Academic Standards and Quality Regulations 2024-25
www.uhi.ac.uk/regulations

All section references below refer to the current regulations, and the amendments implemented for academic year 2024/25. The Head of Academic Standards and Enhancement has oversight of the academic standards and quality regulations and welcomes feedback and suggested improvements from colleagues. If you have any questions or comments, please direct these through Tara Black (tara.black@uhi.ac.uk) in the first instance.

ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS AND COVID19
Academic Council approved a number of exceptional assessment arrangements in June 2020 to support students in the light of unprecedented disruption to learning and teaching due to the COVID19 pandemic. These exceptional arrangements were applied to progression and award outcomes in AY 2019-20. A separate 'fair assessment' approach' was applied to progression and award outcomes in AY 2020-21, in light of the ongoing impacts of the pandemic. Both sets of arrangements continue to be relevant for some students who were enrolled in those years, particularly part-time students.

ACTION SHORT OF A STRIKE (ASOS)
In June 2023, Academic Council approved temporary adjustments to policies and procedures in light of action short of a strike (ASOS) relating to the academic standards and quality regulations, in particular for assessment and Exam Boards (AC22-78). These temporary adjustments were approved again in March 2024 (AC23-54) in response to notification of further action short of a strike (ASOS) during Semester 2, academic year 2023/24.

SECTION 3 ACADEMIC COMMITTEES
o The remits and membership have changed for several committees
o 3.9.2.2 clarification that Faculty Board has oversight for both 'approval and withdrawal' of academic provision.

SECTION 7 PROGRAMME DEVELOPMENT
o Minor amendments throughout replacing 'critical review' with 'peer review'.

SECTION 8 PROGRAMME APPROVAL
o Minor amendments throughout replacing 'internal and external adviser' with 'peer reviewer' and 'Associate Dean' instead of 'internal adviser'
o Clarification determining when an advisory group or peer review takes place
o Clarification about who is appropriate to be an internal and external adviser.
o 8.9-8.12 clarification regarding the function of critical/peer review,
o 8.13-8.15 clarification regarding the function of the advisory group
o 8.16-8.17 clarification what happens in the absence of an advisory group
o 8.24 now includes student involvement in approval panels.

SECTION 10 PROGRAMME MODIFICATION
o Minor amendments to ensure alignments with the revised approvals and modifications processes.

SECTION 12 ACADEMIC LEADERSHIP: DEGREE PROGRAMMES AND MODULES
o This section has been rewritten in its entirety.

SECTION 14A TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE REGULATIONS
o 14a.21 The general provisions of the regulations relating to assessment and external examiners will also apply to taught postgraduate programmes except where variations are specified below. All teaching staff must use the postgraduate assessment coversheet.

SECTION 14B POSTGRADUATE RESEARCH DEGREE
o 17b.14c amended to include 'Some UKRI-funded programmes may differ.' to accommodate varying write-up periods for certain funded PhDs.

SECTION 16 ADMISSIONS AND ENROLMENT
o 16.71 amended to ensure students hold up to date competencies (i.e. Optometry students) before students can attend placement

SECTION 17A ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS (SQA AND OTHER AWARDING BODIES)
o 17a.17 All staff teaching HE SQA courses must comply with the Assessment Feedback and Feedforward Policy, the Assessment retention policy, and use the SQA assessment coversheet.
o 17a.18 All assessments may only be submitted through UHI technologies approved for assessment submission. The recommended technology is the virtual learning environment (VLE). For GDPR and records management reasons externally hosted technologies that have not been approved may not be used. Email may not be used for submitting assessments or for sharing personal data such as assessment feedback and marks.

SECTION 17B ASSESSMENT AND PROGRESSION REGULATIONS (DEGREE PROGRAMMES)
o 17b.31 All teaching staff must comply with the Assessment Feedback and Feedforward Policy, the Assessment retention policy, and use the undergraduate assessment coversheet. Assessments may only be submitted through UHI technologies approved for assessment submission. The recommended technology is the virtual learning environment (VLE). For GDPR and records management reasons externally hosted technologies that have not been approved may not be used. Email may not be used for submitting assessments or for sharing personal data such as assessment feedback and marks.
o 17b.36 Students' work will be marked and feedback given with an appropriate timescale (normally not more than 15 working days from the submission date) – standardising the wording with that used in guidance
o 17b.45-53 Students with disabilities – this has been extensively updated and also includes regulations specific to PGR students
o 17b.81 Word counts - sentence added to cover work-based learning and word count equivalencies.

SECTION 19 ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT POLICY AND PROCEDURE
o 19.3 added 'Accessibility requirements can be considered on a case-by case basis'.

APPENDIX G ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT
o The definition of plagiarism has been expanded to cover the use of generative artificial intelligence (GAI), with or without permission, and appropriate referencing (G.1.i.b-c), the use of paraphrasing tools (G.1.i.d), and the use, and presentation, of commissioned material as student's own (G.1.i.h).