

## Changes to the Academic Regulations 2025/26

The [Academic Regulations](#) are the set of rules within which the University operates and assures the quality of its courses. These regulations apply to all our courses unless regulatory exemptions have been approved (if exemptions are in place they are listed in the course handbook). The regulations are reviewed and updated each year, as appropriate, with changes being approved by Academic Board.

### The changes for 2025/26 (from 1 August 2025) are:

- **Fit to Sit/Submit Policy (Section 8)**

Students may now withdraw their declaration of fitness to sit or submit, recognising circumstances that could affect their judgement at the time of assessment. This revision reflects the Abrahart vs University of Bristol ruling, and guidance from the Office of the Independent Adjudicator, reinforcing our legal duty to disabled students under the Equality Act 2010.

The language in this section has been revised to improve clarity and accessibility.
- **Student Engagement (Section 12)**

The section title has changed to “Building Academic Communities – Student Engagement and Partnerships.” This terminology better reflects new structures and practices (e.g. School Assemblies).

Students continue to play a key role in curriculum development, quality enhancement, and course modification processes.
- **Viva Voce Process (Section 10)**

Schools may now conduct the viva voce as part of the Academic Misconduct Board meeting, rather than as a separate event.
- **Apprenticeships**

**Assessment & Entry (Sections 2, 3, 4, 19)**  
The requirement for completing Level 2 English and Maths has been removed.

**End Point Assessment**  
The regulations now offer clearer signposting to the University’s End Point Assessment policy, ensuring apprentices, staff and assessors can easily access guidance.
- **Integrated Masters in Architecture (Sections 3, 4, 17, 18)**

The new Integrated Master of Architecture is in line with the Architects Registration Board’s updated regulatory framework.

It comprises 540 credits, with its own progression criteria and classification formula.
- **Research Degrees (Section 17)**

The list of research degree awards has been updated to reflect the changes made last year to section 11.

### Further information:

- Current [Academic Regulations](#) are published on the University website
- **Resources for staff** are available on the [Academic Quality Enhancement webpages](#)
- **Online module** on [MyDevelopment](#)
- **Students** can contact their course director or course administrator for further information
- The [Students’ Union Advice Service](#) provides independent tailored advice to students