

Ordinances and Regulations: Degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt)

September 2018

Research Degrees and Researcher Development Team

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A. ORDINANCES

- 1.** The University may award the degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt) in accordance with the regulations in recognition of the successful completion of an approved programme of training and research.
- 2.** Students will satisfactorily pursue an approved programme of training and research which combines advanced study, research methodology and a substantial research project, or series of research projects, as either a full or part-time student.
- 3.** These ordinances and regulations provide a general framework for the degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt), and should be read in conjunction with detailed notes for guidance.
- 4.** Regulations for student complaints and appeals are provided in the University's General Regulations XVIII and XIX respectively.

B. REGULATIONS

1. Admission to the degree

- a.** Applicants for admission to the Master of Enterprise (MEnt) will normally have:
 - i.** a first degree (equivalent to a UK Honours Bachelors degree) or equivalent qualification from a recognised institution; or
 - ii.** evidence of previous advanced study, research or professional experience, which the University accepts as qualifying the applicant for entry.
- b.** All applicants must meet the minimum English language requirements of their chosen degree, as described by the University's Postgraduate Admissions Policy.

2. Duration of the degree

- a.** A full-time Master of Enterprise (MEnt) degree will normally extend over a period of twelve months. The date for the end of the degree and submission of the dissertation will be published in the degree handbook.
- b.** A part-time Master of Enterprise (MEnt) student will complete the degree over a more extended period of time which will be published in the degree handbook, but will not exceed two academic years.

3. Credits

- a.** A Master of Enterprise (MEnt) degree will consist of 180 credits, in total, comprising a combination of level 4 (M level) units approved by the University and a programme of research.
- b.** The Master of Enterprise (MEnt) degree will normally consist of a 120 credit research project, in addition to 60 credits of taught content, making a standard 180 credits in total. A minimum of 120 and a maximum of 150 credits should be directly awarded for the research dissertation, and the final balance of credits will differ depending upon the background, experience and proposed subject of research of each student. The taught content will serve to provide the student with research skills and a depth of specialist knowledge that is directly applicable to the field of research.
- c.** The taught content will consist of course units, normally comprising four level 4 (M level) 15 credit course units. The degree has two level 4 (M level) core units.

4. Progression and Assessment

- a.** Regulations for work and attendance are outlined in the University's General Regulations XX.
- b.** Students for the degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt) will present themselves for assessment of their progress as required in the degree handbook.

- c. Students will normally successfully complete the taught component of the Masters degree before submission of the dissertation.
- d. A student who fails to satisfy the examiners in any assessment of taught units may be permitted to resubmit the assessment or retake the examination on one further occasion. The student will take this opportunity during the next available University examination period or within a period as published in the degree handbook.
- e. The maximum mark to be awarded for resubmitted coursework or retaken examination will normally be 50%.
- f. Students may, in exceptional circumstances, and with prior permission of the Faculty, be allowed to re-take the entire degree subject to all outstanding fees being paid.

5. Dissertation

- a. Dissertations should be submitted in accordance with the information set out in the University's Guidance Notes for the Presentation of MEnt Dissertations.
- b. Dissertation submission dates will normally be 51 weeks after the start of the degree and will be published in degree handbooks. Submission dates for part-time students will reflect the length of the degree (pro-rata compared to a full-time degree).
- c. The dissertation must be submitted before the end of the programme in order for a student to be eligible for the award of distinction.
- d. At the recommendation of the examiners, students will normally be allowed one resubmission of a failed dissertation or project and this will normally be within four months of the date of the publication of the result. The examiners, may, exceptionally, decide not to allow resubmission. The Faculty will agree that the grounds for allowing/not allowing a resubmission are justified.
- e. The maximum mark to be awarded for resubmitted dissertations will normally be 50% for the Master of Enterprise (MEnt) Degree.
- f. A student may exceptionally be required to attend an examination, orally or otherwise, in the subject of their dissertation, project, or a related matter.

6. Extension to the Dissertation Submission Deadline

- a. Extensions to the dissertation submission deadline may be granted at the discretion of the University to allow additional time for preparation of the dissertation
- b. The maximum period for an extension to submit a dissertation will normally be six months for a full and part-time degree. Candidates must register for the Submission Pending period and pay the relevant registration fee.

- c. Further periods of extension to the dissertation submission deadline may be sought only in exceptional circumstances. A fee will be payable for each period of extension that is granted by the University.

7. Examination Board and External Examiners

- a. Manchester Science Enterprise Centre Board of Examiners will be responsible for confirming the marks of the taught element of the degree at the end of the second semester. Normally, all staff who have been involved in the assessment of the taught units shall be present at the Board of Examiners meetings. Each candidate's dissertation shall be examined by two or more examiners of whom at least one shall normally be an external examiner. The appointment of examiners shall proceed in accordance with the University's examinations policy which can be found at:
<http://www.campus.manchester.ac.uk/researchoffice/graduate/code/submissionandexamination/>.
- b. There will be normally be a minimum of two Examination Board meetings for each degree each year, one at which the marks for the course units are confirmed, and one where the marks for the dissertation and the final awards are recommended. Normally, all staff who have been involved in the assessment of the course units shall be present at the Examination Board meetings. The degree External Examiner will be present for at least one meeting per year and preferably at both and will confirm all the marks agreed at Examination Board meetings and be consulted when decisions on awards and classifications are made.

8. Recommendation for Award

a. Pass Marks

- i. To obtain a pass for a Degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt), the student is required to obtain both a pass of 50% or more on the taught element and 50% or more on the dissertation.
- ii. The Faculty shall, on report from the examiners, recommend to Senate the award of the degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt) for those students who have completed all requirements of the regulations and satisfied the examiners. The awarding certificate will include the title of the degree.

b. Distinction

- i. A distinction may be awarded to a student who has consistently achieved excellence in the assessments of a Master of Enterprise (MEnt) degree.
- ii. The student will have satisfied all of the following criteria to be awarded a Distinction:
 - A.** An average at first assessment of 70% or more in the taught component of the degree with no mark below 50% in any course unit.
 - B.** A mark of 70% or more in the dissertation.

- C.** Submission of the dissertation by the end of the period of the degree.

c. Merit

- i.** The student will have satisfied all of the following criteria to be awarded a Merit:
 - A.** An average at first assessment of 60% or more in the taught component of the degree with no mark below 50% in any course unit.
 - B.** A mark of 60% or more in the dissertation.
 - C.** Submission of the dissertation by the end of the period of the degree.

9. Classification Thresholds and Boundaries

The following boundaries inform classification when the average in the taught component of the degree falls below a classification threshold.

Table 1 MEnt degree classification and boundary zone

MSc by Research classification- based on 180 credits	Classification thresholds: average taught mark (mark range 0 to 100)	Boundary zone taught average
Distinction	70.0	68.0 to 69.9
Merit	60.0	58.0 to 59.9
Pass	59.9 or less	NA

A student whose average taught mark at first assessment is within the Distinction boundary zone specified above can be awarded Distinction if a Distinction mark is achieved for the dissertation, no taught mark is below 50% in any course at first assessment, a Pass at first assessment is achieved in components of the programme where only a Pass/Fail is recorded, and submission of the dissertation is made by the end of the period of programme.

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A student whose average taught mark is within the Merit boundary zone specified above can be awarded Merit if a Merit or Distinction mark is achieved for the dissertation, no mark is below 50% in any course, a Pass at first assessment is achieved in components of the programme where only a Pass/Fail is recorded and submission of the dissertation is made by the end of the period of programme.

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Document Control Box	
Policy / Procedure title:	Degree of Master of Enterprise (MEnt)
Lead contact email	Helen.C.Baker@manchester.ac.uk
Date updated:	September 2018
Approving body:	MDC
Version:	2
Supersedes:	October 2007
Previous review dates:	
Next review date:	September 2023
Equality impact outcome:	
Related Statutes, Ordinances, General Regulations:	Regulations for Postgraduate Research Students
Related policies/procedures/guidance etc.	If your policy links to other documents at the University, list them here:
Policy owner:	Helen Baker, Head of Graduate Education & Researcher Development
Lead contact:	Helen Baker, Head of Graduate Education & Researcher Development