**UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER**

**QUALIFICATIONS AND CREDIT FRAMEWORK [2009]**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| AWARD | QUALIFICATION LEVEL (FHEQ) | MINIMUM OVERALL CREDITS | TYPICAL RANGE OF CREDIT LEVELS | MINIMUM NO OF CREDITS AT HIGHEST LEVEL | MAXIMUM NO OF CREDITS AT LOWEST LEVEL | PASS MARK % | OTHER REQUIREMENTS/COMMENTS |
| Access Diploma | - | 120 | 1, 2, 3 | 60 |  10 | 40 |  |
| Certificate of Personal and Professional Development | - | 60 | 3, 4 | - | 60 | 40 | Award framework for short course modules. |
| Certificate  | 4 | 60 | 3, 4 | - | 60 | 40 | At least 40 at 4 for FHEQ. |
| Diploma | 4 | 120 | 3, 4 | - | 120 | 40 | At least 90 at 4 for FHEQ. |
| Certificate of Higher Education | 4 | 120 | 3, 4 | 90 | 30 | 40 |  |
| Diploma in Professional Practice/ (International) | 5 | 60 | 5 | 60 | 60 | 40 | Associate Award. Pass mark for award 50% until 2015/16. |
| Diploma in International Academic Studies | 5 | 120 | 3, 4, 5 | 90 | 30 | 40 | Associate Award. |
| Foundation Degree  | 5 | 240 | 3, 4, 5 | 100 | 40 | 40 | Must include 40 credits of work-based learning at Level 5. |
| Associate Bachelor’s Degree | 5 | 240 | 3, 4, 5 | 100 | 40 | 40 |  |
| Advanced Diploma | 5 | 120 | 3, 4, 5 | 90 | 30 | 40 |  |
| Advanced Certificate | 5 | 60 | 3, 4, 5 | 40 | 20 | 40 |  |
| Non-Honours Degree | 6 | 360 | 3, 4, 5, 6 | 60 | 30 | 40 |  |
| Honours Degree | 6 | 360 | 3, 4, 5, 6 | 120 | 30 | 40 |  |
| Graduate Diploma | 6 | 120 | 3, 4, 5, 6 | 90 | 30 | 40 | Graduate entry. |
| Graduate Certificate | 6 | 60 | 3, 4, 5, 6 | 40 | 20 | 40 | Graduate entry. |
| Bachelor of Medicine,Bachelor of Surgery | 7 | 780 | 5, 6, 7 | 190 | 175 | 40 | 50% at Level 7. New award from 2021. |
| Integrated Master’s Degree | 7 | 480 | 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 | 120 | 30 | 40 | 50% pass mark at Level 7 (from 2003 intake). |
| Postgraduate Certificate of Professional Development | 7 | 60 | 7 | 60 |  - | 50 | Award framework for short course modules. |
| Postgraduate Certificate | 7 | 60 | 6, 7 | 40 | 20 | 50 | 40% pass mark in Level 6 modules from 2016/17. |
| Postgraduate Diploma | 7 | 120 | 6, 7 | 90 | 30 | 50 | 40% pass mark in Level 6 modules from 2016/17. |
| Master’s Degree | 7 | 180 | 6, 7 | 150 | 30 | 50 | 40% pass mark in Level 6 modules from 2016/17. |
| Extended Master’s Degree | 7 | 240 | 6,7 | 180 | - | 50 | From 2016/17. 40% pass mark in level 6 which forms preliminary stage. 50% required to progress to level 7. |
| Professional Doctorate | 8 | 540 | 7, 8 | 420 | 120 | 50 | From 2010. |

FHEQ = Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, Quality Assurance Agency for Higher Education, third edition 2014.

The highest level in a range is typical: modules from higher levels may contribute to lower level awards, eg an Advanced Diploma may include level 6 modules. The minimum and maximum number of credits relate to a course with the minimum overall credits; some degrees may include an additional foundation level comprising level 3 modules. The HE credit levels used by the University are those specified in the England, Wales and Northern Ireland (EWNI) credit guidelines. They are identified by a sequence of numbers from 4 to 8. Levels below Higher Education are also used as indicated. The levels correspond to those used in the University’s two earlier frameworks as follows: 1, 2, 3 = A; 4 = 1/B; 5 = 2/C; 6 = 3/D/M1; 7 = M/M2; 8 = D.

The University ceased to offer DipHEs and Edexcel HNDs and HNCs from 2008, and the Diploma in Area Studies and Diploma in Industrial Studies from 2011.

The mark for the award of DPP and DIAS was revised from 50% from 2015/16 placement year.