

## **Updates to University Legislation for the 2025-26 cohort.**

This note includes information regarding updates to academic and student University Legislation (i.e. Regulations, Codes of Practice, Policies and Guidance), which were approved by the relevant University Committee.

It shows updates that were made prior to the publication of the 2025-26 cohort legislation, and, retrospective updates that were made following the publication of the 2025-26 cohort legislation. *[NB: in line with CMA guidance, all 2025-26 cohort legislation documents were published on 9<sup>th</sup> December 2024].*

If a piece of University Legislation is not listed then please assume it was rolled forward between years (i.e. no updates were made).

### ***Updates made prior to publication:***

*(the version number of all documents noted below is 2025.1.0)*

## **1. University Regulations**

### a. Regulation 7 – Assessment, Progression and Award

- Sections 7.4.1 (g) and 7.4.2 (d) have been updated. These updates were made to provide further clarity / correct erroneous text.

### b. Regulation 8 – Student Conduct

- Section 8.3.7 has been inserted. Sections 8.1.2, 8.2.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.5, and 8.10.5 have been updated. The insertion and updates were made to: add further clarity to points / reflect current practices (8.2.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.5); make more transparent how this Regulation interacts with the Code of Practice on Student Concerns and Complaints (8.1.2, 8.10.5); and set out what students can expect in relation to reasonable adjustments (8.3.2, 8.3.7).

## **2. Codes of Practice**

### a. Code of Practice on Academic Appeals

- Sections 1.6 and 1.9 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 2.5 and 2.7 have been updated. The insertions and updates have been made to add further clarity to the process, with particular reference to: appropriate forms of evidence (1.6, 2.5); assessing eligibility (2.7); and available support (1.9).

### b. Code of Practice on Admission of Students

- Numerous sections have been updated, with all updates being made / approved before the CMA (Competition and Markets Authority) guidance / deadline for publication of the 2025-26 cohort legislation. The updates can be summarised as follows:
  - Index of points has been updated with additional numerical references added to aid ease of use.
  - Addition of new section 8 (“Expectations of Applicants”), which consolidates existing expectations / responsibilities of applicants (moved from other sections), and adds

- Expectations of Applicant Behaviour (approval received from Legal for wording and underlying process).
- Addition of personal statement of research proposal generated by artificial intelligence to fraud policy in section 8.4.
  - Section 5.3 updated to provide information / links for general Undergraduate requirements and English Language requirements.
  - Section 7.12 updated to remove outdated Pathways to Birmingham requirements and hyperlink to current information.
  - Section 6.18 updated to reflect changes to Fee Status rules.
  - Accreditation of Prior Learning separated from previous section (6) and created as new section 10.
  - Various sections renumbered to accommodate above updates.
  - URLs (the addresses of webpages) replaced with hyperlinks to improve accessibility.
- c. Code of Practice on Extenuating Circumstances
- Section 3.4.3 has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 4.8.9 and 4.14 have been deleted. Sections 1.1 4.3, 4.8.5 and 4.11 have been updated. The insertion was made to reflect what should be happening in practice / provide further clarity, the deletion was made to provide further clarity (4.8.9) and to remove outdated text (re: COVID-19) (4.14), and the updates were made to provide further clarity (1.1), remove outdated text (re: COVID-19) (4.8.5), and for a general 'tidy up' of text (4.3, 4.11).
- d. Code of Practice on Leave of Absence Procedure
- Sections 9.2 and 10.1 have been updated. These updates were made to reflect current practice / provide further clarity.
- e. Code of Practice on Misconduct and Fitness to Practise Committee
- Sections 6.7 and 6.8 have been deleted (as they are no longer accurate / relevant). Sections 1.9, 1.10, 2.4, 2.9, 3.5, 3.15, 4.6, 6.2, 7.3, and 7.4 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 1.1, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.6, 3.9, 3.10, 3.12, 3.13, 3.14, 4.1, 4.3, 4.5, 4.7, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 6.1, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 7.2, 7.6, 8.1, 8.2, A.1, A.7.1, A.7.5, A.8.4, A.9.2, B.1, and D.3 have been updated. The majority of these updates were made to provide further clarity to points / confirm existing practices (1.1, 1.9, 1.10, 2.4, 2.9, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 3.6, 3.9, 3.10, 3.12, 3.13, 4.1, 4.3, 5.1, 5.3, 5.4, 6.1, 6.2, 6.3, 6.5, 6.6, 7.2, 7.3, 7.4, 7.6, 8.1, 8.2, A.1, A.7.1, A.7.5, A.9.1, A.9.2, B.1). Other updates were made, following consultation with Committee Members, Chairs, and Legal Services, around the constitution and process followed during committees. These updates were made to make committees smoother and quicker and thereby to speed up outcomes for students (3.6, 3.12, 3.13, 4.6, 4.7, 6.2, 6.6, 7.3, 7.4, A.8.4, B.1, D.3). In addition, updates were made to allow legal representation at committees to reflect external legal advice and Universities UK and OIA (Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education) guidance (3.14, 3.15).
- f. Code of Practice on Student Immigration Duties
- Appendix 1.1 (g) has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 1.1, 1.3, 2.1, 2.3, 2.4, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 4.2.4 (b), 4.3.1, 4.4, 6, 7, Appendix 1.1 (a) and 1.2 have been

updated. The insertions and updates were made to provide further clarity, correct grammatical errors, and reflect current / provide up to date Home Office rules and / or requirements.

g. Code of Practice on Supervision and Monitoring Progress of Postgraduate Researchers

- Sections 2.16, 2.27, 4.4 and Appendix A (9.3) have been updated. These updates were made to provide further clarity (2.27), convert a URL to a hyperlink (2.16), and reflect the new name of University Graduate / Doctoral School (4.4 & AA [9.3]).

3. **Policy Documents**

- a. No updates were made to any 2025-26 Policy documents prior to publication.

4. **Stand-Alone Guidance Documents**

- a. No updates were made to any 2025-26 Guidance documents prior to publication.

***Updates made following publication:***

*(the version number and date of publication are noted after the update is described)*

5. **University Regulations**

a. Regulation 5 – Admission and Registration

- Sections 5.1.2 (e) & (f) have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). Sections 5.1.2 (b), (c)(i), and (d) have been updated. These updates have been made to allow for the stacking of smaller courses / Microcredentials towards a larger award, and to outline the agreed processes for doing so.  
*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 15/01/2025]*

b. Regulation 7 – Assessment, Progression and Award

- Sections 7.12.3 and 7.12.4 have been updated. The updates were made to allow Heads of College to also fulfil the role described in these sections.  
*[Version 2025.1.1, Published: 03/04/2025]*
- Sections 7.2.1 (f), 7.7.1 (b)(ii), 7.8, 7.8.1, 7.8.1 (a), 7.8.1 (b), 7.8.1 (c), 7.8.1 (c)(i), 7.8.1 (c)(iii), 7.8.1 (e), 7.8.1 (f), 7.8.1 (g), and 7.9 (a) have been updated. These updates have been made to reflect and align with the newly created Code of Practice for Student Academic Engagement.  
*[Version 2025.1.2, Published: 26/9/2025]*
- Sections 7.4.7 (d), (e) and (f) have been updated. These updates have been made to provide further clarity / align with information found elsewhere in this document.  
*[Version: 2025.1.3, Published: 24/11/2025]*

- Sections 7.3.1 (a)(iii), (e)(v) and (e)(vii) have been updated. These updates have been made to reflect current practice and provide further clarity that students on Undergraduate Master's programmes are able to intermit their studies in between stage 3, i.e. between years 3 and 4 of their programme.  
*[Version 2025.1.4, Published: 02/12/2025]*

## 6. Codes of Practice

### a. Code of Practice on the Assessment of Research Degree Theses

- Sections 4.6 and 4.8 have been updated. These updates have been made to provide further clarity (4.6) and correct erroneous references (4.6, 4.8).  
*[Version 2025.1.1, Published: 24/11/2025]*

### b. Code of Practice on External Examining (Taught Provision)

- Section 9.5 has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated), and sections 9.2, 9.3, Footnotes 3, 4, 5 and Appendix A (section (b)(vii)) have been updated. These updates were made to provide alternative methods for External Examiners (EEs) to receive student feedback (9.2, 9.3, 9.5) and to provide further clarity on the EE nomination process / criteria (footnotes, appendix A).  
*[Version 2025.1.1, Published: 02/10/2025]*

### c. Code of Practice on Health, Wellbeing and Fitness to Study

- Sections 1.3, 4.3.2, 4.3.3, 4.3.4, 4.3.5, 4.3.7, and 4.4.2 have been updated. The updates were made to provide clarity that the references to the Head of Student Wellbeing and Partnerships role also includes a nominee (this is current practice).  
*[Version 2025.1.1, Published: 12/05/2025]*

### d. Code of Practice on Leave of Absence Procedure

- The title of section 5, and text in section 5.2, has been updated. These updates were made to provide further clarity on leave of absence for registered students who are sabbatical officers at the Guild.  
*[Version 2025.1.1, Published: 25/03/2025]*
- Section 4.1.4 (iv) has been inserted. This update was made to ensure alignment with UK Visas and Immigration (UKVI) policy.  
*[Version 2025.1.2, Published: 23/10/2025]*
- Section 6.3 has been inserted and section 2.4 has been updated. These updates have been made to reflect the revised UK Research and Innovation (UKRI) terms and conditions (T&Cs) for PGRs (which have been applied across all study levels in the CoP for consistency / equity).  
*[Version 2025.1.3, Published: 24/11/2025]*

### e. Code of Practice on Misconduct and Fitness to Practise Committee

- Sections 2.8, 2.9, 3.14 and 6.6 have been updated. These updates made to reflect current practice (re: times always being working days).

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 24/01/2025]*

f. Code of Practice on Personal Academic Tutoring

- Sections 1.1, 2.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.4, 2.3.2, 2.4.2, 2.5.1 (c), 2.6.5, 3.3, 4.3, 4.4, and footnote 2 have been updated. These updates have been made to: include reference to Ad-Alta modules (1.1), update name of DPVC Student Experience (from Engagement) (2.1, 2.2.1, 2.2.2, 2.2.4, 2.3.2, 2.5.1 (c), 4.3, 4.4), remove reference to the Tutorial Framework (as this will no longer exist from the 2025-26 academic session) (2.4.2, 3.3), change reference from Student Gateway to MyUoB app (2.6.5), and remove references to specific software (footnote 2).

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 17/07/2025]*

g. Code of Practice for Procedures for Extensions to Study Periods

- Section 7.4 has been updated. This update has been to ensure an appropriate reference is made to the recently created Code of Practice on Student Academic Engagement.

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 24/11/2025]*

h. Code of Practice on Student Academic Engagement

- This new legislation document has been created to replace the (now withdrawn) Code of Practice on Student Attendance / Engagement and Reasonable Diligence. A task and finish (T&F) group was convened to create this document, led by the Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (DVPC) for Education, Policy and Academic Standards and the Director of Registry and Education Support. The T&F group had input from Directors of Education, Deputy Directors of Education, Professional Services staff, and the Guild of Students.

*[Version: 2025.1.0, Published: 26/09/2025]*

i. Code of Practice on Student Concerns and Complaints

- Sections 3.6, 3.7, 3.9, 4.3, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.12, and A1.4 - A1.13 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated). The numbering found in section 2 numbering has been updated. Sections 1.4, 1.5, 1.8, 1.11, 2.2, 3.2, 3.3, 3.5, 3.8, 3.11, 3.12, 4.1, 4.4, A1.1, and A1.3 have been updated. All of these updates have been made to provide further clarity (1.4, 1.5, 1.11, 3.3, 3.5, 3.12, 4.1, 4.3, 4.4, 4.12, A1.1, A1.4 - A1.13), to reflect current practices (1.8, 2.2, 3.3, 3.6, 3.7, 3.11, 4.4, 4.5, 4.6, 4.7, 4.12), and to make clearer how this Code of Practice interacts with other Legislation documents (3.2, 3.8, 3.9).

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 24/01/2025]*

j. Code of Practice on the Student Representation System

- Sections 4.7, 4.8, 5.2.2, 5.5.5, 6.2.3, 6.2.5, 7.1.3, 7.1.8 have been deleted (with subsequent numbering updated), and sections 3.1, 4.8, 5.3.3, 5.4.3, 5.5.5, 5.6.2, 5.7.2, 6.1.1, 6.1.2, 6.1.3, 6.2.1, 7.1.1, 7.1.2, 7.1.5, 7.1.6 have been updated. These deletions and updates were made to reflect the agreed processes of the Student Representation System from the 2025-26 academic session.

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 25/09/2025]*

k. Code of Practice on Supervision and Monitoring Progress of Postgraduate Researchers

- Sections 5.17 and 5.18 have been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated), sections 2.20, 2.22 and 2.28 have been updated. These updates have been made to reflect the revised UKRI T&Cs for PGRs (5.17, 5.18) and to add further clarity (2.20, 2.22, 2.28).  
*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 24/11/2025]*

**l. Code of Practice on Taught Programme and Module Assessment and Feedback**

- Section 7.7, the whole of, has been updated. These updates have been made following the University Education Committee decision to approve the new Profiling system (the Borderline Classification Algorithm) for use from the 2025-26 academic session. The following updates have been made: the title of section 7.7 has been updated to reflect the new name for Profiling; sections 7.7.1, 7.7.2, 7.7.3, 7.7.4 have been updated to reflect the newly agreed system. Section 5.5.2 (d)(iv) has also been updated as this contained a reference to the old name for profiling.  
*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 17/09/2025]*
- Section 4.2.1 has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated), and sections 2.10, 4.1.1 have been updated. These updates have been made to reflect principles / information found in the recently created Assessment and Assessment Load Guidance document.  
*[Version: 2025.1.2, Published: 27/10/2025]*
- Section 1.2 of Appendix A has been updated. This update has been made to allow for efficiencies to be brought into the process described in this section.  
*[Version: 2025.1.3, Published: 24/11/2025]*
- Section 7.2.8 has been inserted (with subsequent numbering updated) and section 5.3.8 (a) has been updated. These updates have been made to reflect current practice that all adjustments to marks don't need to go the Progress and Awards Board (PAB) (they only need to be recorded in the minutes of the Board of Examiners) and to confirm that a year in another subject discipline taken as additional study does not contribute to degree classification.  
*[Version 2025.1.4, Published: 02/12/2025]*

**m. Code of Practice on Teaching and Academic Support Provided by Registered Students**

- Section 6.5 has been inserted, and section 5.3 has been updated. These updates were made to provide further clarity on the need for demonstrators to have specific training which suits their context (5.3), and to make it explicit who is responsible for ensuring that Postgraduate Teaching Assistants (PGTAs) are appropriately supported in their practice (6.5).  
*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 10/10/2025]*

## **7. Policy Documents**

**a. Policy on Student Academic Engagement**

- This new legislation document has been created as a companion document for the newly created Code of Practice on Student Academic Engagement. A T&F group was convened to create this document, led by the Deputy Pro-Vice-Chancellor (DVPC) for Education, Policy and Academic Standards and the Director of Registry and Education Support. The T&F group had input from Directors of Education, Deputy Directors of Education, Professional Services staff, and the Guild of Students.

*[Version: 2025.1.0, Published: 26/09/2025]*

## 8. **Stand-Alone Guidance Documents**

### a. Guidance: Principles on Assessment and Assessment Load: Undergraduate and Postgraduate Taught Provision

- This new legislation document has been created to replace the (now withdrawn) Guidance on Assessment Load document. The DPVC for Education, Policy and Academic Standards led on this piece of work, liaising with the Senior Education Team (SET) throughout.

*[Version: 2025.1.0, Published: 02/10/2025]*

### b. Guidance on Programmes of Study Delivered and / or Assessed in a Language other than English

- Sections 1.3, 1.4, 3.1, 4.1.2, 4.2, 5, 6.6, 7, and 8 have been updated. These updates have been made to accurately reflect nomenclature of both external organisations (1.3); in relation to updated internal UoB teams (1.4, 3.1, 5, 6.6, 7); to correct previously erroneous references to other documents (4.1.2, 4.2, 5, 8); and to ensure this document is accurate in relation to updated Office for Students 'B' conditions (1.4). Please note this document is classed as non-cohort legislation.

*[Version: 1.1, Published: 25/02/2025]*

### c. Guidance for Staff on Moderation

- Sections 4a, 4b and 5a have been updated. These updates have been made to ensure alignment with section 5.3.1 of the Code of Practice Taught Programme and Module Assessment and Feedback.

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 12/08/2025]*

### d. Guidance on Teaching and Academic Support Provided by Registered Students

- Sections 5.1 and 8 have been updated. These updates were made to the training provision, agreed at the May 2025 meeting of the University's Quality, Enhancement, and Standards Committee (QESC).

*[Version: 2025.1.1, Published: 10/10/2025]*

### e. Guidance on the Use of Transcription and Translation Tools by Students

- This document has been created / introduced due to various queries being raised during the first months of the 2024-25 academic session around student use of translation tools / students recording teaching sessions.

*[Version: 2025.1.0, Published: 28/01/2025]*

In case of queries, please contact:

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