

Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes from 2026/27 onwards

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These regulations apply to students starting on undergraduate and taught postgraduate degree programmes from Academic Year 2026/27 onwards.

Introduction

1. These regulations are a key part of the University's information for undergraduate and taught postgraduate students, whether they are being taught on campus or online. They set out requirements and expectations for students following the University's undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes for all students after September 2026 or later. They should be read together with the specific requirements for the student's programme of study, and the following University policies, procedures and regulations:

- Academic Misconduct Procedure
- Appeals Procedure
- Assessment Policies
- General and Admissions Regulations
- Mitigating Circumstances Policy
- Support to Study Policy
- Student Engagement Policy
- Suspension of Regulations Policy

All of the above can be found at: <https://www.soas.ac.uk>

2. These regulations apply to all undergraduate and taught postgraduate programmes of study unless an exception is specifically highlighted. It covers both on campus and online delivery. Further information will be available to students on the University website and the virtual learning environment, but in all cases these regulations take precedence.
3. These regulations apply to Full programme, Visiting and Associate students, as defined in the General and Admissions Regulations for Students, when they are enrolled on modules or programmes delivered by the University. These regulations also apply where students enrolled at a partner organisation are undertaking a SOAS programme under a franchise arrangement. They apply to postgraduate research students only where a student is taking a taught module as part of their programme of study. They apply to full and part time students regardless of if they are being taught on campus or online.
4. Any exceptional cases for waiver of these regulations will be considered under the Suspension of Regulations Policy.
5. A full glossary has been provided to help students understand these regulations. These can be found in the appendices to this document.

Admission and Enrolment

6. Regulations relating to admission and recognition of prior learning may be found in the General and Admissions Regulations.
7. Students are expected to enrol before the start of teaching and no longer than two weeks after teaching has commenced. Students are not entitled to attend classes, or access any digital systems, including the virtual learning environment, until enrolment has been fully completed.

8. Students must enrol at the start of each subsequent academic year of their programme, unless leave of absence for the academic year has been approved in advance. Enrolment must be completed no later than the end of the second week of teaching for the session.
9. The University reserves the right to withdraw the enrolment of students who have failed to disclose relevant information, or who have presented misleading or false information, in applying for a programme of study. The University also reserves the right to decline or withdraw the enrolment of students who do not hold the appropriate immigration status, or who fail to comply with the conditions of their visa.
10. Students must undertake mandatory training shortly after enrolment. Failure to complete the required training may lead to withdrawal from SOAS.

Programmes of Study

11. The undergraduate awards of the University are:

Level 3 International Foundation Certificate		FHEQ level 3
Certificate of Higher Education	CertHE	FHEQ level 4
Diploma of Higher Education	DipHE	FHEQ level 5
Bachelor of Arts	BA	FHEQ level 6
Bachelor of Laws	LLB	
Bachelor of Music	BMus	
Bachelor of Science	BSc	
Bachelor of Arts with Honours	BA (Hons)	
Bachelor of Laws with Honours	LLB (Hons)	
Bachelor of Science with Honours	BSc (Hons)	
Graduate Certificate	Grad Cert	
Graduate Diploma	Grad Dip	

12. The postgraduate taught awards of the University are:

Postgraduate Certificate	PGCert	FHEQ level 7
Postgraduate Diploma	PGDip	
Master of Arts	MA	
Master of Laws	LLM	
Master of Research	MRes	
Master of Science	MSc	
Master of Public Administration	MPA	

13. In addition to the complete awards listed above, the University provides opportunities for students to take discrete individual modules in some disciplines and receive the relevant credit only.
14. At the point of first registration, each student is registered for a specific programme of study, or as a visiting or associate student. The requirements for each stage of each programme of study are set out in the Programme Specification section on the SOAS intranet. Some programmes are offered in collaboration with another institution, with students taking specified modules at the other institution to fulfil the programme requirements.
15. Students will be awarded with a certificate and transcript naming the specific programme on which they enrolled. This can only be changed following a formal transfer to a different programme.
16. A student seeking to change programme should complete the Degree Programme Transfer Form available on the MySOAS portal. Programme transfers are at the discretion of the University and decisions will take into account the student's qualifications on entry, modules taken, and grades achieved, availability of places and any programme-specific requirements. Changes of degree programme are not permitted after the end of teaching week 1. For on-campus programmes this refers to week 1 of the academic year; for online programmes with multiple entry points, this refers to week 1 of the students academic session. Any requests received later will be considered for the following academic year or academic session. Full details can be found in the Student Transfer Policy.

Mode of Attendance, Leave of Absence and Duration of Study

17. Undergraduate degree programmes are intended for full-time study only. A fulltime undergraduate student will study 120 credits in each academic year. Exceptionally, a student may be permitted to enrol on a part-time basis, in which case the sequence of modules to be taken may be specified by the University. Undergraduate students may also be required to undertake a period of part-time repeat study if they are not qualified to progress to the next stage of their programme.
18. A student taking 120 credits in a year would be expected to take a minimum of 45 credits and a maximum of 75 credits per semester so that the curriculum is balanced.
19. Postgraduate degree programmes, and graduate certificate or diploma programmes, may be studied on a full-time or part-time basis, as specified on the programme webpage. Normally students are expected to retain the same mode of attendance throughout their programme.
20. Where a student studies part-time, it is expected that this is split 50%/50% if it's over two years and as close as possible to 33% per year if over three years. The exception to this is where a programme is designed as part-time and might vary in structure, in which case the programme specification is followed.
21. Student studying for a module for credit only will be in attendance as per the structure of that module – full or part time, online or on campus, as stipulated in the course descriptor.
22. In exceptional circumstances for undergraduates, a student may apply to transfer from full-time to part-time, or vice-versa, by completing the Change of Mode of Attendance form available on the MySOAS portal. Approval to change will depend on the appropriateness of the proposed mode of study for the student's programme and visa status.
23. Where a student requires a break in study, they may apply for leave of absence for a period of up to 12 months by completing the Leave of Absence form available on the MySOAS portal. Normally leave of absence will be granted no more than twice during a student's period of study.
 - 23.1 Applications received after teaching has finished for the academic session will only be considered where the student has extenuating circumstances supported by evidence.
 - 23.2 In certain circumstances, leave of absence may not be possible, for example where a stage of a programme is running in its current form for the last time.
 - 23.3 Where leave of absence is granted, a return to study date will be agreed. The student must register and resume their studies on that date; otherwise, they will be withdrawn from study.
 - 23.4 Students may be given conditions of return in relation to their leave of absence. These conditions might state changes in the curriculum on their return.

24. The maximum period of study, not including any approved leave of absence, for each award is (these durations include on campus and online delivery as appropriate):

Award	Full-Time (max years)	Part-Time (max years)
3-year undergraduate degree	5	n/a
4-year undergraduate degree	6	n/a
3-year undergraduate degree with Foundation Year	6	n/a
4-year undergraduate degree with Foundation Year	7	n/a
Senior Status LLB	4	n/a
Graduate Certificate	2	3
Graduate Diploma	3	4
1-year full-time Master's	2	n/a
2-year full-time Master's	3	n/a
2-year part-time Master's	n/a	3
3-year part-time Master's	n/a	4
Postgraduate Certificate	2	2
Postgraduate Diploma	2	3

25. Where a student transfers between full-time and part-time modes of study the maximum period of enrolment will be calculated on a pro-rata basis, with two part-time years equivalent to one full-time year. This does not apply in cases where a student is required to register part-time in order to repeat failed modules; such years will count in full. Further information can be found in the Student Transfer Policy.
26. The maximum period of study will be reduced by one year full-time or two years part-time for every 120 credits granted in recognition of prior learning (for undergraduate only).

Modules, Engagement and Assessment

27. Undergraduate programmes are made up of modules, which normally carry 15 or 30 credits in the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree Awarding Bodies (FHEQ), which equate to 7.5 or 15 ECTS respectively. Occasionally, modules may be approved carrying 45 or 60 credits (22.5 or 30 ECTS). A programme stage will contain modules totalling 120 credits. Modules will explicitly state the credit size associated with it.
28. Postgraduate programmes are made up of modules, which may carry 15, 30, 45 or 60 FHEQ credits. The ECTS value of each is exactly half of the FHEQ credit value.
29. Where students have modules to select, this is done via module registration on the student portal. For on-campus programmes, modules must be chosen before the start of each academic year, and modules cannot be changed after the end of week 2 semester 1. For online programmes and where relevant, modules must be chosen at the start of each academic session.
30. There are a variety of module types which are described as follows:

Type of module	Description
Core	Must be taken and module must be passed in order to progress
Compulsory	Must be taken, and module must be passed for the degree award, but need not be passed in order to progress
Guided option	Selected from a defined list
Open option	Selected from a wide range of University modules
Intercollegiate module	Module provided by another institution

A student may only replace an open module with an intercollegiate module with the permission of their Programme Convenor.

31. Students are expected to engage fully with the learning opportunities offered to them by the University, but also to study independently, taking responsibility for their own learning. Details of how the University monitors engagement and supports students can be found in the Student Engagement Policy. Repeated failure to engage can lead to a student being withdrawn from study.
32. Exceptionally, the Curriculum and Quality Assurance Committee (CQAC) may approve a minimum attendance or participation requirement in order to pass a module, and where this is the case, it will be made explicit in the module descriptor.

33. Each module is assessed by one or more elements of assessment. Each element of assessment is given a percentage weighting in the calculation of the module grade. Where an element of assessment has not been completed, it will be marked zero in the module grade calculation.
34. Where coursework, including a dissertation or project, is handed in late and there are no approved mitigating circumstances, there will be a grace period of 48 hours during which there will be no mark penalties. Work submitted after this and within 10 days of the deadline will be capped at the pass mark. Students that submit within this grace period multiple times may be contacted to discuss further.
 - 34.1 Where the assessment is set for a specific time, i.e. in class tests or examinations, no grace period can be applied.
35. Students should ensure they are familiar with the Academic Misconduct Procedure and the Assessment Policy.
36. Exceptionally, TeLSEC may specify that a pass grade must be achieved in a particular element of assessment in order to pass a module. Where this is the case, it will be made explicit in the module descriptor.
37. Student performance in each assessment and in each module will normally be assessed and recorded using a percentage grade. Exceptionally, TeLSEC may grant approval for a competence-based module to be assessed on a pass/fail basis only. Grades will be confirmed by an Assessment Board.
38. Credit will be awarded for an undergraduate module where a student has achieved a grade of 40% or higher. Grades of 39% or lower, and grades of NR, are fail grades. For each of these, no credit is awarded.
39. Credit will be awarded for a postgraduate module where a student has achieved a grade of 50% or higher. Grades of 49% or lower, and grades of NR, are fail grades. For each of these, no credit is awarded.
40. Two assessment opportunities are offered in each academic year. Where a student has a fail grade (including a grade of NR) for any element of assessment in the semester end assessment period, they will be permitted to retake the assessment at the next possible opportunity. For taught programmes on campus this will be in the late summer assessment period, and for online programmes a reassessment date will be provided. It will be outlined in the module descriptor for any elements where reassessment is not possible. A student who has undertaken reassessment cannot be awarded a lower grade (either for the element or module) than that achieved at the first attempt.
41. There is no limit to the number of modules in which a student—whether studying on campus or online—may be reassessed. However, a student may only repeat or be reassessed in a module in accordance with the permitted number of assessment attempts. Students cannot take an alternative version of a module, or select a different optional

module, in order to circumvent these limits. (further information in Progression sections below).

42. A student cannot be reassessed in an element of assessment, or in a module, in which they already have a passing grade, unless they have mitigating circumstances.
43. There is no formal progression review during the academic year. However, if a student is enrolled in a Semester 2 module that requires passing a Semester 1 module, action may be taken if any provisional Semester 1 results suggest a fail. This may include elements of assessment completed throughout Semester 1. Possible actions include transferring to a different degree, changing modules, or implementing a 'Support to study' plan. This list is not exhaustive, and actions will depend on individual circumstances. This applies to both undergraduate and postgraduate programmes where such module dependencies exist.

Progression – Undergraduate Students

44. Undergraduate student progression will be considered at the end of each academic year, after the second semester and again after the reassessment period. Student progression is measured against the academic requirements for each programme year, and will be applied to all non-finalists (including those who have undertaken study abroad and placement years) and to finalists who have not met the requirements for their intended award. Progression Boards oversee student progression. A student has the right to appeal against a decision of a Progression Board, in line with the Academic Appeals Procedure. The possible decisions of the Progression Board are outlined below.
45. If a student is subject to a pending Academic Misconduct decision, their grades and profile will not be considered at the Progression Board. They will be considered once the investigation into their alleged misconduct has been completed and a decision is formalised.
46. Undergraduate students have access to two assessment attempts for each assessment element. Two opportunities are provided in each academic year but where a student has not had the opportunity to take two attempts, they may be eligible to reassess as outlined below. Non-submission, without good cause approved, constitutes an attempt.
47. Progress: Standard progression at the end of an academic year of full-time study is completion of 120 credits with passing grades. Such students will be eligible to proceed to the next year of the degree programme.
48. Progress, carrying reassessment (trailing credits): Students who have passed at least 90 credits of an programme year, and have not failed a Core module, will be permitted to proceed to the next year, carrying the missing module credit. Such students will be required to undertake reassessment in all failed elements of assessment in the following academic year. They will have access to both assessment opportunities in that year, and the grade achieved will be capped at the minimum passing grade. Where the module is running in the following academic year, they will have access to the teaching materials, and normally will be assessed on the latest version of the module, rather than the original version they first

studied. Students must pass all carried modules by the end of that year, otherwise they will be required to withdraw or repeat (providing they have not exhausted their two attempts). If a student wishes to repeat a module in full rather than carry it as reassessment, they may apply to do so, and if approved it will be treated as repeat study (see section below).

49. Undertake repeat study: Students who have passed at least 60 credits, but fewer than 90 credits of a programme year, or who have failed a Core module, will be required, if eligible, to undertake repeat study in the following year in order to retake the modules in which they have not achieved a passing grade, or to take agreed substitute modules.
50. Withdraw: Students who have passed fewer than 60 credits of a programme year will normally be required to withdraw from study. A student who is withdrawn may be awarded a lower award for which they have met the academic requirements within the maximum period of study for that award.
51. Those with exceptional permission to follow a degree programme on a part-time basis will progress from one year to the next on the same basis as above, will be expected to pass at least half the credit for which they have registered in each academic year, and must be able to complete within the maximum period of study.
52. If a student takes a leave of absence after receiving their end of year progression outcomes, and has outstanding repeats or reassessment, this cannot be submitted while on leave of absence and must be completed on their return. Upon return, any outstanding repeats or reassessment will be taken in line with the standard academic calendar dates.

Undergraduate Repeat Study

53. A student will be permitted to repeat any programme year once only. Where a student is permitted to repeat a module or modules in the following academic year, they must participate fully and complete all assessments. No previous assessment grades will be carried forward. Students will have access to both assessment opportunities, and the module grade achieved will be capped at the minimum passing grade whether the module is repeated or substituted. All repeated or substituted modules must be passed for the student to progress further; otherwise, they will be required to withdraw.
54. Students are not normally permitted to repeat more than two programme years in total. If a student fails to progress on a third occasion, they will normally be required to withdraw. (see maximum period of study outlined in point 18)
55. A student may not take a module (or a module and an agreed substitute for that module) in more than two academic sessions.

Progression – Postgraduate Students

56. Postgraduate student progression will be considered at the end of each academic year or at the anniversary of their enrolment, after the main assessment period and again after the reassessment period. At this point, student progression is measured against the academic requirements for the taught elements of a student's programme of study. Progression is considered again after the dissertation submission date. Progression Boards oversee student progression. A student has the right to appeal against a decision of a Progression Board, in line with the Academic Appeals Policy. The possible decisions of the Progression Board are outlined in regulations 50-59 below.
57. If a student is subject to a pending Academic Misconduct decision, their grades and profile will not be considered at the Progression Board. They will be considered once the investigation into their alleged misconduct has been completed and a decision is formalised.
58. Postgraduate students have access to two assessment attempts for each assessment element. Two opportunities are provided in each academic year, but where a student has not had the opportunity to take two attempts, they may be eligible to reassess as outlined below. Non-submission, without good cause approved, constitutes an attempt.
59. Award: Where a student has met the requirements of their intended award in full.
60. Dissertation: Where a student has successfully completed the taught modules and only the dissertation remains to be graded.
61. Reassess: Where a student has assessment attempts remaining in one module or more, and has no module where both attempts had been exhausted, they will be permitted to undertake reassessment at the next opportunity - for taught programmes on campus this will be in the late summer assessment period, and for online programmes a reassessment date will be provided. The second assessment attempt will result in the module grade being capped at the minimum passing grade.
62. Reassess and defer: Where a student meets the criteria for 'reassess' as above, but needs to complete reassessment in 45 credits or more, they will be permitted to undertake reassessment. The dissertation component (whether as a module or as a final submission) will have its deadline deferred until the reassessment has been attempted.
63. Continue: Where a part-time student, or a full-time student on a two-year or three-year programme, has passed all modules taken, they will continue to the next year of their programme.
64. Continue and reassess: Where a part-time student has assessment attempts remaining in one module or more, and no module where both attempts have been exhausted, they will be permitted to continue, undertaking assessment in the following academic year for on-campus programmes or the following academic session for online programmes. Students must pass all reassessed modules by the end of that year or academic session respectively, otherwise they will be required to withdraw. Any module passed at the second assessment attempt will be capped at the minimum passing grade.

When there is no formal progression between module 3 and module 6 for SOAS Online students, and where all attempts have been carried out for module 3 without passing, then action may need to be taken on an individual basis. This may include transfer to a different award level.

65. **Pause and reassess:** Students registered on a full-time two year postgraduate programme with intensive language must pass both the language module and the summer language school on which they are enrolled in the first year in order to be permitted to progress to the second year of the programme. If a student has assessment attempts remaining in these, they must repeat and pass these before they can progress to year two. Alternatively, students in this position may request transfer to a programme without intensive language.
66. **Aim for lower award:** Where a student has attempts remaining in some modules but has exhausted both attempts in others, the original intended award is not achievable, but a lower award, typically PG Cert, is still possible. In such cases the student will be permitted to take remaining assessment opportunities in the following year for on-campus programmes in order to attempt to attain an award. No attempts will be permitted beyond that year or session. For SOAS Online students this may not be possible as specific modules must be passed for specific awards.
67. **Award lower award:** Where a student has met the requirements for a lower award, and no higher award is possible from the remaining assessment attempts.
68. **Withdraw:** Where all assessment attempts have been exhausted, or no award is achievable from the remaining assessment attempts, or where there has been a consistent pattern of failure to attempt assessment.
69. **Repeat study for postgraduate students is not normally permitted.**

Progression – standalone modules

70. Students enrolled on standalone modules, or modules that collectively will stack to build towards a programme of study, will be considered at the appropriate Progression Board, depending on the timing of their module. The Progression Board will confirm their results only and will not provide a progression outcome.

Short-term Absence and Mitigating Circumstances

71. A student may apply for an extension or deferral of assessment as described in the Mitigating Circumstances Policy. Any request for extension must be submitted on or before the date on which the assessment is due. Full details are available in the Mitigating Circumstances Policy.
72. Applications for extension and deferral are administered and overseen by the Mitigating Circumstances Panel.
73. Where deferral of an assessment has been approved, assessment should be completed in the late summer reassessment period for on-campus programmes and in the next academic session for online programmes. Assessment due in the late summer reassessment period or next available academic session cannot normally be deferred, and a final outcome of Pass, Fail or No Result will be given for the module, as appropriate. A module that has not been passed may be reassessed or repeated (UG only) in the following academic year for on-campus programmes and reassessment in the following academic session for online programmes, provided the student is eligible to do so under the progression regulations.
74. Where a postgraduate student on an on-campus programme is prevented by mitigating circumstances from submitting the dissertation, they may apply to defer submission to the last working day of October of the same year while students on an online programme may apply to defer to the next available assessment opportunity. Where there are exceptional circumstances such that this is insufficient, a period of leave of absence should be requested, and a future submission date agreed by the Mitigating Circumstances Panel.

Undergraduate Awards

75. Each award has a minimum credit requirement that must be met in full. No condonement or compensation of failed modules is permitted.
76. Students who withdraw from study, or are withdrawn by the University, will be awarded an exit award if they meet the criteria for an award as outlined below, with the appropriate credit gained within the maximum period of study for that award.
77. Award titles are as approved by the University, and are not adjusted to reflect the modules taken by a student.

78. The table below provides information on the requirements for each Undergraduate Award:

Award	Credit requirement	Other requirements
Certificate in Higher Education	120 credits at Level 4 or above	This is an exit award and does not carry a subject title
Diploma in Higher Education	240 credits at Level 4 or above	This is an exit award and does not carry a subject title
Honours Degree with a specific title having followed a 3 year programme	360 credits with at least 90 credits at Level 6	Completed all requirements of the programme structure in full
Honours Degree with a specific title having followed a 4 year programme	480 credits with at least 90 credits in Level 6	Completed all requirements of the programme structure in full
Pass Degree with a specific title	300 credits with at least 60 credits at Level 6	
Graduate Certificate	60 credits with at least 45 at Level 6	
Graduate Diploma	120 credits with at least 90 at Level 6	

79. Where a student is qualified for the award of a Pass Degree, but is also eligible under progression regulations to undertake further assessment for an Honours degree, they will be entitled to choose either to accept the Pass degree, or to undertake further assessment.
80. if a student is awarded a Pass degree, having followed a 3 year LLB programme, the award title will be BA in Law.
81. For any of the above awards including a Foundation Year, 120 additional credits are required.
82. The Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education, Bachelor's Degree, Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma may be awarded with Distinction or with Merit.
83. A grade average will be calculated to determine eligibility for an award with Distinction or Merit. For the Diploma in Higher Education, it is based on the passing grades achieved in Level 5; for the Pass degree, on the passing grades achieved in Levels 5 and 6; and for the Graduate Certificate and Graduate Diploma, on the passing grades achieved in all modules passed. Failed modules, and any modules assessed on a pass/fail basis, will not be included in the calculation.

- 84. An award will be made with distinction where a student has an overall grade average of at least 70%.
- 85. An award will be made with Merit where a student has an overall grade average of at least 60%.
- 86. Any of the University's undergraduate awards may be awarded posthumously. A posthumous award will be calculated based on credit attained.
- 87. Where a student has been prevented from completing sufficient assessment due to severe illness or other exceptional circumstances, the Assessment Board may recommend to the University Board that an Aegrotat award is made. An Aegrotat award does not carry a classification, merit or distinction.

Classification of Honours Degrees

- 88. Degree classification will be determined based on a grade average, weighted by module credit, of the passing grades achieved in the modules taken in stages 2 and 3 of a three-year Honours programme, or stages 2 and 4 of a 4-year programme (normally 240 credits in total). For the Senior Status LLB, the calculation will be based on all modules passed at FHEQ level 6. Failed modules, and any modules assessed on a pass/fail basis, will not be included in the calculation for any student.
- 89. The grade average is calculated and rounded to the nearest whole number and corresponds to an Honours classification as detailed in the table below. There is no borderline area, and Boards do not have the ability to change a classification from that calculated.

Grade average	Honours degree classification
70% and above	First class
60% - 69%	Second class, upper
50% - 59%	Second class, lower
40% - 49%	Third class

- 90. A degree classification will be calculated for each student who meets the credit requirements for an Honours degree in full. A student who has not met the credit requirements is not eligible for the award of the Honours degree, regardless of grade average.

Postgraduate Awards

91. Each award has a minimum credit requirement that must be met in full. No condonement or compensation of failed modules is permitted.
92. Students who withdraw from study, or are withdrawn by the University, may be awarded an exit award if they meet the criteria for an award outlined below, with the credit attained within the maximum period of study for that award.
93. For the award of the Postgraduate Certificate, students require passes in 60 credits, with at least 45 at level 7.
94. For the award of the Postgraduate Diploma, students require passes in 120 credits, with at least 90 at level 7.
95. For the award of the Master's degree, having followed a one-year programme (or its part-time equivalent), students require passes in 180 credits, with at least 150 at level 7.
96. For the award of the Master's degree, having followed a full-time two-year programme (or its parttime equivalent), students require passes in 300 or 315 credits (as specified in the programme structure), including a compulsory period of study abroad, with at least 150 at level 7. Where students exit the programme without completing the required credit total in full, the highest award that can be granted is Postgraduate Diploma.
97. For SOAS Online, specific modules must be passed to achieve a Postgraduate Certificate or Postgraduate Diploma. This information is outlined on the Programme Specification.
98. Any of the University's postgraduate awards may be awarded posthumously. A posthumous award will be calculated based on credit attained.
99. Where a student has been prevented from completing sufficient assessment due to severe illness or other exceptional circumstances, the Assessment Board may recommend to the University Board that an Aegrotat award is made. An Aegrotat award does not carry merit or distinction.

Merit and Distinction in Postgraduate Awards

100. Any postgraduate award may be granted with Merit or with Distinction. A grade average, weighted by module credit, will be calculated, based on the passing grades achieved in all modules taken, including the dissertation, as part of the postgraduate programme. Failed modules, and any modules assessed on a pass/fail basis, will not be included in the calculation.
101. The grade average is calculated and rounded to the nearest whole number. Where the grade average is 70% or higher, the award will be granted with Distinction. Where the grade average is 60% - 69%, the award will be granted with Merit. There is no borderline area, and Boards do not have the ability to award Merit or Distinction where the required grade average has not been attained.

Version Control

Academic Regulations for Taught Programmes: 2026/27 onwards			
Document type:	Regulations		
Document number:	REG-175	Version:	04
Department:	Registry		
Approved by:	Senate	Date approved:	04/03/2026
Effective from:	01/08/2025	Review date:	02/07/2028
Publication:	SOAS website		
Related documents:	See section 1		
Documents replaced:	N/A		

Note: All policies must be read in conjunction with all other SOAS policy, procedure and guidance documents. Printed copies of policies may not be the most up to date, therefore please refer to the policy pages on the SOAS external website or intranet for the latest version.