

Regulatory Change - August 2022: Taught Postgraduate Threshold Pass Mark

What changed?

50% threshold
pass for taught
postgraduate
courses

This change does not mean that you will need to do better in your assessments in order to achieve a pass. The criteria for what constitutes a pass have not changed at postgraduate level, the change is only that a threshold pass will be expressed as a mark of 50% rather than 40% from August 2022.

The reason for the change is to provide greater differentiation between pass marks at undergraduate and postgraduate level. The change is introduced in light of feedback from external examiners and representatives of professional bodies.

What does the change mean for me?

New students

New students who will start a postgraduate course from 2022/23

Note: this also applies to students on an integrated masters course who will start Level 7 from 2022/23

- All marking schemes for Level 7 modules that you study will now have a threshold pass mark of 50%. You will not need to do better in your assessments in order to achieve a pass compared with any students who studied the same modules in previous years. The criteria for what constitutes a threshold pass has not changed, the change is only that a threshold pass will have a numerical value of 50% rather than 40% from August 2022.

Continuing
students

Continuing postgraduate students who have remaining modules to study in 2022/23 or later

- For your new modules that start delivery from August 2022 a threshold pass will have a mark of 50%. You will not need to do better in your assessments in order to achieve a pass than you did in previous years.
- Any marks for Level 7 modules that you completed prior to August 2022 will be 'recalibrated' (see section below). This will adjust existing marks so that marks for all modules are expressed against the new threshold pass mark.

Continuing postgraduate students with only dissertation or major project submissions to hand in after August 2022

- If you do need to repeat any modules after August 2022, the threshold pass in these modules will have a mark of 50%. You will not need to do better in your assessments in order to achieve a pass than you did in previous years.
- Any marks for Level 7 modules that you completed prior to August 2022 will be 'recalibrated' (see section below). This will adjust existing marks achieved prior to 2022/23 to express these against the new threshold pass mark.

Recalibration exercise

The 'big bang' implementation approach required an exercise to recalibrate any existing marks achieved by continuing postgraduate students prior to the point when the threshold pass mark changed. The recalibration exercise has adjusted existing module marks to express these against the new threshold pass mark, i.e. a module mark of 40% achieved in 2021/22 will be adjusted to a mark of 50% to reflect the new threshold pass mark.

Recalibrating
marks for
continuing
students

Please note that a small number of courses are exempt from this activity due to their professional, statutory or regulatory body reasons. If you are unsure if this applies to your course please contact your course team.

Contacts and Further Information

[Academic Regulations](#)

Students with queries should contact their Course Director or Course Administrator in the first instance.

Quality Assurance Services



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