

This guide sets out the University rules relating to assessment, progression and award for undergraduate students following an Integrated Master's programme. Details of how your work will be assessed and how you will receive feedback are included in your handbook and departmental web pages. If you are ever in any doubt, please speak to your academic supervisor.

Please see the full guide to assessment linked [here](#) and university exams web pages linked [here](#).

To be eligible for an award from the University of York, you must:

- undertake an approved programme of study (course),
- obtain a specified number of credits at specified levels, and
- meet any other requirements of the award as set out in the Award and programme specifications and other University regulations (such as payment of fees).

Your programme of study (course) is made up of stages. Each stage is made up of modules covering different topics. Modules differ in size and shape. In each stage (year) you will be registered on 120 credits worth of modules. Every module is assessed and if you pass each module you will progress to the next stage of your programme.

If you badly fail a module (below 30 usually but below 40 at Master's level in stages 1 to 3, below 10 in your award year) you will have to be reassessed. If you marginally fail a module (30 – 39 usually, 40-49 for M level modules, 10-39 in your award year) you may not need to be reassessed if your overall performance is good enough to compensate. Please be aware, there is a limit to the amount of reassessment and compensation which is allowed in each stage.

Your degree classification (1st; 2:1; 2:2 etc) will be calculated using the overall mark for the modules in Stages 2, 3 and 4, this overall mark will be calculated using your first attempt marks (or sit-as-if-for-the-first-time marks where applicable). Resit marks are not used in calculating degree classifications. The calculation will take into account the size of the modules (through credit weighting) and the stage (through stage weighting).

This summary is explained further through the following questions and answers. These should be read thoroughly and in the order they are presented to fully understand the progression and award system.

¹ By award, we mean Master's, pre-Master's, Bachelors or Foundation degrees, Diplomas and Certificates.

An undergraduate programme of study is divided into stages, each of which is equivalent to one year of full-time study.

Stage 1
Stage 2
Stage 3
Stage 4

You must satisfy the requirements for each stage of your programme before being able to progress to the next stage. For an Integrated Master's, you need to achieve a credit-weighted average mark of the following after each stage:

Stage 1: 40

Stage 2: 55

Stage 3: 40 and a credit-weighted average mark of 50 for all modules taken in stages 2 & 3

Stage 4: 50

If, after your first attempt marks have been calculated and any necessary compensation has been applied, you do not reach the stage average required for progression to the next stage, and you have no further reassessment opportunities, then you cannot continue your studies on the Integrated Master's programme. Students in stage 1 have one opportunity to repeat that stage of study should they meet the criteria qualifying them to do so.

If you meet the requirements for progression onto the related Bachelor's degree (for example, you gain a credit-weighted average mark of 40-54 in Stage 2 which is insufficient to progress on the Integrated Master's, but sufficient to progress on the Bachelors), then you may transfer to that programme. You may also resit modules within the usual criteria in order to progress.

Each stage is made up of modules. Each of the modules you undertake will have a credit value² (e.g. 10 credits, 20 credits and so on) and a credit level³.

You will achieve the credit for a module by passing the module assessments. Modules are assessed by a range of methods which will result in a numerical mark out of 100, or a pass/fail grade.

² One credit involves a notional workload of 10 hours. So a 10 credit module involves a notional workload of 100 hours, a 20 credit module a total of 200 hours etc. By workload, we mean all workl w,r-3(-7(u)35(f)4(10)-3(h)-4(o)-2(u)-4(rs)

To satisfy the requirements for each stage (year), you must achieve a total of 120 credits.

The University applies the following mark scale to overall achievement when studying for an Integrated Master's degree:

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Module A (20 credits)	39		780
Module B (20 credits)	55		1100
Module C (20 credits)	58		1160
Module D (20 credits)	52		1040
Module E (20 credits)	61		1220
Module F (20 credits)	51		1020
TOTAL	120		6320
Stage mark = Weighted mark total/number of credits			

The stage marks from the 2nd, 3rd and 4th stages are combined to calculate the award mark. When combining the marks for each of the stages, modules from Stage 2 are given a slightly lower weighting than later stages.

uses a 2:3:3 ratio (25% Stage 2 and 37.5% each from Stages 3 and 4). To calculate, multiply the Stage 2 mark by 2, the Stage 3 mark by 3 and the Stage 4 mark by 3. Then divide the total by 8:

This example uses Stage marks of 56, 59 and 51.

Stage 2 mark of 56: $(56 \times 2 = 112)$

Stage 3 mark of 59: $(59 \times 3 = 177)$

Stage 4 mark of 51: $(51 \times 3 = 153)$

112

		ratio)	
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Summary of the table above

For an Integrated Masters student in their 3rd year in 2020/21, the additional alternative weighting would be 4:3:6.

So in addition to the calculation above using a 2:3:3 ratio, most graduating students in 2021/22 would have the additional ratio 4:3:6 applied to their award calculation. The higher of the two marks will be used as the award mark

The above are all based on the lowest weighting being applied to the 2020/1 academic year as part of [The University's covid response](#). The ratios above assume that a student has followed each year sequentially, without any period of absence. Therefore, if you have taken a period of LOA then the ratios may be different for you. The lowest weighting will always be applied to whatever stage you were in in 2020/1.

To calculate, multiply the Stage 2 mark by 4, the Stage 3 mark by 3 and the Stage 4 mark by 6. To calculate the 4:3:6 ratio. Then divide the total by 13:

This example uses Stage marks of 56, 59 and 51.

Stage 2 mark of 56: $(56 \times 4 = 224)$

Stage 3 mark of 59: $(59 \times 3 = 177)$

Stage 4 mark of 51: $(51 \times 6 = 306)$

$224 + 177 + 306 =$

$707 / 13 = 54.38$

Award mark = 54 Lower second class (2:2)

Both ratios are utilised for students (in this example for 2021/2, 2:3:3 and 4:3:6). In this example the 2:3:3 ratio is higher, so this would be used for a student. Their award mark would be 55.

If you were eligible for a safety net score in 2019/0, that will be applied to your award calculation (where higher than the completed stage average). It is possible for both the additional ratio and safety net score to be applied to your award calculation.

marks are excluded from the classification calculation, although you must still achieve 120 credits in Stage 1 (and also in the Foundation Year) to progress to the second stage of the programme.

are not classified. For these awards, you will be given either a Pass or a Fail.

The award mark is rounded to the nearest integer, so if your final award mark is within 0.5 percentage points of the above class boundary it will be rounded up. For example, a mark of 59.6 will be rounded to 60 and you will be awarded an upper second class degree. A final award mark of 59.49 will be rounded down and you will be awarded a lower second class degree unless the

application of borderline ratios results in a higher classification. If your award mark is more than 0.5 percentage points but fewer than 2 percentage points below the higher class boundary, the borderline rules come into effect and further calculations are performed to see whether you would have a higher classification if we apply a different ratio to the weighting of the stages.

For Integrated Master's programmes, the borderline ratios are 1:1:1 and 1:2:2.

If, after applying these ratios, your programme mark exceeds the grade boundary, or falls within 0.5 percentage points of the above class boundary, a higher degree classification will be awarded, although the award mark recorded on your transcript will be the one calculated using the standard 2:3:3 or 4:3:6 (covid19 2021/2) ratio, whichever ratio gives the higher award mark, for Integrated Master's.

Stage 2 mark = 69

Stage 3 mark = 60

Stage 4 mark = 51

Programme mark using 2:3:3 ratio = 58.88

Programme mark using 4:3:6 ratio = 58.62

Programme mark using 1:1:1 ratio = 60 (borderline ratio)

Programme mark using 1:2:2 ratio = 58.2 (borderline ratio)

The mark of 59 will appear on your transcript, as this is what the award mark would be using the 2:3:3 ratio. However, as the 1:1:1 ratio mark is 60, you will be awarded an upper-second class degree.

The borderline ratios are the only method by which a borderline mark could result in a higher degree classification. Being close to a grade boundary does not result in the right to take further attempts at assessment and your module marks will never be altered.

If you fail a module, don't panic! In most cases there will still be an opportunity to achieve the necessary credit either through compensation or reassessment.

: in some programmes (for example, where professional / vocational requirements have to be met) compensation and reassessment may not be an option. Check the regulations for your programme but if you are not sure, speak to your academic supervisor.

For modules in levels 1, 2 and 3, the pass mark for module assessments is 40, with the credit-weighted average required to progress onto differing across years as previously stated. However, if your mark for a module is in the 30 – 39 range (or the 10-49 range in the final year of your programme), you may still be able to get the credits for the module if your performance in other modules is good enough to compensate. In other words, 'marginal' failure in one module may be

compensated by achievement in others.⁵ There is, however, a limit to the amount of credit for which you can be compensated.

To be eligible for compensation, you must meet the University's compensation criteria, which are based on the module marks achieved and your credit-weighted mean for the stage. The University's compensation criteria vary depending on your intended award (Bachelors, Integrated Master's, etc.). The following are provided purely as examples. Please consult the Guide to Assessment, Standards, Marking and Feedback and your programme's regulations for the exact rules that will apply to you.

In _____, 40 credits-worth of modules can be compensated provided that no module marks are lower than 30 and the credit-weighted mean over all modules taken in the stage is at least 55. For example, a student has the following profile of module marks:

Module A (20 credits): 39 (Fail)	In this example, none of the modules have been designated as non-compensatable, none of the module marks are below 30 and the credit-weighted mean over all modules in the stage is 56. Therefore, the marginal failure in Modules A and B can be compensated by the achievement in Modules C-G.
Module B (20 credits): 38 (Fail)	
Module C (20 credits): 60 (Pass)	
Module D (20 credits): 65 (Pass)	
Module E (20 credits): 70 (Pass)	
Module F (10 credits): 70 (Pass)	
Module G (10 credits): 60 (Pass)	

These are the marks for the same student in _____ of their Integrated Master's programme. Again, a maximum of 40 credits-worth of modules can be compensated as there are no modules with marks below 30 (after reassessment) and the credit-weighted mean over all modules taken in the stage is at least 40.

Module A (20 credits): 50 (Pass)	Again, none of the modules have been designated as non-compensatable, none of the module marks are below 30 and the credit-weighted mean over all modules in the stage is 57. Therefore, the marginal failure in Module E can be compensated by the achievement in the remaining modules.
Module B (20 credits): 70 (Pass)	
Module C (20 credits): 55 (Pass)	
Module D (20 credits): 58 (Pass)	
Module E (20 credits): 38 (Fail)	
Module F (20 credits): 70 (Pass)	

This student will also satisfy the conditions to continue to the final stage of the Integrated Master's as they have met the requirement to achieve a rounded credit-weighted mean of at least 50 over Stages 2 and 3.

⁵ 4 Some modules in your programme may be designated as Pass / Fail. These modules cannot be compensated for.

In the same student achieved the marks below. Once again, a maximum of 40 credits-worth of modules can be compensated as there are no modules with marks below 10 (after reassessment) and the credit-weighted mean over all modules taken in the stage is at least 40.

Module A (10 credits): 20 (Fail)	Again, none of the modules has been designated as non-compensatable, none of the module marks is below 10 and the credit-weighted mean over all modules in the stage is 53. Therefore, the marginal failure in Module A can be compensated by the achievement in the remaining modules.
Module B (20 credits): 65 (Pass)	
Module C (20 credits): 55(Pass)	
Module D (20 credits): 58 (Pass)	
Module E (20 credits): 64 (Pass)	
Module F (30 credits): 50 (Pass)	

Reassessment marks (resit marks) are not used in your degree classification. They are used only to meet the progression requirements or credit total requirements for your award. See sections 5 and 6.

If you get a module mark below 30 in stage 1, 2 or 3 (40 for Master's-level modules) or 10 in stage 4 this cannot be compensated and you will have to be reassessed. However, there is a limit to the number of credits failed this way in which you can be reassessed.

If you get a mark between 30 and 39 (or 40 and 49 for Master's-level modules) and you are not

cannot choose to be reassessed in a marginal fail in a module that can be compensated. Please see your academic supervisor for further guidance.

If something exceptional happens that hinders your academic progress (such as a serious illness or bereavement) , communicate with your academic supervisor as soon as possible. It is important that applications for exceptional circumstances are submitted to the department before assessments or deadlines.

Such circumstances are considered by the appropriate departmental committee. Further guidance can be found in the [Exceptional Circumstances webpages](#).

In the case of failure of Stage 1, and taking into consideration any decision by a department to opt out from this policy, the University normally permits students to repeat the whole of Stage 1, provided the student attained a minimum credit-weighted mean of 10 marks over all the modules completed. For most programmes this calculation will be performed at the end of stage 1, although some programmes will make this calculation at the point where reassessment opportunities have been exhausted. The marks for the failed stage will be included on the student's transcript, but will not be used in the calculation of any award. Each student has one opportunity only to repeat study. In all instances the whole year must be repeated, even if some modules have been passed, they will need to be taken again.