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1 Introduction

1. The University College London Qualifications and Credit Framework (QCF) defines the underpinning structures of all Programme

2 The Qualifications of UCL

The following Qualifications are accredited by University College London, granted under the ordinances and statutes of the University of London[1] and governed by this Qualifications and Credit Framework:

2.1

Graduate Certificate (Grad Cert)
Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PgCE)
International Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (iPgCE)
Professional Certificate in Teaching and Learning in Higher and Professional Education (PCTL)

Level 6 Graduate Diplomas

Graduate Diploma (Grad Dip)

Pre-Masters Programmes

International Pre-Masters

2.4 Taught Postgraduate Qualifications

Level 7 Postgraduate Certificates

Postgraduate Certificate (PG Cert)
Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)
International Postgraduate Certificate in Education (iPGCE)

Level 7 Postgraduate Diplomas

Postgraduate Diploma (PG Dip)
Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)

Level 7 Taught Masters Degrees

Master of Architecture (MArch)
Master of Arts (MA)
International Master of Arts (MA (International))
Master of Business Administration (MBA)
Master of Clinical Dentistry (MClinDent)
Master of Education (MEd)
Master of Fine Art (MFA)
Master of Landscape Architecture (MLA)
Master of Laws (LLM)
Master of Planning (MPlan)
Master of Public Administration (MPA)
Master of Science (MSc)
Master of Surgery (MS)
Master of Teaching (MTeach)

2.5 Postgraduate Research Qualifications

Level 7 Research Masters Degrees

Master of Research (MRes)

Doctor in Dentistry (DDent)
Doctor in Education (EdD)

3 Framework Components

1. A number of components define the basic structures of all UCL Qualifications:

3.1 Qualification

1. A Qualification is a Doctorate, Degree, Diploma or Certificate accredited and conferred by UCL following the successful completion of an approved Programme of Study.
2. A Qualification *must* meet the minimum academic standards set out in Section 6: Threshold Qualification Requirements.
3. Qualifications *may* fall into one or more of the following categories:

Qualification Type	Definition
Exit Qualifications	The full set of possible Qualifications associated with a Programme of Study, including the Final Qualification and any Interim and Alternative Qualifications.
Final Qualification	The intended Qualification from a Programme of Study which a student will be awarded if they meet all the Programme requirements e.g. BEng (Hons) Engineering.
Interim Qualification	A lesser Qualification made as a result of a student either leaving a Programme of Study early or failing to meet the requirements for the Final Qualification e.g. Cert HE Engineering. See Section 3.14: Interim Qualifications for further details.
Alternative Qualification	An Exit Qualification at the same Level as the Final Qualification, awarded where a student is unable to meet the specific requirements for the Programme of Study on minimum threshold standards for the award of a Qualification. Often used where a student does not meet the professional accreditation requirements associated with a Final Qualification. Includes a named, approved, alternative Field of Study e.g. BSc (Hons) Engineering Studies.

4. The form of the Qualification Title *must* signify both the Level of the Qualification and the broad discipline in which the study has been undertaken (e.g. Bachelor of Science). The Qualification Title is combined with the Field of Study to create the Degree Title e.g. Bachelor of Science in Engineering. A Programme of Study *may* have one or more Degree Titles associated with it, reflecting different Routes and Pathways.
5. Proposals for new Qualifications *must* be developed in line with the Qualifications and Credit Framework, approved by Academic Committee and incorporated into Section 2: The Qualifications of UCL and Section 6: Threshold Qualification Requirements.

3.2 Programme of Study (Programme)

1. A Programme of Study (Programme) is an approved, coherent path of study with specified learning outcomes leading to a specified Qualification in a specified Field of Study.
2. New Programmes *must* be aligned to Section 6: Threshold Qualification Requirements, which describe the typical characteristics of the main groups of UCL Qualifications, and approved by the Programme and Module Approval Panel on behalf of Education Committee.

3. Programmes *may* include some of the following characteristics:

Characteristic	Definition
Route	A Route is a formal, named specialism within a Programme leading to a discrete Field of Study e.g. BSc Human Genetics would be a Route within the BSc Biological Sciences Programme. A Route has a specific curriculum structure, typically defined by the different Option and Elective Modules available within the Programme, and is discretely defined in the Student Record System and on the
Pathway	A Pathway is an informal specialism within a Programme or Route which g

3.5 Field of Study

1. The Field of Study reflects the nature of the P

	UG Preparatory Certificate							
		Cert HE	Foundation Degree, Dip HE	Bachelors	Integrated Masters			
						Grad Dip, Grad Cert		
							Masters, PG Dip, PG Cert, PGCE	Research Masters
								Doctorates

2. In line with the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications of UK Degree-

3.9 Modes of Study

1. The Mode of Study comprises several factors: the intensity of study, the location of study (in relation to the UCL campus) and, possibly, fixed period study arrangements.
2. Each Programme will have a defined set of Modes of Study, which *must* be determined as part of the Programme approval/amendment process.

The Intensity of Study

Full-time	Students study for 40 hours per week over an Academic Year, or 37.5 hours per week over a Calendar Year, except during vacation periods. Additionally students retaking a year will be deemed Full-time, when retaking more than half of the activity of the year.
Part-time	Students study at a structured rate per week, normally half the rate of Full-time study. Additionally students retaking a year will be deemed Part-time when retaking half or less of the activity of the year.
Flexible	The number of Modules studied in a given year is determined by the student, in agreement with their Department. There will be a specified maximum time in which the student *must* complete.

The Location of Study

Campus-based

Fixed Period Study Arrangements

Integrated Placement or Study Abroad	Students spend a defined period of time studying in another

6. A Module *may* be offered at more than one Academic Level (e.g. Level 6 or Level 7). Students *may* be taught in the same classroom, but the Marking Criteria, Marking Scales, Pass Marks and Condonable Ranges *must* be set at the correct Academic Level for each group of students.

Module Characteristics

7. In relation to a Programme of Study, a Module *may* include one or more of the following characteristics:

Module Type	Definition
Compulsory	Modules which students *must* take to successfully complete a particular Programme or Route.
Option	Specific, limited collections of Modules from which students *may* choose within their Programme of Study.
Elective	Broad collections of Modules which *may* be thematically grouped, from which students *may* choose, and which *may* be from outside their main Programme of Study.
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8. Chapter 4: Assessment Framework for Taught Programmes includes further details about the specific requirements for a student to pass a Module, and how Module marks are combined to determine Progression, Award and Classification.

3.11 Components

1. A Module *may* include one or more Components. Components *may* be equally weighted, or some *may* carry a higher weighting than others (e.g. Essay 60%, Presentation 40%).
2. Components *may* be Formative or Summative; the marks from Summative Components are used to determine the overall Module mark.
3. A Component *may* be designated as Non-condonable i.e. the Component *must* be passed in order to pass the Module, for example as a requirement of Professional Accreditation. Non-condonable Components are only possible on Non-condonable Modules.
4. Chapter 4: Assessment Framework for Taught Programmes includes further details about the assessment of Formative and Summative Components.

3.12 Taught Elements on Research Programmes

1. Non-modular Research Masters (e.g. MPhil) *may* include training in research methods or transferable skills which require attendance at lectures and seminars.
2. Doctorates by research (MPhil/PhD and EngD) are not modular but *may* include training in research methods or transferable skills which require attendance at lectures and seminars.
3. Professional Doctorates are not modular but typically include a taught element, a research element and practicum assignments and assessments. Students *must* demonstrate satisfactory attendance and performance in each element.

3.13 Progression and Continuation

Progression on Undergraduate Programmes

1. **Progression** applies to Undergraduate Programmes running over multiple Academic Years and multiple Academic Levels. Taught Postgraduate and Graduate Programmes *must not* include Progression Requirements.
2. Progression is typically defined as the successful completion of one Academic Level and

3.14 Interim Qualifications

1. An approved Programme of Study *may* include one or more Interim Qualifications to recognise the achievements of any students unable to complete the intended Final Qualification.
2. Details of the minimum credit and Level

Timing of the Placement

8. At the point of Programme Design, the Department/ Division *must* decide when the Placement will take place from the following options:

Undergraduate Placement Year	Students spend one academic year on Placement. The Placement usually takes place in the penultimate year of the Programme but *may* take place in any year but the first year.
Undergraduate Placement Module	

Failure of an Integrated Placement	On Integrated Placements, the standard UCL Progression and Award Requirements apply and students *must* therefore pass, or be formally condoned in, all Placement Modules and/ or Years (see Chapter 4: Assessment Framework for Taught Programmes

3. The following sections set out the options open to Departments/ Divisions when designing a

	The Department/ Division *may* incorporate an Exit Qualification with an Alternate Field of Study into the Programme, with an associated Programme Diet. For example, if a student fails the Study Abroad BA Music *may* BA Music Studies In all cases, the Programme Requirements/ Diet *must* be agreed as part of the Programme Design process and recorded in the Programme Summary.

4 Qualification Descriptors

Qualification Descriptors describe the typical attributes of the main Qualifications offered by UCL and provide a reference point for the development of Programmes and Modules. The following descriptors outline the basic Qualification; UCL Programmes *may* be supplemented by further learning, which *may* or *may not* be credit-bearing.

4.1 Undergraduate Qualifications

Level 4

Ordinary Degree (Bachelors without Honours)	Students unable to meet the requirements for a Bachelors *with* Honours *may* be eligible for an Ordinary Degree (Bachelors *without* Honours). The minimum requirements for an Ordinary Degree are at least 300 credits with a maximum of 150 credits at Level 4 and a minimum of 90 credits at Level 6. UCL only offers the Ordinary Degree as an Interim Qualification.
Level 7	
Integrated Masters with Honours Degree	An Integrated Masters incorporates the attributes and outcomes of both a Bachelors with Honours Degree and a Taught Masters Degree. Programmes *must* include at least 480 credits. There *must* be no credits below Level 4, a maximum of 150 credits at Level 4 and a minimum of 120 credits at Level 7. The Qualification typically takes 4800 hours, or four FTE Academic Years, to complete. Programmes *may* also include a placement or study abroad year. Programmes fall under the Undergraduate regulations, and the Honours Classification system.

4.2 Graduate Qualifications

Level 6	
Graduate Certificate	The Grad Cert is a short Programme or professional 'conversion' course based largely on Undergraduate material and taken usually by those who already hold a Bachelors Degree in another Field of Study. Programmes *must* include at least 60 credits. There *must* be no credits below Level 5, a maximum of 15 credits at Level 5 and a minimum of 45 credits at Level 6 or above. The Qualification typically takes 600 hours, or half an FTE Academic Year, to complete.
Graduate Diploma	The Grad Dip is a short Programme or professional 'conversion' course which is considered equivalent to the final year of a Bachelors Degree. It is based largely on Undergraduate material and taken usually by those who already hold a Bachelors Degree in another Field of Study. Programmes *must* include at least 120 credits. There *must* be no credits below Level 5, a maximum of 30 credits at Level 5 and a minimum of 90 credits at Level 6 or above. The Qualification typically takes 1200 hours, or one FTE Academic Year, to complete.

4.3 Taught Postgraduate Qualifications

Level 7	
Postgraduate Certificate	The PG Cert is a Masters-Level short Programme which *may* be a stand-alone Qualification or a named Interim Qualification on a Masters or PG Dip Programme. Programmes *must* include at least 60 credits, with a maximum of 15 credits at Level 6 and a minimum of 45 credits at Level 7. The Qualification typically takes 600 hours, or half an FTE Academic Year, to complete.

5 Level Descriptors

1. Level Descriptors define the depth and complexity of each Academic Level and outline the academic skills, amount of prior knowledge and amount of learner autonomy required to pass a Programme or Module at that Level.
2. The descriptors are closely aligned to the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) and, together with the more discipline-specific QAA Subject Benchmark Statements, *should* be used as a reference point in the development of Qualifications, Programmes and Modules, and for the determination of local Marking Criteria.

6 Threshold Qualification Requirements

1. The Threshold Qualification Requirements describe the minimum academic standards expected of each Programme of Study leading to a UCL Qualification. A Programme *may* be

6.1 Further

	MS	1 calendar year	7	180	1800	90	6&7	-	180	30 at Level 6	150 at Level 7 or