

REGULATIONS FOR FIRST DEGREE CURRICULA¹

(See also *General Regulations*, pp. 81 to 96)

UG 1 Definitions:

For the purpose of regulations and syllabuses for all first degree curricula unless otherwise defined —

An 'academic year' comprises two semesters, the first semester to commence in September and end in December, and the second semester to commence in January and end in May/June, on dates as prescribed by the Senate. It includes, normally at the end of each semester, a period during which candidates are assessed. For some curricula, a 'summer semester' may be organized in addition to the normal two semesters.

'Course' means a course of study, normally with a credit value (expressed as a number of units, known also as credit-units or credits) as defined in the syllabuses for a degree curriculum.

'Core course' means any of the courses that are mainly offered to candidates following the degree curriculum concerned and must be completed by them in order to fulfill the curriculum requirements.

'Elective course' or 'Elective' means any of the courses other than core courses that can be taken by candidates in order to complete the degree curriculum.

'Syllabus' means courses or a combination of courses taught by departments, centres, schools and programmes, offered under a degree curriculum.

'Prerequisite' means a course or a group of courses which candidates must have taken and/or completed successfully or a requirement which candidates must have fulfilled before being permitted to take the course in question.

'Corequisite' means a course which candidates must take in conjunction with the course in question.

'Credits' or 'credit-units' means the weight assigned to each course relative to the total study load under a degree curriculum. The number of credits is normally indicative of the contact hours, study time and/or candidate workload associated with the course. Candidates who satisfactorily complete courses with a credit value earn the credits of these courses.

'Semester Grade Point Average' or 'Semester GPA' is the combined grade average of all courses attempted by a candidate (including failed courses) during a given semester, where each course is given a weight, normally equal to its credit-unit value.

'Cumulative Grade Point Average' or 'Cumulative GPA' is the combined grade average of all courses completed successfully by a candidate (failed courses are excluded) at the time of calculation, where each course is given a weight, normally equal to its credit-unit value.

'Weighted Grade Point Average' or 'Weighted GPA' is the combined grade average of all courses taken by a candidate weighted by factors (such as the level of the courses) defined by the Board of the Faculty.

A 'transcript' is a transcript of the record of study of a candidate, issued by the Registry of the University.

UG 2 Advanced standing:

Advanced standing may be granted to candidates in recognition of studies completed successfully elsewhere. The amount of advanced credits to be granted shall be determined by the Board of a Faculty, in accordance with the following principles:

- (a) under the provisions in Statute III.5, a minimum of two semesters of study at this University shall be required before the candidate is considered for the award of the degree; and
- (b) a minimum of 60 credits shall be gained in this University.

¹ These regulations are applicable to candidates admitted to the first year of first degree curricula in or after 1998–99, except those in the Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery and the Bachelor of Dental Surgery curricula.

Advanced credits granted shall not normally be included in the calculation of the cumulative GPA, but, if so decided by the Board of Faculty, may be recorded on the transcript of the candidate.

UG 3 Requirements for graduation:

To be eligible for admission to the degree, candidates shall fulfill the following requirements in addition to requirements prescribed in the regulations and syllabuses governing the degree curricula:

- (a) Successful completion of a 3-unit English language enhancement course; and a 3-unit Chinese language enhancement course¹;
- (b) Successful completion, in the manner specified in the regulations and syllabuses governing the degree curricula, of one of the following courses²:
 - (i) a 3-unit course or a 6-unit IT-integrated course in Humanities and Social Sciences Studies; or
 - (ii) a 3-unit course or a 6-unit IT-integrated course in Science and Technology Studies.
- (c) Successful completion, in the manner specified in the regulations and syllabuses governing the degree curricula, of one of the following courses²:
 - (i) a 3-unit course or a 6-unit IT-integrated course in Culture and Value Studies; or
 - (ii) a 3-unit course which is outside the candidates' own degree curricula, as an elective course; or
 - (iii) a Common Core Course which is outside the candidates' own degree curricula.
- (d) *Either*
 - (i) successful completion of a 6-unit IT-integrated course in Humanities and Social Sciences Studies, Science and Technology Studies, or Culture and Value Studies, under (b)(i) or (ii) or (c)(i) above;
 - or* (ii) obtaining a pass in an information technology proficiency test;
 - or* (iii) successful completion of a 3-unit course in information technology;
 - or* (iv) satisfying the information technology proficiency requirements as specified in the regulations and syllabuses governing the degree curricula.

UG 4 Exemption:

Candidates may be exempted, with or without special conditions attached, from any of the requirements in UG 3 by the Senate in exceptional circumstances.

UG 5 Grading system:

The grades, their standards and the grade points for assessment shall be as follows^{3,4}:

Grade	Standard	Grade Point
A+	Excellent	4.0
A		4.0
A-		3.7
B+	Good	3.3
B		3.0
B-		2.7
C+	Satisfactory	2.3
C		2.0
C-		1.7
D+	Pass	1.3
D		1.0
F	Fail	0

¹ Candidates who have not studied Chinese language during their secondary education may be exempted from this requirement, see *Regulation UG 4*.

² Students failing to successfully complete courses in Humanities and Social Sciences Studies, Science and Technology Studies or Culture and Value Studies by 2009–10 shall be required to satisfy the requirements in (b) and (c) by taking 6-credit courses in the Common Core Curriculum to be offered from 2010–11 onwards.

³ UG 5 is not applicable to the BDS and MBBS curricula.

⁴ Special permission may be given for courses in individual curricula to be graded as 'Pass', 'Fail' or 'Distinction'.