or who holds an equivalent status at the time of his/her attainments is deemed worthy of a Degree of the University. A Degree awarded under any Regulation shall not be higher than that of Master’s and shall not entitle the holder to proceed to a higher degree.

9.5 In approving nominations, the Honorary Awards Committee will have regard to the University’s equal opportunities policies and the University’s wish to maintain a body of honours and awards that reflects the diversity of backgrounds and interests of its staff and students.

10.7 The University shall maintain a register of all the academic awards it has conferred or shall not have more than three years who holds a Degree of equal or similar rank in another University or who holds an equivalent status at the time of his/her attainments is deemed worthy of a Degree of the University. A Degree awarded under any Regulation shall not be higher than that of Master’s and shall not entitle the holder to proceed to a higher degree.

10.8 Except for honorary degrees, higher doctorates and degrees granted to members of the staff of the University, academic awards of the University shall only be granted to students registered by and with the University as candidates for such awards.

10.9 The University shall provide a certificate of award to each person to whom an award is granted. A certificate of award shall be signed by the Vice-Chancellor of the University and all recommendations of Assessment Boards shall be confirmed on the Academic Board’s behalf.

10.10 The certificate of an award of the University shall record:

- the name of the University;
- the student’s name as entered in the University’s record of student registration;
- the award and classification awarded, constituted and acting under approved regulations for this purpose;
- an approved endorsement, where appropriate, that the programme of study was in the sandwich mode;
- any other approved endorsement;
- reference to the associated Diploma Supplement (see below).

Note: Where an unclassified or pass degree is referred to, “unclassified” and “pass” shall not appear on the certificate.

10.11 The certificate shall bear the signature of the Vice-Chancellor of the University, and shall bear the signature of the head of any other institution granting an award on the University’s behalf.

10.12 Notwithstanding the above, a certificate provides in respect of an honorary award or an award to a member of staff of the University a record of such an award as determined by the Chairman of the Academic Board to be appropriate.

10.13 All certificates of awards of the University shall bear the date from which the award is operative.

10.14 Where applicable, the award certificate shall bear the registration number of the student.

10.15 Where the University grants an academic award, other than an honorary one, jointly with one or more other institutions, this shall be done in the records of all academic awards that are approved jointly for that purpose which shall have due regard for the provisions and requirements of Section 6.12 of these Regulations.
students, the posthumous award conferred will be dependent on completion of the supervised independent study component of the programme. In cases where this has been completed, a Master’s degree will be conferred posthumously. If the supervised independent study component has not been completed, an academic judgment will be made as to whether a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma of Higher Education will be conferred, dependent on how many taught credits have been completed. Where there is evidence that a student’s work is of a particular standard, an academic judgment can be made as to whether the award will be conferred at Pass level, with Merit, or with Distinction. Normally this will require marks within that classification to have been achieved in core units of study. Where there is insufficient evidence for an academic judgment to be made, the award will be conferred at Pass level.

11.3 Professionally-accredited awards shall not be conferred posthumously. In such instances the award title will be adjusted to reflect that the student has not satisfied professional, statutory or regulatory body requirements.

11.4 Posthumous awards for Postgraduate Research Students will be conferred dependent on completion of the thesis. In cases where this has been completed, a PhD will be conferred posthumously. If the thesis has not been completed then an academic judgment will be made on the basis of work already achieved. In such cases, evidence shall be provided that the student would likely have been successful. The work will be submitted to an external reviewer for a judgment to be made on the level of award.

11.5 Posthumous honorary awards may be conferred only in exceptional cases or where the individual had already accepted the nomination. In this case the award may be collected by a relative or friend of the deceased person, who is acceptable to the Chair of the Honorary Awards Committee.

Academic Dress

12.1 The Robe makers appointed to the University shall be Edes and Ravenscroft of Chancery Lane, London. This applies to all University awards, including those granted under collaborative arrangements. If the ceremony is held overseas and an alternative provider is deemed more appropriate, the Registrar should be consulted for guidance.

12.2 The colour scheme for the Academic Dress of the University shall be University red created silk, plain red silk, blue satin, blue panama and blue silk.

12.3 The gowns worn by holders of Certificates, Diplomas, Bachelor’s Degrees and the Degree of Master of Engineering of the University shall be of Black stuff, as Cambridge, and worn 12” off ground.

12.4 The gowns worn by holders of Master’s Degrees except that of Master of Engineering shall be of Black stuff, as Cambridge, but bottom hanging sleeve cut straight, and worn 8” off ground.

12.5 The gowns worn by holders of Doctorates, Higher Doctorates, Honorary Doctorates or Honorary Fellowships shall be of blue panama cut to traditional style with the front facings and sleeves covered with University red created silk.

12.6 The Hats worn by holders of Certificates, Diplomas, Bachelor’s Degrees, the Degree of Master of Engineering and all other Master’s Degrees of the University shall be Black college caps with the Oxford soft cap optional for women holders of these awards.

12.7 The Hats worn by holders of Doctorates shall be a Black cloth bonnet with cord and tassel of University red/blue.

12.8 The Hats worn by holders of Higher Doctorates and Honorary Doctorates shall be a Black velvet bonnet with cord and tassel of University red/blue.

12.9 The Hoods worn by holders of Certificates and Diplomas shall be in simple shape, in blue art silk with part lining of plain red silk and lined with blue satin inside. The Hoods worn by holders of Bachelor’s Degrees and the Degree of Master of Engineering shall be in intermediate shape, with blue art silk outer; part lined inside with University red created silk.

12.10 The Hoods worn by holders of Master’s Degrees except that of Master of Engineering shall be in full shape with blue art silk outer; fully lined with University red created silk.

12.11 The Hoods for holders of Doctorates shall be in full shape of blue panama, fully lined and edged one inch all round on outside with University red created silk.

12.12 The Hoods for holders of Higher Doctorates and Honorary Doctorates shall be as for Doctorates but with a two inch edging of University red created silk all round on outside.

12.13 Holders of Postgraduate Certificates and Postgraduate Diplomas shall wear their Bachelor’s, or Master’s or other Academic Dress if entitled so to do.

12.14 Academic Dress shall be worn at the ceremonies of the University.

Approved Awards of the Manchester Metropolitan University, Designatory Letters and Standards

The below standards are mapped to the levels of the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

<table>
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<tr>
<th>FHEQ Level</th>
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<td>Doctoral</td>
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The standard of the Certificate shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in two subjects at GCSE Advanced level, supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme of study suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims, equivalent in level to at least half of the first stage of an Honours degree; the normal length of the programme shall be at least one academic-year of part-time study. The University Certificate shall be a post-experience award and shall have a Credit value of 60 at FHEQ Level 4 or above. (Note: This award maybe suitable for programmes which would otherwise attract only a Certificate or Diploma of Credit, neither of which is an academic award of the University).

NB: The University Certificate is approved as a post-experience award and should not be used as an interim next award for other final awards.

Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)

The standard of the Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in two subjects at GCSE Advanced level supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme of study suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims, equivalent in level to the first stage of an Honours degree (FHEQ Level 4). The normal length of the programme shall be one academic year of full-time study or its equivalent. The Certificate of Higher Education will automatically be awarded to students with the required number of credits at the appropriate level(s) who do not progress to the next level of the award for which they enrolled, who achieved the required learning outcomes, provided that this interim award is available in the programme specification. It shall apply to all degree and HND programmes, except where there are exceptions required by a professional or accrediting body.

Certificate of Higher Education: Professional Studies (CertTPE) (CertPS)

The title of Certificate of Higher Education: Professional Studies in [TITLPE] shall be reserved for students following a programme of study under the Flexible Curriculum Framework providing the opportunity to gain the necessary credit at the required FHEQ level for an award of the University.

Typically, generic awards of the University will be faculty specific and core requirements will be detailed within programme specifications.

Certificate in Education (CertEd)

The standard of the Certificate in Education (CertEd) shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in two subjects at GCSE Advanced level supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed study of the theory and practice of teaching, at a level at least equivalent to the first stage of an Honours degree (FHEQ Level 4), and who has demonstrated practical competence in teaching, on a programme which is suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims; the normal length of the programme shall be one academic year of full-time study or its equivalent. For students intending to teach in schools, the GCSE passes must include English and Mathematics.

Certificate in Professional Studies (CertPS)

The title Certificate in Professional Studies (CertPS) shall be reserved for programmes related to specific professions and designed to build on professional qualification or registration together with professional experience.

The standard of the Certificate in Professional Studies shall be that expected of a person with a relevant professional qualification and a specified period of professional study at second or third stages honours degree (FHEQ Levels 5 or 6) suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims. The normal length of the programme shall be at least 15 weeks full-time or its equivalent. The Certificate shall have a Credit value of 60 at Levels 5 or 6 and Stage 1 of the Certificate may be awarded on completion of a minimum of 30 Credits.
2. Undergraduate Diplomas

Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5

The standard of the Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) shall be that of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to two subjects at GCSE Advanced level, supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims; the normal length of the programme shall be one academic year of full-time study or its equivalent.

The Diploma of Higher Education will automatically be awarded to students with the required number of credits at the appropriate level who do not progress to the final level of the award for which they enrolled, who achieve the required learning outcomes, provided that this interim award is available in the programme specification.

Diploma of Higher Education: Professional Studies in [TITLE] (DipHE)
120 Credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 Credits at FHEQ Level 5

The title of Diploma of Higher Education: Professional Studies in [TITLE] shall be reserved for students following a programme under the Flexible Curriculum Framework providing the opportunity to gain the necessary credit at the required FHEQ level for an award of the University.

Typically, generic awards of the University will be faculty specific and core requirements will be detailed within programme specifications.

University Diploma (MMUDip)
60 credits at FHEQ Level 5 or 6

The standard of the Diploma shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in two subjects at GCSE Advanced level, supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims, equivalent in level to at least half of the second stage of an Honours degree; the normal length of the programme shall be at least one academic year of part-time study.

The University Diploma shall be a post-experience award and shall have a credit value of 60 at FHEQ Level 5 or above. (Note: This award may be suitable for programmes which would otherwise attract only a Diploma of Credit, which is not an academic award of the University.)

NB: The University Diploma is approved as a post-experience award and should not be used as an interim exit award for other final awards.

Diploma in Professional Studies (DipPS)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5

The title Diploma in Professional Studies (DipPS) shall be reserved for programme of study related to specific professions and designed to build on professional qualifications or registration together with professional experience.

The standard of the Diploma in Professional Studies shall be that expected of a person with a relevant professional qualification and a specified period of professional experience who has successfully completed a programme of professional study at second or third stage Honours degree (FHEQ Levels 4 or 5), suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims; the normal length of the programme shall be one academic year of full-time study or its equivalent.

3. Undergraduate Degrees

Foundation Degree (Fd)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5

The foundation of the Foundation Degree is that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in one subject at GCSE Advanced level supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme incorporating employment experience suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims, equivalent in level to FHEQ Level 5. The programme shall meet in full the FHEQ level 5 qualification descriptor for Foundation Degree Foundation Degree qualification benchmark statement. The normal length of the programme will be two academic years full-time study or its part-time equivalent.

The following designatory letters apply to Foundation Degree awards:
- Arts - FdA
- Education - FdEd
- Engineering - FdEng
- Laws - FULL
- Science - FdSc

Bachelor of Arts Early Childhood Studies and Practice (Ordinary degree)
240 Credits at Level 4 and 5
60 credits at Level 6

The BA Early Childhood Studies and Practice is intended to provide students studying to become Early Years Professionals with an Ordinary degree so that they can be assessed for the Early Years Professional Status. It is a requirement of the Professional Body (The Children’s Workforce Development Council) that students in their final level of degree study have 360 credits before they can be assessed. The normal length of the course shall be one full-time academic year or its equivalent and students will be expected to continue to assessment for the honours degree. To be accepted onto the Early Childhood Studies and Practice students are required to have achieved 240 credits from either an Early Years Foundation Degree or another relevant course in Early Childhood. The BA Early Childhood Studies and Practice would be awarded as an interim exit award to enable students to be assessed for EYP status. Students would be expected to continue their studies for a further 60 credits at Level 6 to achieve the BA (Hons) Early Years and Childhood Studies.

Bachelor Degree with Honours - Generic Title
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The standard of the Bachelor’s Degree with Honours shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in two subjects at GCSE Advanced level, supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme of study suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims and who has demonstrated capacity for sustained independent and high quality work at FHEQ Level 6. The programme shall meet in full the FHEQ qualification descriptor for Level 6. The normal length of the programme shall be three full-time academic years or its equivalent.

Unclassified Bachelor Degree
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
60 credits at FHEQ Level 6
Plus 60 credits at any level

The standard of the Unclassified Bachelor degree shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to passes in two subjects at GCSE Advanced level, supported by passes in three other subjects at GCSE, who has successfully completed a programme suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims; the programme shall meet some, but not all, of the FHEQ qualification descriptor for Level 6; the normal length of the programme shall be three academic years full-time or its equivalent.

Unclassified Bachelor Degree: Professional Studies in [TITLE]
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
60 credits at FHEQ Level 6
Plus 60 credits at any level

The title of Bachelor of Arts: Professional Studies in [TITLE]. Bachelor of Science: Professional Studies in [TITLE] shall be reserved for students following a programme under the Flexible Curriculum Framework providing the opportunity to gain the necessary credit at the required FHEQ level for an award of the University.

Typically, generic awards of the University will be faculty specific and core requirements will be detailed within programme specifications.

Bachelor of Arts with Honours / Bachelor of Science with Honours (BA (Hons) / BSc (Hons)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

First degree programmes shall lead either to the title of Bachelor of Arts (BA) or Bachelor of Science (BSc) or to a more closely defined award restricted to certain subjects and types of course as follows: BDes, BEng, LLB (FHEQ Level 6). BA and BSc programmes are post experience professional qualifications which are not granted with Honours classifications.

The title Bachelor of Arts (BA) shall be used in art and design, the arts and humanities, combined studies predominantly in the arts and social studies, and in areas of social or business studies where it is appropriate.

The title Bachelor of Science (BSc) shall be used where studies are substantially based on science or mathematics and their applications.

Programmes of study leading to the BA or BSc will normally have a title which gives a more specific indication of the subjects studied.

Bachelor of Arts with Honours: Professional Studies in [TITLE] / Bachelor of Science with Honours: Professional Studies in [TITLE] (BA (Hons) / BSc (Hons)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The title of Bachelor of Arts: Professional Studies in [TITLE], Bachelor of Science: Professional Studies in [TITLE] shall be reserved for students following a programme under the Flexible Curriculum Framework providing the opportunity to gain the necessary credit at the required FHEQ level for an award of the University.

Typically, generic awards of the University will be faculty specific and core requirements will be detailed within programme specifications.

Bachelor of Arts with Honours (for initial teacher training programmes – 4 years) (BA (Hons)

Year 1 - 120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
Year 2 - 120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
Year 3 - 20 practice credits
Year 4 - 20 practice credits

The title of Bachelor of Arts, when awarded to initial teacher training students completing primary education programmes, shall normally be four academic years of full-time study or its equivalent. The initial BA award may be recognised by the DGEE (in England and Wales) or the General Teaching Council (in Scotland) as qualifying the holder to practise as a teacher (Qualifed Teacher Status).

Bachelor of Design with Honours (BDes (Hons))
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
240 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The title Bachelor of Design (BDes) shall be reserved for courses which consist of a specialised study in aimed at design practice in an industrial, commercial and professional context. The normal length of such a BDes programme shall be four academic years of full-time study or its equivalent and will be taught alongside a BA programme sharing the first two years or levels. The BDes shall satisfy the general
educational aims of the University and shall require the demonstration of a capacity for sustained independent study and high quality design work at FHEQ Level 6.

Note: this is a programme which extends the BA (Hons) programme to provide a fourth year for those students wishing to pursue an appropriately vocational route to equip them as practitioners for entry into the design professions.

Bachelor of Engineering (BEng)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The title Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) shall be reserved for programmes which provide a technologically broad education with an emphasis on engineering applications, primarily those programmes that may lead to registration with the Engineering Council (FHEQ Level 6).

Bachelor of Laws (LLB)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The title Bachelor of Laws (LLB) shall be reserved for programmes of specialised study in law. Programmes where legal studies are combined will lead to the award of the BA or, where appropriate, the BSc.

Bachelor of Medical Science with Honours
(BMedSci)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 4
120 credits at FHEQ Level 5
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The standard of the Bachelor of Medical Science Degree with Honours shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to that expected of an Honours graduate who has successfully completed a programme in a non-cognate discipline equivalent at least in level to the final year of an honours degree; the normal length of a GCert programme will be one academic year of part-time study or its full-time equivalent.

Certificate in Management (CM)
60 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The Certificate in Management (CM) shall be a post-experience Postgraduate Certificate. The standard of the Certificate in Management shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to that expected of an Honours graduate who has successfully completed a programme in a non-cognate discipline equivalent at least in level to the final year of an Honours degree. The Certificate in Management shall be designed to meet the needs of individuals who wish to undertake in-depth study of a particular area of interest.

Graduate Certificate (GCert)
60 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The standard of the Graduate Certificate (GCert) shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to that expected of an Honours graduate who has successfully completed a programme in a non-cognate discipline equivalent at least in level to the final year of an Honours degree. The Graduate Certificate shall be of a standard at least equivalent to that required for exemption from RIBA Part 2 examination (FHEQ Level 6).

The normal length of the BArch shall be two full-time academic years or its equivalent. The degree shall be unclassified but may be awarded with Distinction, or with Commendation in a specific area of study.

Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLandArch)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The title Bachelor of Landscape Architecture (BLandArch) shall be reserved for students with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to a first degree with honours in Landscape Design or Landscape Architecture from a recognised School of Landscape Architecture, who has completed an approved Practical Training Year. The BLandArch shall satisfy the University’s general educational aims, shall require the demonstration of a capacity for sustained independent and high quality work at FHEQ Level 6 and be of a standard at least equivalent to that required for exemption from the Landscape Institute Part 3 examination.

The normal length of the BLandArch shall be one full-time academic year or its equivalent. The degree shall be unclassified but may be awarded with Distinction, or with Commendation in a specific area of study.

Graduate Diploma in Law (GDip)
120 credits at FHEQ Level 6

The standard of a Graduate Diploma (GDip) shall be that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to that expected of an Honours graduate who has successfully completed a programme in a non-cognate discipline equivalent at least in level to the final year of an Honours degree. The Graduate Diploma shall be of a standard at least equivalent to that required for exemption from the Solicitors’ Regulation Authority/Bar Standards Board, who has successfully completed a programme of study leading to the award of the Graduate Diploma in Law (CPE) shall be one full-time academic year or two part-time academic years.
Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)
60 credits at FHEQ Level 7
60 practice credits

The standard of the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) shall be that expected of a graduate who has successfully completed the study of the theory and practice of teaching on a programme suitable for the fulfilment of the University's educational aims and who has demonstrated practical competence in teaching; the normal length of the programme shall be 15 weeks full-time or its equivalent.

Postgraduate Certificate in Early Childhood Studies (Early Years Teacher Pathway)
60 credits at FHEQ Level 7
60 practice credits

The Postgraduate Certificate in Early Childhood Studies (Early Years Teacher Pathway) is intended to provide parity for students training to become Early Years Professionals with the PGCE for teachers, offering 60 level 7 academic credits and 60 practice credits. The normal length of the programme shall be one full-time academic year or its equivalent.

Postgraduate Certificate: Professional Studies in [TITLE] (PGCert)
60 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The title of Postgraduate Certificate: Professional Studies in [TITLE]; shall be reserved for students following a programme of study under the Flexible Curriculum Framework providing the opportunity to gain the necessary credit at the required FHEQ level for an award of the University.

Typically, generic awards of the University will be faculty specific and core requirements will be detailed within programme specifications.

9. Postgraduate Taught Master’s Degrees

Master’s Degrees – Generic Title
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The standard of a taught Master’s degree shall be that expected of an Honours graduate who has successfully completed a programme of study in a field for which prior knowledge and skills have provided an appropriate foundation, at a level demanding more advanced and intensive study than a first degree, which is suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims and which includes a compulsory element of advanced independent work, normally of 60 credits. The programme shall meet the FHEQ qualification descriptor for Level 7 in full. The normal length of the programme shall be 48 weeks of full-time study or equivalent.

Master of Arts / Master of Science (MA / MSc)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

Programmes of study at Master’s level may lead either to the MA or MSc, or to a more closely defined award restricted to certain specific areas of study. The title Master of Arts (MA) shall be used for the arts and humanities and in other areas of study where a more specialised title is not appropriate. The title Master of Science (MSc) shall be used for programmes which are substantially based on science or mathematics and their applications. Programmes of study leading to the MA or MSc will normally have a title which gives a more specific indication of the subject(s) studied.

Master of Business Administration (MBA)
credits at FHEQ Level 7

The title Master of Business Administration (MBA) shall be reserved for courses which focus on the general principles and functions of management and the development of management skills. Students entering Master of Business Administration programmes must have good honours degree or equivalent professional qualifications plus a minimum of three years management experience. Exceptional applicants who have substantial work experience but who lack the normal academic level qualifications will also be considered for entry.

Master of Education (MEd)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The title of Master of Education (MEd) shall be reserved for programmes focussed on education and professional practice in teaching. Entry requirements shall be a BA Honours degree or equivalent qualification. Other qualifications which may be deemed acceptable include: an Honours Degree together with a PGCE or CertEd; or an appropriate DipPS in Education; or a BEd Degree gained in circumstances where the award of Honours was not available; or the Licentiate of the College of Preceptors; or the achievement at a sufficiently high level of the Diploma in Advanced Studies in Education of the College of Preceptors as a field cognate with a programme to which admission is sought. All entrants should have appropriate professional experience either prior or concurrent.

Master of Enterprise (MEnt)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The title of Master of Enterprise (MEnt) shall be reserved for programmes which focus on professional practice in the field of Management Enterprise where there is a significant technology transfer component. Students entering the MEnt programme will normally have appropriate practical experience.

Master of Professional Management (MPM)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The standard of the Master of Professional Management (MPM) shall be that expected of a good Honours graduate who has satisfactorily completed a research training programme and has investigated and evaluated, or critically studied, an appropriate topic over normally not less than eighteen months of full-time study, presented a satisfactory thesis and has passed an oral examination.

Master of Laws (LLM)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The title of Master of Laws (LLM) shall be reserved for programmes of specialised study in law for which prior knowledge and skills have provided an appropriate foundation, which are at a level demanding more advanced and intensive study than a first degree, which are suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims and which includes a compulsory element of advanced independent work; the normal length of the programme shall be 48 weeks of full-time study or its equivalent.

Masters in Teaching and Learning (MTL)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7

The title Masters in Teaching and Learning (MTL) shall be reserved for programmes focussed on professional practice and development of management and transferable skills at level 7 validated by Manchester Met. The learning materials will be delivered online with no face-to-face contact. Facilitators will support student learning mainly using email and web-based tools such as discussion boards.

Master of Fine Art (MFA)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7
plus 120 credits at Level 7

The title of Master of Fine Art (MFA) shall be reserved for programmes which offer an extended period of time after the achievement of 180 credits Master of Arts by which to demonstrate an independent professional competence within the chosen creative field. The award of MFA acknowledges that the required level of maturity that
can develop only from study over an extended period of time therefore should be over at least two years or equivalent. Candidates for the award of MFA will have presented a satisfactory Monograph and have passed an oral examination.

Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
300 credits at FHEQ Level 7
The title of Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA) shall be reserved for programmes which focus on professional practice in Landscape Architecture. The MLA shall satisfy the University’s educational requirements at FHEQ Level 7 and require demonstration of the capacity for sustained independent and high quality work. Students entering MLA awards must have a good honours degree or equivalent professional qualifications. Exceptional applicants who have substantial work experience but who lack the normal academic level qualifications will also be considered for entry. The normal length of the MLA shall be two full-time academic years or its equivalent.

Master of Public Administration (MPA)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7
The title of Master of Public Administration (MPA) shall be reserved for courses which focus on the roles, development and principles of public administration, public policy management and implementation in the public, non-profit and private sectors at local, regional, national and international levels. Students entering Master of Public Administration programmes must have a good honours degree or equivalent professional qualifications. Exceptional applicants who have substantial work experience but who lack the normal academic level qualifications will also be considered for entry. Full-time and part-time routes will be offered for the award, including a part-time distance delivery option.

Master of Sport Directorship (MSD)
180 credits at level 7
“The Master of Sport Directorship shall be reserved for programmes that focus on professional practice in the field of sporting directorship. Students entering the award will be of graduate level or equivalent and will have appropriate practical experience.”

10. Postgraduate Research Master’s Degrees

Master’s Degrees – Generic Title by Research (MA & MSc)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7
The standard of a taught Master’s degree shall be that expected of an Honours graduate who has successfully completed a programme of study in a field for which prior knowledge and skills have provided an appropriate foundation, at a level demanding more advanced and intensive study than a first degree, which is suitable for the fulfilment of the University’s general educational aims and which includes an extended compulsory element of advanced independent work, of between 60 and 120 credits; the normal length of the programme shall be 48 weeks of full-time study or equivalent.

Master of Research (MRes)
180 credits at FHEQ Level 7
The title Master of Research (MRes) shall be reserved for programmes of research training for which prior knowledge and skills have provided an appropriate foundation. The programme will normally focus on a critique of appropriate domains of knowledge, the philosophy of knowledge, research design, research methods and skills appropriate to the focus of subject discipline and incorporate a substantial research project. The standard of a Master of Research shall be that expected of a University graduate who has successfully completed a programme of research training at a level more demanding than at first degree normally over not less than twelve months of full-time study and has passed the associated assessments. Programmes of study leading to the MRes will normally have a title which gives a more specific indication of the subject(s) studied.

Master of Philosophy (MPhil)
FHEQ Level 7
The standard of the Master of Philosophy (MPhil) shall be that of a good Honours graduate who has satisfactorily completed a research training programme and has investigated and evaluated or critically studied an appropriate topography or research normally not less than eighteen months of full-time study (or part-time equivalent), has presented a satisfactory thesis and has passed an oral examination.

11. Doctorate Degrees

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
FHEQ Level 8
The standard of the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) shall be that of a good Honours graduate who has satisfactorily completed a research training programme and has investigated and evaluated or critically studied an appropriate topic resulting in a significant contribution to knowledge over normally not less than:

(a) three-sixty-three months (via the MPhil transfer route)
(b) twenty-four months (for applicants in the possession of a Master’s degree in a field providing appropriate prior knowledge and skills who have satisfactorily completed a research training programme and have investigated and evaluated or critically studied an appropriate topic normally over not less than thirty-six months of full-time study (or part-time equivalent), resulting in an independent contribution to knowledge which shows evidence of originality. Candidates applying for the award of a professional doctorate will have completed successfully a taught element of the programme and will have presented a satisfactory thesis and have passed an oral examination. Programmes of study leading to a professional doctorate award will normally have a title which gives a more specific indication of the subject(s) studied, for example, Doctor of Education (EdD) or Doctor of Business Administration (DBA).

13. Higher Doctorates

Doctor of Letters (DLitt)
Doctor of Sciences (DSc)
Doctor of Technology (DTech)
Doctor of Laws (LLD)
The standard of the award of Higher Doctorates (DLitt, DSc, DTech or LLD) shall be that expected of an applicant who is a holder of at least seven years’ standing of a first degree or a holder of at least four years’ standing of a higher degree, who is a leading authority in the field of study concerned and has made an original and significant contribution to the advancement or application of knowledge in that field.

Doctor of Medicine (MD)
FHEQ Level 8
The standard of the Doctor of Medicine (MD) shall be that expected of a good Honours graduate who has satisfactorily completed a research training programme and has investigated and evaluated or critically studied an appropriate topic resulting in a significant contribution to knowledge over normally not less than twenty-four months.

Candidates applying for the award of MD will have presented a satisfactory thesis and have passed an oral examination. The programme shall meet the FHEQ qualification descriptor for Level 8 in full.