

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS FOR THE MASTER OF ARCHITECTURE (MArch)

General

- A1. These Assessment Regulations apply to all assessments on the Master of Architecture course (MArch), that formally contribute to awards or academic credit of the University. They apply to all assessments, at whatever point in a programme they are undertaken, that formally contribute to the recommendation of academic credit or an award of the University.
- A2. The awards under the Master of Architecture course are jointly conferred by Manchester Metropolitan University and the University of Manchester. These are as follows:

Students applying for the Master of Architecture:		
Award	Credit Specification	Credit Total
Graduate Diploma in Architecture (<i>Interim Exit Award</i>)	60 credits at Level 6 60 credits at Level 7	120
Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture	120 credits at Level 7	120
MA Architecture and Design (<i>Interim Exit Award</i>)	180 credits at Level 7	180
Master of Architecture (MArch) (<i>Final Award</i>)	60 credits at Level 6 180 credits at Level 7	240
Students applying for the final award of MA Architecture and Design:		
Award	Credit Specification	Credit Total
Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture	120 credits at Level 7	120
MA Architecture and Design (<i>Final Award</i>)	180 credits at Level 7	180

- A3. The Master of Architecture complies with the latest version of the EU Professional Qualifications Directive in relation to architecture education (Article 47), QAA Subject Benchmark: Architecture 2010, and is aligned to the professional requirements of the Architect's Registration Board and the Royal Institute of British Architects. The interim exit awards, and the final award of MA Architecture and Design, do not carry Part 2 PSRB recognition as this is exclusively integral to the full 240-credit

MArch award. The structure of the programme is calibrated in accordance with the [Regulations for Academic Awards of the University](#).

- A4. Students may only enrol on one course within a single standard academic period. Students may normally enrol only on units that form part of that course on which they are registered, as it is set out in the approved Programme Specification, and for which they have satisfied the necessary co- and pre-requisites and any other requirements.
- A5. These Regulations shall be applied so as to ensure equity of treatment of students regardless of their mode of study and the number of credits that they have studied over each contributing assessment period.

Enrolment; Period of Student Registration; Suspension of Studies

- A6. The minimum time for which a student may be registered on the programme and gain the Master of Architecture award shall be not less than the 2-year duration specified in the programme specification for full-time students, except where a student has been allowed to enter the programme through Advanced Entry, or has had approved Recognition of Prior Learning.
- A7. The minimum time for which a student may be registered on the final award of MA Architecture and Design shall not be less than the 1-year duration specified in the programme specification for students on Hybrid routes, except where a student has had approved Recognition of Prior Learning.
- A8. There shall be no maximum period of registration, subject to the judgement of the relevant Assessment Board as to whether the units studied have been completed within a period of time that is consistent with ensuring the currency of the curriculum. There shall, however, be no guarantee about the length of time for which the programme or its constituent units shall be available.
- A9. Students shall be required to renew their registration on the programme annually. If a student does not renew his/her registration, the registration shall lapse. A student whose registration has lapsed may be considered for re-admission to the programme, as long as the lapse in registration was not a consequence of academic failure.
- A10. A student may apply to the Programme Leader to suspend his/her studies ('intercalate'). If the Programme Leader considers that the reasons for the request are valid, they may agree to a suspension of studies for a period of up to one year, taking account of the implications of the timing and duration of the suspension for the student's engagement with the programme and with assessment and re-assessment opportunities. Decisions regarding second or subsequent requests for suspension of studies should be made by the relevant Head of Department.

Assessment, Progression and Re-assessment

Assessment

- B1. Students must pass or otherwise be credited with the specified number and level of credits for any award for which they are eligible in order to gain that award. Awards shall only be granted to students who have demonstrated achievement of the learning outcomes for the programme on which they are registered.
- B2. The assessment scheme for a unit shall comprise an approved combination of summatively assessed elements and shall be determined with respect to the learning outcomes of that unit.
- B3. Students may normally take a maximum of:
- 120 credits in a standard academic period for the full-time route
 - 60 credits in a standard academic period for the part-time route
 - 180 credits per standard academic period (September to September) for the hybrid routes
- B4. All elements of summative assessment within a unit shall be marked out of 100. Each element of assessment at level 6 must achieve a minimum pass mark of 40. Each element of assessment at level 7 must achieve a minimum pass mark of 50. The weighted average mark for the unit shall then be calculated from the marks for the individual elements of summative assessment. The weighted average mark for the unit shall also be expressed as a mark out of 100. Marking criteria shall be set out in the [University Standard Descriptors](#).
- B5. Marks are expressed as whole numbers, with standard rounding conventions applied to two decimal places. Unit/Award marks with a weighted average of x.49 and below will be rounded down to the nearest integer. Those with a weighted average of x.5 and above will be rounded up to the nearest integer.
- B6. Summative assessment marks shall be subject to internal, and where appropriate external, moderation before final confirmation by the Assessment Board, in accordance with the University's [Procedures for the Verification, Marking and Moderation of Assessments](#).
- B7. The Manchester Met [Procedure for Handling Academic Misconduct](#) shall apply to all students on the programme.

Progression

- B8. Students' progression through courses shall be determined by their performance in the summative assessments in the units on which they are enrolled. Due to the structure of this programme, students enrol on units at level 6 and level 7 at the same time. Students on all delivery routes must successfully complete all units within their year of study before progressing to the next year of study.
- B9. Level 6 units shall be passed when a student achieves a mark of 40% for each element of summative assessment within the unit. Level 7 units shall be passed when a student achieves a mark of 50% for each element of summative assessment within the unit.

- B10. All elements of assessment within each unit must be passed as outlined in Regulation B9. Therefore no compensation or condonement is permitted.
- B11. Any summatively assessed assignment submitted after the relevant submission deadline shall be marked as 0%, unless the student has approved Exceptional Factors, as outlined in Regulation B18.

Re-assessment

- B12. Students shall always be required to undertake re-assessment in Level 6 units in which they have not achieved a mark of at least 40% for each element of summative assessment, and in Level 7 units in which they have not achieved a mark of at least 50% for each element of summative assessment.
- B13. Students shall have an automatic right to one opportunity of re-assessment in all units. Students may also have a second re-assessment opportunity but this shall however be conditional upon the student engaging fully with the first re-assessment opportunity and/or securing approval for non-engagement through approved Exceptional Factors, as outlined in Regulation B18.
- B14. The University defines full engagement with first re-assessment as follows:
- Re-submission of a serious and legitimate attempt of all required items of coursework
 - AND attendance with all required re-sit examinations
 - AND attendance at or participation in any other re-assessment activities or events required by the programme.
- B15. Where a student does not achieve the pass mark for each element of summative assessment within a unit (as defined in Regulation B9), they shall be re-assessed only in those elements of assessment that they have failed. The mark for any element of assessment in which a student is re-assessed shall be capped at the pass mark.
- B16. No re-assessment shall be permitted to enable students to improve upon an element mark above the pass level, except where they have been permitted under Regulation B18 to be re-assessed as if for the first time.
- B17. Re-assessment in a unit shall take place as soon as is reasonable and possible after the associated period of student learning.
- B18. If it is established through the [Exceptional Factors Procedure](#) that a student's absence, failure to submit work or poor performance in all or part of an assessment was due to illness or other Exceptional Factors found valid on production of acceptable evidence, the student shall have the right to be re-assessed as if for the first time in any or all of the elements of assessment, as specified by the Assessment Board. If an assessment affected by illness or other Exceptional Factors was itself a second attempt, the student shall be permitted to be re-assessed again as if for the second (or a further) time.
- B19. Students shall not be entitled to re-assessment in elements that are no longer current in the programme for which they are registered. In cases where it is not practicable for a student to be re-assessed in the same elements and by the same methods as at the first or any subsequent attempt, the Assessment Board shall make such alternative arrangements as it considers appropriate.

- B20. Where, in the case of re-assessment, a lower element mark is attained than at the previous attempt, the higher mark shall apply. The re-assessed unit mark shall be calculated by combining the marks for elements of assessment in which the student was re-assessed with the original marks for any elements of assessment in which the student was not re-assessed.

Awards and Classification

Criteria for Awards

- C1. The approved Programme Specification for these awards shall state explicitly the learning outcomes to be met by students in order to achieve the final awards, and their associated interim exit awards.

Students applying for the Master of Architecture:

- C2. To qualify for the interim exit award of Graduate Diploma in Architecture, students must achieve passes in whole units to the credit value of 60 credits at Level 6 and 60 credits at Level 7.
- C3. To qualify for the interim exit award of Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture, students must achieve passes in whole units to the credit value of 120 credits at Level 7.
- C4. To qualify for the interim exit award of MA Architecture and Design, students must achieve passes in whole units to the credit value of 180 credits at Level 7.
- C5. To qualify for the final award of Master of Architecture, students must achieve passes in whole units to the credit value of 60 credits at Level 6 and 180 credits at Level 7.

Students applying for the final award of MA Architecture and Design:

- C6. To qualify for the interim exit award of Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture, students must achieve passes in whole units to the credit value of 120 credits at Level 7.
- C7. To qualify for the final award of MA Architecture and Design, students must achieve passes in whole units to the credit value of 180 credits at Level 7.

Classification

- C8. All awards may be made at Pass level, with Merit or with Distinction. The overall average mark is calculated from the average of all units at levels 6 and 7 in respect of their relative weighting.
- C9. For an award to be made at Pass level, a student must pass or otherwise be credited with all of the units that make up the specified number and level of credits for the award, as defined in Regulation B9.

- C10. For an award to be made with Merit, a student must pass all of the units that make up the specified number and level of credits for the award and gain an overall average of at least 60%.
- C11. For an award to be made with Distinction, a student must pass all of the units that make up the specified number and level of credits for the award and gain an overall average of at least 70%.

Aegrotat Award

C12. There shall be no provision for the Assessment Board to make an Aegrotat award or any other such award given to students where they have not successfully completed all of the assessments on the programme.