

What happens if you fail some course units

(please read this document in conjunction with the regulations, it will make more sense)

At this stage of the year it is difficult to say if you will have to resit any units, this is decided by the board of examiners which meets at the start of July (an examination board) where all of your taught units (i.e. semester 1+2) are reviewed, and the board decides if you can 'progress' to the dissertation stage.*

*If the board recommends that you have to resit any units you should still continue working on your dissertation/project as normal, and your progression 'status' depends on the results of your resits.

If you get below 40 in any unit then you will definitely have to resit.

***Eligibility to re-sit is dependent on mark profile achieved for the taught element of the programme. Students can only re-sit up to a maximum of 60 taught credits. Any student failing more than 60 credits will no longer be eligible to proceed as an MSc candidate and will be considered against the requirements for the award of PG Diploma.**

The resit period is in August 2020 and you will be notified of any resits in early July (following the examination board).

Your degree award is calculated out of a weighted average of 180 credits worth of work.

8 x 15 credit units (120 credits)

1 x 60 credit dissertation (or project)

10 x 15 credit & 1 x 30 credit project (MSc Management only)

Credits are just a value assigned to an amount of work, and determine the weighting of your grades when calculating your GPA (more on this later).

You can be compensated up to 30 credits and still get the award of MSc. The compensatable range is 40-49. For example you can have up to 2 units in the range 40-49 and still get the award of MSc (but you cannot get a distinction, only pass or merit). You will not have an opportunity to resit these compensated units. If you have more than 2 units in the range 40-49 the examination board will decide which units you must resit, the mark will be capped at the original grade you received (but you must pass it with 50+).

Scenario A:

You get the following results:

Unit A: 56

Unit B: 72

Unit C: 44

Unit D: 62

Unit E: 47

Unit F: 58

Unit G: 64

Unit H: 68

The examination board will allow you a compensated pass for units C and E. You do not have to resit anything. Your GPA is 59 (i.e. above 50) so you can 'proceed'.

Scenario B:

Unit A: 56

Unit B: 72

Unit C: 44

Unit D: 62

Unit E: 47

Unit F: 46

Unit G: 64

Unit H: 68

There are 3 units with a mark below 50, but still in the range 40-49. You can only be compensated up to 30 credits (2 units), the examination board will decide which unit(s) you will need to resit. Any resit marks will be capped and be indicated with an 'R' after the unit mark on your transcript e.g. 45R. You will not find out the actual grade of your resit, just that you passed or failed.

Scenario C:

Unit A: 56

Unit B: 35

Unit C: 44

Unit D: 62

Unit E: 47

Unit F: 46

Unit G: 64

Unit H: 68

This is the same as scenario B, except there is also one unit which is less than 40. You therefore have to resit unit C and unit B. You must achieve at least 50 in both of the resits, and unit C will be capped at 44, and unit B will be capped at 40 (the lowest compensatable mark). Both will show as 44R and 40R on your transcript respectively. These marks will go towards your GPA.

Remember, any unit that is below 40 must be retaken as a resit. You must get 50 or more in the resit, but it is capped at 40 and you do not find out the actual grade, just that you passed the resit. The capped grades go towards your GPA to calculate your final degree award.

If you have to do any resits, or are compensated for any units then you can't get a distinction, but you can still get a merit.

Resits are usually a 'second attempt'. Sometimes resits can be done as a 'first attempt' and they are not capped. But this happens rarely and is only allowed by the examination board if you have mitigating circumstances.

Hopefully this information demonstrates that there can be many scenarios, but the general rule is that you can 'fail' two units in the range 40-49. Any more than this and you must resit (the examination board will decide which units). Anything below 40 you must resit. Resits are capped at the original mark, or at 40 (if the first mark was below 40). The capped marks (following a resit) go towards your GPA.