

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 in 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 gain a mark of 39 or below you will need to resit the course unit, subject to confirmation by the exam board.*

***Eligibility to resit is determined by the examination board and is dependent on the mark profile achieved for the taught element of the programme. Students can resit up to a maximum of 60 taught credits.**

The resit period is in August, and you will be notified of any resits in 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 40 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. 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 you will need to resit. (This would usually be the unit with the highest mark, but is at the exam board's discretion). 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 B. 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.

The examination board will decide which of the other units below 50 you will need to resit (this would usually be the unit(s) with the highest mark, but is at the exam board's discretion) in this scenario this would be unit E. Unit C will be compensated and 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.

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 'compensate' 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.

All resits and compensations are subject to approval by the examination board.