

ACADEMIC REGULATIONS FOR UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMMES

Regulations Governing Undergraduate Studies (from 2004 intake of UGC-funded Programmes except those admitted to Year 2 in 2004, and from 2005 full-time intake of students of self-funded places)

1. Rules and Regulations

- 1.1 Students are required to comply with all the rules and regulations stipulated by the University.
- 1.2 The University may from time to time make new rules and regulations or make amendments to existing rules and regulations. The Registrar will promulgate new rules and regulations and amendments to them by notices. Updated regulations should be regarded as the final authority.
- 1.3 Exemptions from the regulations, which may be made in exceptional cases or under special circumstances, are subject to approval by the Senate.

2. The Academic Year

The University academic year starts at the beginning of September and ends at the end of August in the following calendar year. The academic year consists of two terms, each covering approximately 15 weeks of academic activities, and where appropriate there may be an intensive summer term usually of a shorter duration.

3. Admission of Students

- 3.1 The admission of a student to the University is based on suitability and other factors which individual Departments/Programmes consider relevant to the study programme concerned. There should be no discrimination on the grounds of sex, age, race, religion, ethnic origin or physical disability.
- 3.2 The Senate will determine the entrance requirements and equivalent qualifications for individual programmes and admission procedures. Within University policy guidelines, Departments/Programmes should have autonomy in admitting their students as long as they fulfil the relevant entrance requirements.
- 3.3 Physically handicapped applicants are assessed in accordance with the same admission criteria. It is the intention of the University to provide aid and support to students with disabilities as far as possible. Applicants are therefore invited to contact the Registry for information concerning existing facilities for disabled persons at the University. Newly admitted students are also encouraged to inform the University of their needs so that timely assistance may be provided.

4. Student Classification

- 4.1 Each student will be designated as a Year 1, Year 2, Year 3 or Year 4 student based on the number of credits obtained including those granted through credit transfer.
- 4.2 A student (except for a transfer student) who has obtained 30 credits, 60 credits or 90 credits or above will be designated respectively as a Year 2, Year 3 or Year 4 student in the following term.

- 4.3 A transfer student who is granted 21 credits or above by credit transfer will be designated as a Year 2 student upon admission. The transfer student will be designated respectively as a Year 3 or a Year 4 student in the following term when he/she has obtained 54 credits or 87 credits or above.*
- 4.4 To qualify for full-time status, a student is required to take at least 12 credits in any one term. A part-time student will take no more than 11 credits in a term.
- 4.5 Unless otherwise approved, a student must register as a full-time student when first admitted by the University.

5. Registration

- 5.1 An applicant who has been offered admission to an approved programme of study is required to register with the Registry on a specified date and is considered to have been admitted to such programme on the date of his/her first registration. Thereafter, the student should register on the specified date before the beginning of each subsequent term until he/she graduates.
- 5.2 Registration includes payment of the fees due and enrolment of courses/sections. An applicant who fails to pay the prescribed fees or register on the relevant specified dates is considered as having forgone his/her place offered by the University. A student who wishes to continue his/her study at the University but fails to pay the prescribed fees after a lapse of ten days or fails to register before the last day for registration is considered as having withdrawn from studies at the University.
- 5.3 An applicant or a student is deemed to have been registered only after he/she has completed the registration procedure for the term concerned.
- 5.4 A student who wishes to change from full-time to part-time or *vice versa* is required to notify the Registry of the change and number of credits he/she intends to enrol in the next term by a date specified by the Registry.
- 5.5 A student is required to pay the prescribed amount of tuition fee and all other relevant fees.
- 5.6 A student who for special reasons seeks permission for deferment of his/her registration may apply in writing to the Registrar at least one week before the specified date for registration. A fee for late registration will be charged but no student is allowed to register after the last day for registration stipulated in the University Calendar.
- 5.7 Students must follow registration procedures and any special instructions issued by the Registrar. They should familiarise themselves with the University regulations and the curricular structure of their programmes. They must pay particular attention to course and credit requirements, prerequisites for courses, normal study loads, and graduation requirements.
- 5.8 Before the specified registration session, each student is required to consult his/her academic adviser on his/her programme of studies.

* For students admitted in 2006 or before, a student who is granted 30 credits or above by credit transfer will be designated as a Year 2 student upon admission. The student who has obtained 30, 60 or 90 credits or above will be designated respectively as a Year 2, Year 3 or Year 4 student in the following term.

- 5.9 Credits will not be granted for any course in which a student has not formally enrolled. Any information entered into the student record system through a student's login account is recognised as input by the student. A student shall keep confidential use of his/her student account and password.
- 5.10 Upon first registration, each student is issued with a Student Identity Card free of charge. A fee will be charged for each replacement card. The student should take good care of the card and present it to staff for inspection as and when necessary.
- 5.11 A full-time student of the University is not allowed to pursue simultaneously any programme at any tertiary institution. A student in breach of this regulation is subject to having his/her studies at the University discontinued. In case a student wishes to take a course offered by another tertiary institution, prior approval by the Programme Director/Head of Department of his/her Major Programme should be obtained.
- 5.12 A full-time student should not take up any full-time employment, paid or unpaid, during the term.

6. Course Requirements

- 6.1 A student is required to register for a Major Programme and in addition may register for one Minor Programme. The registration for a Minor programme should be done by the end of the add/drop period in the first term of his/her final year of study. The requirements for a Major Programme and a Minor Programme are specified in the curriculum concerned. A Minor Programme requires students to take at least 15 but not more than 30 credits of courses. A student may use the credits assigned for free electives in the curriculum of his/her registered programme of studies to take courses leading to a Minor Programme.
- 6.2 A student is required to complete before graduation the University-wide required courses including General Education, English and Chinese languages, as specified in the curriculum of his/her Major Programme. In addition, a student is required to fulfil the requirements of the Integrated Learning Programme before graduation.
- 6.3 A student should take courses specified in the curriculum concerned unless written approval of an alternative curriculum has been granted by the Programme Director/Head of the Academic Unit concerned/Director of General Education and Core Curriculum.
- 6.4 If there is a prerequisite for a course, a student must meet it before taking the course concerned.
- 6.5 If there is a co-requisite for a course, a student must take both courses in the same term.
- 6.6 If a course has another course as an exclusion under the situation when the two courses overlap significantly in content, a student is allowed to enrol only in one of the two courses during his/her period of study, unless he/she fails any one. Should the course be a required course in his/her Major or Minor Programme, he/she is not allowed to enrol in the other course except otherwise approved as a substitute for the required course as prescribed by Regulation 16.6.
- 6.7 A student must take his/her own responsibility in ensuring that he/she meets the requirements specified in Regulations 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 unless such are waived at the discretion of the Programme Director/Head of the Academic Unit concerned under exceptional circumstances. The student alone will be responsible for any consequences if

he/she chooses to take a course contravening the requirements specified in Regulations 6.4, 6.5 and 6.6 without special approval.

7. Change of Personal Particulars

- 7.1 A student should retain the full name(s) entered on his/her Hong Kong Identity Card or Passport. Under special circumstances, however, a student may obtain from the Registry an application form for changing personal particulars, complete and return it to the Registry, together with the following documents:
- (a) written consent from the applicant's parent or guardian, if the applicant is under the age of 21;
 - (b) a copy of the applicant's Hong Kong Identity Card or Passport, carrying the new name intended to be registered with the University; and
 - (c) a copy of the applicant's statutory declaration and/or birth certificate.
- 7.2 A student should inform the Registry immediately of any change of address or other particulars.

8. Normal Study Load

- 8.1 A student is required to take 90 or more credits of courses as stipulated in the student's programme curriculum before graduation.
- 8.2 The normal study load of a full-time student in a term should be in the range of 15 to 18 credits and the maximum study load in an academic year should be 33 credits. Nevertheless, Programme Director/Head of Department concerned can grant instant approval to students to exceed the maximum study limit by 1 credit. In exceptional circumstances, approval can be granted by the Academic Dean concerned for a student to take an extra course of 3 credits in excess of the maximum study load in an academic year upon recommendation of the Programme Director/Head of Department concerned. A part-time student will take no more than 11 credits in a term.
- 8.3 Notwithstanding Regulation 8.2, a student with a Cumulative G.P.A. of 3.2 or above may take up to 18 credits in the next term[#], with the maximum study load of 36 credits in an academic year. Prior approval of the Programme Director/Head of Department concerned should be obtained.
- 8.4 A final year student who is not on academic probation may take a maximum study load of 39 credits in the academic year concerned, 18 credits in the first term and 21 credits in the second term, subject to the approval of the Programme Director/Head of Department concerned in consultation with his/her academic adviser^{##}. Exceptions to the maximum study load in the first term can, however, be granted by the Programme Director/Head of Department on a case-by-case basis with a view to facilitating the student concerned to graduate not beyond the required normal study period.

[#] Regulation 8.3 is not applicable to 2006 new Year 1 intake and all new students from 2007.

^{##} From 2007-08, the flexibility of taking a maximum of 39 credits in the academic year is applicable to Year 2 students of the BA Contemporary English and Education programme.

- 8.5 A student can take optional summer term courses, and the maximum study load in a summer term is two courses or six credits. Credits of courses taken in summer term(s), if any, are counted in the maximum study load for the academic year or in the next academic year as appropriate.*

9. Credit Transfer and Course Exemption

- 9.1 A student who has passed public, professional, or other examinations recognised by the University or has successfully completed a course at an appropriate level offered by the University or another tertiary institution may apply for credit transfer/course exemption.

9.2 *Credit Transfer*

- 9.2.1 In case there is a similar course being offered by the University, the student may be exempted from taking the course and granted with equivalent credits, if the application is approved.
- 9.2.2 In case there is no similar course being offered by the University, the student may be exempted from taking a free-elective course, or in some cases a General Education course if deemed appropriate, and granted with equivalent credits, if the application is approved.
- 9.2.3 A minimum grade C- is required for credit transfer of courses taken in associate degree programmes to undergraduate degree programmes.

9.3 *Course Exemption*

In case there is a similar course being offered by the University, the student may be exempted from taking the course, if the application is approved. However, credits are not granted, and the student has to take another course (may be a specified course or any other course) to make up for the total number of credits required for graduation.

- 9.4 No grade will be given (with exceptions specified in Regulations 9.11 and 11.5) but all exempted or recognised courses and the number of credits transferred will be shown in the student's transcript.
- 9.5 Normally, a student may not be granted credit transfer/course exemption for more than 50% of the required number of credits for the academic award or the Minor Programme. The limit does not include credit transfer or course exemption associated with approved student exchange programmes.
- 9.6 A student is required to obtain from the Registry an application form for credit transfer/course exemption, complete and submit the application before the beginning of a term. For year courses, applications should be submitted before the beginning of the first term. All such applications must be accompanied by original supporting documents and their photocopies. The Registry will return the original supporting documents to the applicant after inspection.

* Summer term courses are not counted in maximum study load in 2006-07 or before.

- 9.7 The application should be submitted to the Head of the Academic Unit offering the similar course or to the Programme Director/Head of Department of his/her Major Programme when no similar course is identified. In case the Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit considers that the course/examination taken may be considered a General Education course, he/she should refer the application to the Director of General Education and Core Curriculum.
- 9.8 The application should be approved by the Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit concerned/Director of General Education and Core Curriculum, who should forward it to the Registry within two weeks after the beginning of a term.
- 9.9 For an application in relation to a University-wide required course, as prescribed in Regulation 6.2, the Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit concerned/Director of General Education and Core Curriculum should consider the application in accordance with the common standard of exemption criteria approved by the Senate, if any.
- 9.10 A student should not enrol in a course for which he/she has been granted exemption (with or without credits). If the student has enrolled in a course and is subsequently granted exemption (with or without credits), he/she is not required to apply to drop the exempted course.
- 9.11 For a student who has participated in an approved student exchange programme of the University, credits of recognised courses obtained from the partner institution will normally be transferred to his/her undergraduate degree programme at the University as approved by the Programme Director/Head of Department of his/her Major programme. The actual grades of recognised courses obtained in the partner institution will be shown in the transcript of the student, but will not be counted in the calculation of grade point averages*.
- 9.12 For a student who has pursued an associate degree or an undergraduate degree programme offered by the University, credits of recognised courses studied under the programme as approved by the Programme Director/Head of Department of his/her Major Programme are transferred to the undergraduate degree programme, subject to Regulations 9.2.3 and 9.5. For a student who has pursued an associate degree or an undergraduate degree programme not offered by the University, Regulations 9.1 to 9.10 will apply.

10. Adding and Dropping Courses and Changing Courses / Sections / Tutorials

- 10.1 A student who wishes to add or drop a course, or change a section or tutorial group of a course after registration must complete the relevant procedure as prescribed by the Registry. The add/drop period shall start four days before class commencement and end six calendar days after the beginning of the term concerned.
- 10.2 Only under very special circumstances may a student apply in writing to both the Programme Director/Head of his/her Department and the Registrar for permission to add or drop a course after the stipulated deadline, but no student is allowed to drop a course after a lapse of one-third of the term.
- 10.3 A student who adds a course or changes a course or section of a course without going through the prescribed procedure will not be given a grade or credits for the course.

* In 2007-08 or before, the grades of courses obtained from exchange programmes are counted in the calculation of grade point averages.

10.4 A student who drops a course without going through the prescribed procedure will be given an "F" grade for the course.

11. Change of Major Programme

11.1 A Year 1 student is normally not allowed to change from one programme to another.

11.2 A student who wishes for special reasons to transfer from one Major Programme to another may consult his/her academic adviser. To apply for programme transfer, the student must complete a prescribed form obtainable from the Registry.

11.3 The approval of the Programme Director/Head of Department of the original Major Programme and the programme the student intends to join should be obtained.

11.4 No student is allowed to join a Major Programme without fulfilling its entrance requirements.

11.5 All courses taken under the original Major Programme, regardless of passed or failed, should be kept in the academic records of the student. Both grades and credits of these courses will be transferred automatically to the new Major Programme. The course credits earned will be counted towards fulfilment of curriculum and graduation requirements of the new Major Programme, where appropriate. All courses will be counted towards the calculation of G.P.As.

11.6 Normally not more than 67% of the required number of credits for the award of the degree can be granted by credit transfer.

11.7 The periods of studies in both original and new Major Programmes will be counted within the maximum study period specified in Regulation 13.2.

11.8 A student may be advised to transfer to another programme if the Programme Director/Head of Department of the student's current programme, in considering his/her aptitude and suitability, deems it more appropriate to transfer the student to another programme.

12. Class Attendance and Leave of Absence

12.1 A student should attend all lectures, tutorials and other class activities, tests and examinations and complete the work assigned by the teachers of the courses in which the student has enrolled.

12.2 Students are expected to attend classes and other class activities punctually and regularly, to the satisfaction of the teachers of courses. Each course may have specific requirements for student attendance. Appropriate sanctions, where necessary, would be approved by the Board of Examiners* concerned.

12.3 A student who is unable to attend classes should inform the teacher concerned in writing at the earliest opportunity.

* For the programmes/courses offered by the Departments of Chinese, Cultural Studies, English, History, Philosophy and Translation, all examination matters will be dealt with by the Department Board concerned and External Examiners shall be invited to attend the relevant meetings. For courses offered by the Chinese Language Education and Assessment Centre, and English Language Education and Assessment Centre, examination matters will be handled by the Staff Committees of the Centres and External Examiners shall be invited to attend the relevant meetings.

- 12.4 In the case of absence for more than two days owing to illness, a certificate from a registered medical doctor is required.
- 12.5 A student who wishes to obtain leave of absence of more than a week for non-medical reasons should obtain prior permission from the Programme Director/Head of the student's Department on the basis of a written application, stating the reasons for seeking leave of absence. If the application is approved, the Programme Director/Head of the Department should send to the Registrar a copy of the application letter together with his/her written approval.
- 12.6 In case of illness or other serious emergencies, a student who has been granted leave of absence may apply to the Programme Director/Heads of the Academic Units concerned for permission to carry out make-up work for assignments, tests and examinations. Such applications are subject to approval by the Programme Director/Heads of the Academic Units in consultation with the teachers concerned.
- 12.7 A student who has been absent without leave for a period exceeding thirty calendar days in the aggregate in any term will be considered as having unofficially withdrawn from studies at the University.
- 12.8 A student whose accumulated leave of absence exceeds one-third of the term should not be assessed and awarded credits for the courses enrolled in the term.
- 12.9 Notwithstanding the provisions in Regulations 12.6, 12.7 and 12.8, the Senate may in special circumstances exercise its discretion not to invoke these regulations or any part thereof in respect of a particular case.
- 12.10 A student may be required to take leave of absence if the condition of the student's health will constitute a definite hazard to the University community. Such a student should seek appropriate treatment. After the prescribed period of absence and before the student applies to resume classes, he/she should obtain a certificate signed by a registered medical doctor, stating that the student no longer constitutes a hazard to the University community.

13. Period of Study

- 13.1 A student is required to register for and attend classes for at least three terms before graduation. Summer terms and any periods of suspension of studies are not included in the minimum period of study.
- 13.2 A student on a 90-credit curriculum is required to fulfil all the requirements for graduation within twelve terms (ten terms for a student admitted to Year 2) from his/her first registration while a student on a 120-credit curriculum is required to fulfil all the requirements for graduation within fourteen terms from his/her first registration. Summer terms are not included in the maximum period of study. Any periods of leave of absence and suspension of studies are included in the maximum period of study. A student may register as a full-time or part-time student, or a combination within the maximum study period.
- 13.3 A student who for non-academic reasons intends to extend his/her period of study beyond the prescribed maximum number of terms is required to obtain prior permission from the Senate.

14. Suspension of Studies and Withdrawal

14.1 *Suspension*

- 14.1.1 A student who, because of health or financial problems or for other valid reasons, wishes to suspend his/her studies until the end of the term for which the student is enrolled or the end of the following term, may apply to the Registrar.
- 14.1.2 The student should obtain an application form from the Registry, complete and submit it together with the relevant supporting documents to the Registry.
- 14.1.3 The Registrar will consult the Programme Director/Head of the Department concerned to decide whether or not to approve the application.
- 14.1.4 The period of suspension should normally not exceed two terms. If the applicant fails to return to the University to resume studies at the end of the permitted period of suspension, the student will be considered as having unofficially withdrawn from the University effective on the first day after the end of the suspension period.

14.2 *Withdrawal*

- 14.2.1 A student who wishes to leave the University before graduation must seek official withdrawal from the University.
- 14.2.2 The student should complete and submit an application form obtainable from the Registry.
- 14.2.3 Approval will be granted by the Registrar only after proper clearance by relevant units.
- 14.2.4 A student who leaves the University without going through the proper procedures will be considered as having unofficially withdrawn from the University effective on the last day of the teaching term concerned.
- 14.2.5 An unofficially withdrawn student will not be issued any official documents of the University and will not be re-admitted.

15. **Reduced Study Load for the President and Vice-Presidents of the Students' Union**

- 15.1 A newly elected President or Vice-President of the Students' Union may, if he/she feels that his/her studies will suffer through the pressure of his/her Union duties, may apply in writing to the Programme Director/Head of Department for permission to take a part-time study load for not more than two terms, while maintaining a full-time status. Such an application should normally be made within two weeks after the election results are announced.
- 15.2 The Programme and Curriculum Committee/Department Board concerned may, after considering the application, make a recommendation to the Senate thereon.
- 15.3 Granting such permission will not cause any change to the full-time status of the student nor prejudice the student's eligibility for any academic awards or financial assistance in the student's academic career.
- 15.4 No student will be granted this privilege more than once.
- 15.5 The successful applicant is required to take a minimum of 6 credits of courses in each term during his/her term of office as President or Vice-President of the Students' Union and pay all prescribed fees in full.

16. Course Assessment

- 16.1 A student is assessed for every course in which he/she has enrolled in the form of any one or any combination of the following: class work, written assignment, laboratory work, field work, research papers, projects, tests, written examinations, oral examinations and any other method(s) of academic assessment.
- 16.2 A student is required to complete all the course work and take all the prescribed tests and examinations.
- 16.3 A student who fails to attend a test or an examination without a good reason will not be given marks for that test or examination and no supplementary assessment will be given.
- 16.4 A student who is unable to sit for an examination but has medical or other compelling reasons acceptable to the Academic Unit responsible for the course concerned may apply in writing with documentary evidence to the Academic Unit concerned for a supplementary assessment. The application should be made at the earliest possible moment and no later than one week after the examination concerned was held. Further details are stipulated in Section 7 of the Regulations Governing University Examinations.
- 16.5 Reassessment of a failed course is not allowed, except under extenuating circumstances.
- 16.6 A student who has failed in a required course must retake it or take a substitute course approved in writing by the Academic Unit concerned.
- 16.7 A student who has failed an elective course may retake it or take an alternative elective in a subsequent term.
- 16.8 A student may retake a failed course only twice.
- 16.9 A student is not allowed to retake any credit bearing or non-credit bearing course which he/she has previously taken and passed.

17. Academic Credits

- 17.1 The credit is a unit for measuring the amount of time in a particular course during which a student undertakes learning activities in the University, including lectures, tutorials and other forms of learning, together with the average amount of time he/she is expected to spend on his/her own.
- 17.2 In the course description, the credits assigned to a course will be indicated in parentheses. A student will be given the appropriate number of credits for a course in which he/she has enrolled and passed.
- 17.3 The grades of all courses taken and retaken, regardless of passed or failed, will be shown in academic reports and transcripts.

18. Grading System

- 18.1 Letter grades are used to indicate a student's academic performance in a course.

18.2 Grades are awarded according to the following system:

Grade	Standard	Sub-divisions	Grade Points
A	Excellent	A	4.00
		A-	3.67
B	Good	B+	3.33
		B	3.00
		B-	2.67
C	Fair	C+	2.33
		C	2.00
		C-	1.67
		D+	1.33
D	Pass	D	1.00
		F	0
F	Failure		0
ABS	Absent		0
I	Incomplete		0*
M	Merit		no grade point given*
VS	Very Satisfactory		no grade point given*
S	Satisfactory		no grade point given*
U	Unsatisfactory		no grade point given*
PASS/FAIL			no grade point given*

*Not included in the calculation of grade point average.

18.3 Grade F indicates failure. A student who receives this grade in the first term of a year course is not normally allowed to continue with that course in the second term.

18.4 Grade I is a temporary grade which indicates that the course work or examination has not been completed for reasons acceptable to both the teacher and the Board of Examiners concerned. The assessment should be completed within four weeks after official release of the preliminary assessment results, and the grade I will be converted to a final grade which includes all assessment marks; otherwise, the grade I will be converted to grade F. The final grade will be used in the calculation of grade point averages.

18.5 A student who is absent from the term final examination will normally receive "ABS". If the student has a good reason which is acceptable to both the teacher and the Programme Director/Head of Academic Unit concerned, the student may be given a supplementary assessment. The ABS will be converted to the appropriate grade on completion of the assessment. If the student is not given any supplementary assessment, then a zero mark will be given to the final examination, and an appropriate final mark/grade will be arrived at taking into account all assessment marks.

18.6 A Pass or Fail grade may only be given as specified in the approved syllabus of the course concerned.

19. Grade Point Average (G.P.A.)*

19.1 Term G.P.A.

This is a figure ranging from 0 to 4.00 (A = 4.00) used to indicate the performance of a student in the term concerned.

* In 2007-08 or before, both credits and grades of recognised courses obtained from exchange programmes are counted in the GPA calculation. From 2008-09, the grades (and therefore the associated credits) are not counted in the GPA calculation, although the credits are transferred to Lingnan programmes.

Term G.P.A.

$$\text{Term G.P.A.} = \frac{\text{Total weighted points for all courses taken in the term concerned}}{\text{Total number of credits enrolled in for the term concerned}}$$

where weighted points = grade points x the number of credits of the course concerned.

19.2 *Year G.P.A.*

This is a figure ranging from 0 to 4.00 (A = 4.00) used to indicate the performance of a student in the academic year concerned.

Year G.P.A.

$$\text{Year G.P.A.} = \frac{\text{Total weighted points for all courses taken in the year concerned}}{\text{Total number of credits enrolled in for the year concerned}}$$

19.3 *Cumulative G.P.A.*

This is a figure ranging from 0 to 4.00 (A = 4.00) used to indicate the overall performance of a student in all the terms up to date.

Cumulative G.P.A.

$$\text{Cumulative G.P.A.} = \frac{\text{Total weighted points for all courses taken}}{\text{Total number of credits enrolled in for all terms}}$$

19.4 Courses enrolled (including those in a summer term), regardless of passed or failed, will be included in the calculation of Term, Year or Cumulative G.P.A.

19.5 Courses which are exempted are not included in the calculation of Term, Year or Cumulative G.P.A.

20. **Academic Standing**

20.1 *Academic Probation*

20.1.1 A student will be put on academic probation in the following term(s) if his/her Cumulative G.P.A. is below 1.67.

20.1.2 A student on academic probation cannot take more than 12 credits of courses per term except otherwise approved.

20.1.3 With the consent of his/her academic adviser and the Programme Director/Head of the Department concerned, a student on academic probation with Cumulative G.P.A. above 1.0 can take up to 15 credits of courses in the term. The student cannot take more than 15 credits of courses without exceptional approval of the Academic Dean concerned.

20.1.4 If a student on academic probation has a Cumulative G.P.A. of 1.0 or below, approval normally will not be granted for taking more than 12 credits of courses. Exceptions will require the approval of the Programme Director/Head of the Department and the Academic Dean concerned.

20.1.5 The performance of a student on probation will be reviewed at the end of the term when

he/she has taken cumulatively 12 or more credits of courses since he/she has been put on probation. At the time of review, if the student obtains a Cumulative G.P.A. of 1.67 or above, probation will be lifted. Otherwise his/her studies will be discontinued as prescribed by Regulation 20.2.1 (c).

20.1.6 A student on academic probation will still be assessed on a term basis and subject to other conditions of discontinuation of studies prescribed by Regulation 20.2.

20.1.7 Generally the evaluation of students' examination results to determine their academic standing will not apply to the summer term with the following exceptions.

- (a) The performance of a student who is on academic probation will be reviewed at the end of the summer term if he/she has taken cumulatively 12 or more credits since he/she has been put on probation. At the time of review, if the student obtains a Cumulative G.P.A. of 1.67 or above, probation will be lifted. Otherwise his/her studies will be discontinued as prescribed by Regulation 20.2.1 (c).
- (b) If a student fails thrice a required course after the summer term, his/her studies will be discontinued in accordance with Regulation 20.2.1(d).

20.2 *Discontinuation of Studies*

20.2.1 The studies of a student will normally be discontinued if,

- (a) his/her term grade point average is below 1.00 for any two terms; or
- (b) he/she fails in more than half of the credits of all the courses he/she takes in a term for any two terms; or
- (c) he/she fails to have his/her academic probation lifted at the end of the term when he/she has taken cumulatively 12 or more credits since he/she has been put on probation, regardless of any intervening leave of absence or suspension of studies; or
- (d) he/she fails thrice a required course* specified in his/her Major Programme (for a student who changes his/her Major Programme, the failure under the original Major Programme is also counted); or
- (e) he/she fails to fulfil the requirement(s) for progression as stipulated in his/her Major Programme, if any; or
- (f) he/she fails to fulfil all the requirements for graduation within the maximum period of study as stipulated in Regulation 13.2.

20.2.2 A student whose studies had been discontinued on academic ground is normally not allowed to be re-admitted to the University. Exceptions can, however, be granted on a case-by-case basis for admission to non-UGC-funded programmes.

20.2.3 Students' academic standing referred to in Regulation 20.2.1 is subject to the approval of the Senate upon the recommendation of the Board of Examiners concerned.

* A "required course" here refers to a course specified in the Major Programme of a student which the student is required to take and pass. This does not include any "required option/electives" and General Education courses.

20.2.4 Notwithstanding Regulation 20.2.3, a student whose studies had been discontinued may appeal through the Registrar against the decision. Details are stipulated in Section 9 of the Regulations Governing University Examinations.

21. Academic Honours

21.1 Dean's List - A student who obtains 24 credits or more in an academic year (with 12 credits or more in any one term in the academic year), scores a Year G.P.A. of 3.30 - 3.69, and has no F (Failure), Fail, U (Unsatisfactory) or I (Incomplete) grades in any courses enrolled for in the academic year concerned will be placed on the Dean's List.

21.2 President's List - A student who obtains 24 credits or more in an academic year (with 12 credits or more in any one term in the academic year), scores a Year G.P.A. of 3.70 or above, and has no F (Failure), Fail, U (Unsatisfactory) or I (Incomplete) grades in any courses enrolled for in the academic year concerned will be placed on the President's List.

21.3 In case a student has an I (Incomplete) grade in a course which is converted into an appropriate grade, his/her Term G.P.A. and Year G.P.A. will be calculated again. The student will be awarded the Dean's List/President's List when the new Year G.P.A. meets the minimum G.P.A. required and the student fulfils other criteria.

21.4 President's Award - The graduate who scores the highest Cumulative G.P.A. (or the graduates who score the same highest Cumulative G.P.A.) among graduates of both UGC-funded and non-UGC-funded undergraduate degree programmes will be bestowed the President's Award(s) at the Congregation.

22. Graduation Requirements

22.1 A student should have attended at least three terms at the University. Summer terms and any periods of suspension of studies are not included.

22.2 A student will be evaluated for graduation at the conclusion of the term in which he/she may satisfy all the requirements of the Major Programme concerned. If a student is not allowed to graduate, he/she will be re-evaluated for graduation at the end of subsequent terms.

22.3 A student should have completed 90 or more credits of courses and fulfilled all other graduation requirements as stipulated in the curriculum of his/her Major Programme. A student should also fulfil the requirements of the Integrated Learning Programme. The University reserves the right to make amendments to academic programmes from time to time as approved by the Senate.

22.4 A student should have obtained a Cumulative G.P.A. of at least 1.67.

22.5 A student who has fulfilled the requirements of a Minor Programme for which he/she has registered will graduate with the Minor.

22.6 A student is required to graduate as soon as he/she satisfies all the conditions for graduation. He/she may be allowed to take more credits than he/she needs to graduate, but only in the term he/she becomes eligible for the award concerned.

22.7 A student may graduate upon completion of all requirements at the end of any term in an academic year, although the conferment of awards is held annually.

22.8 A student's eligibility for graduation is subject to Senate approval.

23. Degree Classification

- 23.1 An honours degree programme student who has fulfilled the requirements for graduation will be awarded a bachelor's degree with one of the classifications set out in Regulation 23.2. These are given according to the students' Cumulative G.P.A. on all courses and University distribution guidelines.
- 23.2 There is a minimum Cumulative G.P.A. for each class below which a student will not be given the classification concerned, as follows:

Honours Degree Classification	Minimum Cumulative G.P.A.
(1) First Class Honours	3.50
(2) Upper Second Class Honours	3.00
(3) Lower Second Class Honours	2.50
(4) Third Class Honours	2.00
(5) Pass	1.67

The attainment of the minimum Cumulative G.P.A. does not mean automatic conversion to the corresponding class of honours.

24. Special Cases

Where a student is unable, through illness or other extenuating circumstances, to complete some or all of the course requirements and/or examinations in the final term, or does not have the likelihood of completing the degree requirements, the Board of Examiners may make an overall judgment based on his/her performance in the courses completed and recommend the student for a degree with no classification. The acceptance of such an award by a student will render him/her ineligible to present himself/herself for any subsequent consideration for the same bachelor's degree.

25. Academic Dress for Graduates

25.1 *Gown*

A black robe of a simple traditional shape.

25.2 *Hood*

A black hood of 90 cm long with red and grey silk lining throughout, and with an edge lining of the discipline colour as follows:

Degree	Colour
Bachelor of Arts (BA)	Yellow
Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA)	Blue
Bachelor of Social Sciences (BSocSc)	Green

25.3 *Cap*

A black cap of mortar-board pattern with a black tassel.

26. Testimonials, Transcripts and Academic Awards

26.1 *Testimonials*

26.1.1 A student who wishes to have a letter certifying his/her student status or attendance records may apply to the Registry for such a testimonial.

26.1.2 A student who wishes to have a personal recommendation or reference letter should approach a teacher who knows him/her well.

26.2 *Transcripts*

26.2.1 A student who wishes to apply for transfer or admission to another educational institution or for employment may apply to the Registry for an official transcript.

26.2.2 An official transcript shows the relevant particulars of a student, title of Major Programme, title of Minor Programme, title of Discipline Concentration/Supporting Specialisation, all courses taken, grades obtained, grade point averages, academic scholarships, academic awards, academic honours and disciplinary actions taken, if any.

26.2.3 An official transcript will be sent directly by the Registry to the institution or prospective employer upon the student's request and payment of the prescribed fees and postage.

26.2.4 An official transcript is not issued to a student as a personal copy or to any private individual.

26.2.5 A student who has unofficially withdrawn from the University or has unpaid accounts or obligations due to the University will not be issued any transcript or testimonial.

26.3 *Academic Awards*

26.3.1 By virtue of the Lingnan University Ordinance, Lingnan University is empowered to confer Degrees upon the approval of the University Senate on students who have fulfilled the requirements of an approved programme of studies.

26.3.2 Degrees are conferred at the annual Congregation.

26.3.3 The certification of an academic award is in both Chinese and English and shows the full name of the recipient, the title of the award with the classification where appropriate, and the title of the Major Programme concerned. The title of the Minor Programme/Discipline Concentration/Supporting Specialisation, if any, is not shown.

26.3.4 The certification of award bears the signatures of the Chairman of the Council, the President and the Registrar of the University, and the University seal.

26.3.5 The University may withhold the conferment of an academic award to a student who has unpaid accounts or unreturned materials on loan due to the University, or who has not met any other obligations due to the University.

27. **Course Coding System**

27.1 Each course is identified by a unique course code which is composed of a letter code and a number code. The course code normally indicates the area of study, the intellectual demand placed on students and the recommended sequence of study. A sub-code in the form of a small letter may be added to the number code where necessary to denote the topic the course covers.

27.2 Notwithstanding the above, when a course is listed under the General Education Programme, it will also be assigned a General Education course code.

27.3 Letter Code

27.3.1 This is the first part of the course code consisting of three characters which normally represents the study area of the course concerned. The following letter codes denote their corresponding areas of study:

Letter Code	Subject Area
ACT	Accounting
BEH	Behavioural Science
BUS	General Business
CDS	Computing and Decision Sciences
CHI	Chinese
CPT	Computing Studies
CRE	Creativity
CUS	Cultural Studies
ECO	Economics
ENG	English
ENT	Entrepreneurship
FIN	Finance
FRE	French
GEA	General Education - Category A
GEB	General Education - Category B
GEC	General Education - Category C
GED	General Education - Category D
GLS	Global Studies
HRM	Human Resource Management
HST	History
INL	Integrated Learning
ISM	Information Systems
ITB	International Business
JAP	Japanese
LCC	Language and Communication - Chinese
LCE	Language and Communication – English
MGT	Management
MKT	Marketing
PED	Physical Education
PHI	Philosophy
POL	Political Science
RIM	Risk and Insurance Management
SCI	Sciences
SLP	Service Learning Programme
SOC	Sociology
SPA	Spanish
SSC	Social Sciences
TRA	Translation
VIS	Visual Studies

27.3.2 Subject to the approval of the Senate, a course code may consist of two three-character letter codes to indicate the teaching department(s) and/or the programme(s) of the course.

27.4 Number Code

This is the second part of the course code which consists of three digits.

27.4.1 The first digit of the number code indicates the level for which the course is intended. Level 0 and 1 (i.e. 000 - level and 100 - level) courses are usually of an introductory or foundation nature and are normally to be taken in the first year of study for bachelor's

degree programmes. Level 2 (i.e. 200 - level) courses are usually intermediate level courses and are normally to be taken in the second/third year of a three-year full-time programme. Level 3 (i.e. 300 - level) courses usually involve more advanced study skills and are normally taken in the third year.

27.4.2 Nonetheless, the first digit in the General Education course code denotes the Category of the course, *viz.* 100 for Category A and Category D, 200 for Category B and 300 for Category C.

27.4.3 The second and third digits are serial numbers assigned to the course.

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