UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

ORDINANCES OF THE UNIVERSITY OF BIRMINGHAM

SECTION 4: DEGREES, DIPLOMAS AND CERTIFICATES

Executive Brief

This section contains information about the awards which the University may make, including honorary degrees, and details of how awards are conferred or revoked. The Regulations provide much more detail about the processes and criteria for obtaining a University award.

Part 4 Degrees, Diplomas and Certificates

4.1 Degrees of the University

4.1.1 In the University there shall be the following degrees:

(a) Foundation Degree in Arts FdA
Foundation Degree in Science FdSc

(b) Bachelor of Arts B.A.
Bachelor of Commerce B.Com.
Bachelor of Dental Surgery B.D.S.
Bachelor of Divinity B.D.
Bachelor of Education B.Ed.
Bachelor of Educational Studies B.Ed.Studies
Bachelor of Engineering B.Eng.
Bachelor of Engineering and Bachelor of Commerce B.Eng. & B.Com.
Bachelor of Laws LL.B. Bachelor of Letters B.Litt.
Bachelor of Medicine M.B.
Bachelor of Medical Science B.Med.Sc.
Bachelor of Music B.Mus.
Bachelor of Nursing B.Nurs.
Bachelor of Philosophy B.Phil.
Bachelor of Science B.Sc.
Bachelor of Surgery Ch.B.
Bachelor of Theology B.Theol.

(c) Master of Engineering M.Eng.
Master of Natural Science M.Nat.Sc.
Master of Arts M.A.
Master of Business Administration M.B.A.
Master of Education M.Ed.
Master of Jurisprudence M.Jur.
Master of Laws LL.M.
Master of Letters M.Litt.
Master of Music M.Mus.
Master of Philosophy M.Phil.
Master of Public Health M.P.H
Master of Research M.Res
Master in Science M.Sci.
Master of Science M.Sc.

(d) Doctor of Applied Educational and Child Psychology Ap. Ed and Child Psy. D
Doctor of Business Administration DBA
Doctor of Dental Surgery D.D.S.
Doctor of Education Ed.D
Doctor of Educational Psychology Ed.Psych.D
Doctor of Engineering Eng.D
Doctor of Medicine M.D.
Doctor of Clinical Psychology Clin.Psy.D.

Doctor of Philosophy Ph.D.
Doctor of Philosophy with Integrated Study Ph.D with Integrated Study
Doctor of Practical Theology DPT
Doctor of Social Science Soc.Sci.D.
Doctor of Theology Th.D.
Doctor of Forensic Psychology Practice Foren.Psy.D.
Doctor in Health Sciences HScD
Doctor in Health Sciences (Clinical) HScD(Clin)

(e) Doctor of Divinity D.D
Doctor of Engineering D.Eng.
Doctor of Laws LL.D.
Doctor of Letters D.Litt.
Doctor of Music D.Mus.
Doctor of Science D.Sc.

4.1.2 Degrees included in the above list may be awarded jointly with other institutions, subject to the approval by the Senate of the arrangements for such joint awards. A list of degrees awarded jointly with other institutions shall be maintained by the Director of Academic Services.

4.2 Diplomas and Certificates of the University

4.2.1 In the University there shall be the following Diplomas and Certificates:

University Certificate
University Diploma
Certificate of Higher Education
Diploma of Higher Education
Advanced Certificate
Graduate Certificate
Graduate Diploma
Postgraduate Certificate
Postgraduate Diploma
Certificate in Education (Further Education)

4.2.2 The subject titles of Diplomas and Certificates shall be those of the Degree, Diploma or Certificate programmes on which the students concerned have been registered except where specified otherwise in a Programme Specification.

4.3 Assessment

4.3.1 The performance of candidates for the award of Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates and other academic distinctions in the University shall be assessed jointly by Internal Examiners, being members of the Academic Staff of the University and the Recognised Lecturers of affiliated Institutions, and by External Examiners.

4.3.2 For each subject or group of subjects forming part of an examination there shall be at least one Internal Examiner and at least one External Examiner.

4.3.3 External Examiners for taught programmes shall be appointed by the Senate in the first instance for one year but may be reappointed annually for the two following years and thereafter may only be reappointed for any immediately following period in exceptional circumstances.

4.4 Award of Substantive Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates, Scholarships, Prizes and Honours

The substantive Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates, Scholarships, Prizes and Honours of the University shall be awarded by the Senate.

4.5 Conferment of Honorary Degrees

4.5.1 The following honorary degrees may be conferred upon persons approved by the Senate:

Doctor of Divinity (DD)
Doctor of Dental Science (DDS)
Doctor of Engineering (DEng)
Doctor of Laws (LLD)
Doctor of Letters (DLitt)
Doctor of Medicine (MD)
Doctor of Music (DMus)
Doctor of Science (DSc)
Doctor of Social Science (DSocSc)
Doctor of the University (DUniv)

4.5.2 The Nominations Committee of the Senate shall determine a procedure for seeking nominations for honorary degrees and shall submit recommendations to the Senate.

4.5.3 An honorary degree shall not be conferred upon any person whose name has not been approved for that purpose by the Senate.

4.5.4 The honorary degree of Doctor of Medicine may only be conferred upon persons who are already medically qualified.

4.5.5 An honorary degree which entitles the holder to registration for a professional qualification shall be conferred only upon a person already in possession of a relevant registrable qualification.

4.5.6 Each recipient of an honorary degree shall be presented for admission by the Public Orator at a Congregation.

4.6 Conferment of Degrees at Congregations

Degrees whether substantive or honorary shall be conferred at a congregation of members of the University to be held for the purpose at least once a year unless the Council on the recommendation of the Senate decided that on account of special circumstances it is undesirable to hold a congregation. The procedures to be followed at congregations for the conferment of Degrees shall be provided for by Regulation approved by the Senate.

4.7 Degrees Conferred by Special Warrant or in Absentia

4.7.1 Notwithstanding Ordinance 4.7 Degrees may be conferred:

(a) by special warrant authorised by the Senate and signed by the Vice-Chancellor and Principal; or

(b) "in absentia" under Regulations approved by the Senate.

4.8 Revocation Of Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates, Distinctions and Honours

4.8.1 The Council may, on the recommendation of the Senate, revoke the Degree or Degrees Diplomas, Certificates, distinctions, honours and all privileges connected therewith of a member of the University:

(a) who is convicted of a criminal offence triable on indictment; or

(b) who, in the reasonable opinion of the Senate, after investigation, has obtained such Degree, Diploma, Certificate, distinction or honour by fraud or deception; or

(c) whose name shall have been removed for misconduct by a properly constituted legal authority from any official register or roll of members of the profession to which he belongs.

4.8.2 The Council may, on cause being shown, restore to any such person, without examination, the Degree or Degrees, Diplomas, Certificates, distinctions and honours which have been revoked.