

Part 7: Definitions

Section 21: Definitions

Academic Calendar:	The schedule of learning, teaching, assessment and administrative activities approved by Academic Council.
Award:	The academic qualification conferred by the University upon a student following successful completion of the course.
Assessment Component:	An activity or set of activities undertaken by students, which summatively assess(es) the extent to which a student has met one or more of the learning outcomes for a module as measured by the assessment criteria, and against which a mark is awarded. Each module comprises one or more assessment components.
Assessment Criteria:	Description of what a student is expected to do in order to demonstrate that the learning outcomes have been achieved. Assessment criteria have a direct relationship to specific learning outcomes.
Attempt:	To have 'attempted' a module means to have registered for a module and not to have submitted a change of module registration form by the deadline, nor to have suspended studies or withdrawn from a course of study. If a student decides to withdraw from a module or their course but does not complete the necessary notification forms by the specified deadlines they will be deemed to have failed the module and used up one attempt.
Block Release:	Where a student pursues a programme of study comprising a schedule of intensive study periods interspersed with periods of independent study, practical experience or industrial training
Course:	The term 'course' is used to denote a subject or one or more discipline-based sets of modules having a single or closely-related focus, leading to a common award and being administered as a single structure.
Condoned credit:	Condonement is a mechanism by which a module can be passed, and credit can be awarded even where the module pass mark or a qualifying mark, and thus the module learning outcomes, have not been achieved. Condonement is only available to students undertaking modules at Levels 3 and 4. It is not available at any other level.
Co-requisite:	A course specific requirement that students must register to study combinations of specified modules concurrently.
Credit / Credit Volume:	A numerical value denoting the amount of learning expected for the typical student to achieve the learning outcomes of that module. One credit represents 10 notional learning hours.
Credit Level:	A numerical value reflecting the depth of learning involved and the intellectual demand required to meet the learning outcomes of that module.
Credit Value:	The combination of the Credit Volume and the Credit Level, the credit value therefore relates to the complexity of the learning outcomes and the notional time judged necessary to achieve them.

Defer:	As a result of mitigating circumstances, to set aside an assessment attempt and permit the student to be assessed as if for the first time (or second/third time if the assessment to be set aside was already a second/third attempt).
Dis-requisites	Modules may be linked in such a way that registration for a particular module may not be permitted if a student is currently studying or has previously studied a module with a similar syllabus which has been designated as a dis-requisite, or which has approved access restrictions.
Enrolment:	The process of joining a course, and thus the University. Enrolment refers to the relationship between a student and their course and the University.
Fail:	At assessment component level, a result indicating that the learning outcomes have not been met; At module level, a result indicating that credit has not been achieved due to not meeting the learning outcomes.
Learning Outcome:	That which needs to be learned or which a student is required to be able to do as a result of completing the learning process. Learning outcomes are defined for both modules and courses.
Module:	Modules are the building blocks of courses. A module is a discrete, self-contained element of study, which has defined learning outcomes and for which credit is awarded for meeting those learning outcomes.
Pass:	At assessment component level, a result indicating that the assessment criteria relating to that component have been met; At module level, a result indicating that the learning outcomes defined for that module have been achieved, and that as a consequence credit has been awarded; At course level, for certain award types a result indicating that the learning outcomes defined for that course have been achieved, and that an award has been / may be conferred.
Pre-requisite:	A course specific requirement that students receive credit for a module in order to register for one or more subsequent specified modules in a related subject.
Programme:	The term 'programme of study' is used to denote an approved set of modules by which a student may obtain a specified award of the University
Progression:	Movement from one Level to the next Level of a course. Progression is subject to successfully obtaining the required number of credits, at the required level, and is authorised only by a Progression and Award Board.
Progression Point:	The point within a course where a student must meet certain requirements (obtain a required number of credits, at the required level) in order to progress to the next Level of the course.
Reassessment:	Any opportunity to recover failure, either by Referral or Retake.
Referral:	Reassessment, without attendance, of failed assessment components.
Register:	The process of joining a module. Registration refers to the relationship between a student and their modules.

Retake:	Reassessment of a whole module, with attendance, usually the following academic year, including assessment components previously passed.
Taught Course:	All courses, including distance learning and e-learning courses, which are not Level 8 research courses.
Transcript	Issued upon completion of a course, it is the University's formal record of achievement of modules passed or condoned, percentage marks and total number of credits awarded to a student. It also confirms the level, title and classification of the final award.
University:	The University of Westminster.
Validation:	The arrangements for the validation, re-validation, review and modification of University of Westminster programmes of study as described in the University of Westminster Quality Assurance and Enhancement Handbook.