

**For the Academic Policy &  
Regulations Committee**

**University of Birmingham**

**Request for approval of the Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and  
Bachelor's Degrees**

**Topic and Purpose of the Paper**

1. To seek approval for the proposed Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Bachelor's Degrees, formerly Appendix A to the University Undergraduate Regulations.

**Consultation**

2. This request arises from the conclusion of consideration within Academic and Student Administration as to the appropriate location for the Adjusted Regulations, which were formerly an appendix to regulations.

**Proposals/Recommendations**

3. That the attached Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations (Appendix A) and Bachelor's Degrees be adopted.
4. That Regulation 7.3.1 (b) (iii), which currently reads as follows:  
*Principal Academic Units who wish to use adjusted Regulations as detailed in the Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations may do so with the permission of the Senate.*  
should be altered to read  
*Principal Academic Units who wish to use adjusted Regulations as detailed in the Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Bachelor's Degrees and the Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Undergraduate Master's Degrees may do so with the permission of the Senate.*

**Arguments to support Proposals/Recommendations**

5. The proposed Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Bachelor's Degrees will complement the already approved Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Undergraduate Master's Degrees.
6. The proposed Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Bachelor's Degrees consists of section 3 of the Appendix to section 4.2 of the 2007/08 regulations (Appendix B). Sections 1 and 2 have been deleted as providing unnecessary background details, which have no relevance to the actual operation of Adjusted Regulations.
7. The suggested change to Regulations is necessary in order to direct readers to the correct documents. This is a non-substantive change, being merely an updating of a cross-reference.

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## Code of Practice on Adjusted Regulations and Bachelor's Degrees

### 1. Principles

The Adjusted Regulations model uses a sliding-scale based on volume of credit achieved to decide degree classification. The model limits the classification obtainable on the number of Level H credits achieved.

### 2. Methodology for Applying Adjusted Regulations to a Student on a Bachelor's Degree

- 2.1 Confirm that the student has sufficient credit at Levels C and I as under existing Regulations (minimum of 100 credits at Level C and a minimum of 100 credits at level I).
- 2.2 Establish the number of credits at Level H and the maximum degree classification possible. If the student has 100 or more Level H credits then profiling can apply and the degree classification determined using this methodology. [Note that under Adjusted Regulations the "usual" minimum total credit requirement for a Class I or Class II (i) is 300 credits.]
- 2.3 If the student has less than 100 credits at Level H, then calculate the weighted average and determine the degree classification to be awarded from the table below. Explicitly, under the Adjusted Regulations, profiling does not apply for students with less than 100 Level H credits.

Weighted average	Total Level H credits		
	90	80	70
70 or above	<i>Class II (ii)</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
60 - 69	<i>Class II (ii)</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
50 - 59	<i>Class II (ii)</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
40 - 49	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
35-39	*	*	<i>Pass</i>
34 or below	*	*	*

\* Lower alternative qualification may apply according to number of credits against at levels C and I.

- 2.4 For students on 4 year Bachelors degrees (eg BSc programmes with a Year Abroad), the credits accrued from the Year Abroad (120) are not counted, and the sliding scale above applied as for 3 year programmes. However, the average mark from the Year Abroad will contribute to the calculation of the overall weighted average.

**Appendix A to the Undergraduate Regulations for 2007/08:  
Adjusted Regulations for the Award of Undergraduate Degrees**

1. The Adjusted Regulations were approved by the Academic Policy and Regulations Committee (APRC) on 24<sup>th</sup> May 2007 (APRC.07.05.04). The model approved by APRC was for immediate introduction for students graduating in 2006/7 from 3 and 4 year Bachelor degrees. Following 2006/7 the Adjusted Regulations will replace the Transitional Arrangements and the Revised Transitional Arrangements, which have been in place since 2002/03.
2. The Schools that opted into the Adjusted Regulations are:  
     Biosciences  
     Chemistry  
     Computer Science  
     Engineering  
     Mathematics  
     Physics and Astronomy.
3. The following outlines the model for Adjusted Regulations:

No students should be disadvantaged by application of the Adjusted Regulations over the transitional arrangements.” If this is likely, then Schools must apply the most beneficial classification methodology (i.e. Adjusted Regulations or transitional arrangements). The methodology for each case should be flagged up in the Examination Board minutes.

The Adjusted Regulations model uses a “sliding scale” based on volume of credit achieved to decide degree classification. The model limits the classification obtainable on the number of Level H credits achieved.

**Methodology**

- i) Confirm that the student has sufficient credit at Levels C and I as under existing Regulations (minimum of 100 credits at Level C and a minimum of 100 credits at level I).
- ii) Establish the number of credits at Level H and the maximum degree classification possible according to the scale outlined in 5.5.1. If the student has 100 or more Level H credits then profiling can apply and the degree classification determined using this methodology. [Note that under Adjusted Regulations the “usual” minimum total credit requirement for a Class I or Class II (i) is 300 credits.]
- iii) If the student has less than 100 credits at Level H, then calculate the weighted average and determine the degree classification to be awarded from the table below. Explicitly, under the Adjusted Regulations, profiling does not apply for students with less than 100 Level H credits.

Weighted average	Total Level H credits		
	90	80	70
70 or above	<i>Class II (ii)</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
60 - 69	<i>Class II (ii)</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
50 - 59	<i>Class II (ii)</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
40 - 49	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Class III</i>	<i>Pass</i>
35-39	*	*	<i>Pass</i>
34 or below	*	*	*

\* Lower alternative qualification may apply according to number of credits against at levels C and I.

- iv) For students on 4 year Bachelors degrees (eg BSc programmes with a Year Abroad), the credits accrued from the Year Abroad (120) are not counted, and the sliding scale above applied as for 3 year programmes. However, the average mark from the Year Abroad will contribute to the calculation of the overall weighted average.