

UNIVERSITY OF ST ANDREWS

TAUGHT POSTGRADUATE GUIDELINES FOR CREDIT AND GRADE TRANSFER FROM 2010/11

Credits and Grades

A student's studies towards a taught degree are structured in terms of modules, each of which is assigned a credit value, reflecting the proportion of a student's time devoted to that module; so, for example, First or 1000 level modules in a particular School might be worth 20 credits. Each module is a self-contained unit of teaching, learning and assessment. For the majority of modules the teaching takes place in one 12-week teaching block, usually broken by a reading week, and in most cases followed by an examination. Others are concentrated into a shorter period, and some are taught over the whole year. A student's performance in the examination, together with grades for pieces of work submitted during the module, determine whether he or she passes the assessment for the module and, therefore, whether he or she is awarded the credits attached to it. Thus a student who passes the module will have gained both credits, reflecting the workload of the module, and a grade, reflecting the quality of a student's work.

Credit Load

Normally a full-time taught postgraduate student takes modules worth 180 credits during the course of each year, ie 60 credits in each semester and 60 credits for the summer dissertation/project.

Taught Masters Postgraduate Grading Sheet (MLitt, MSc, MRes)

Module Grading Scale

Reporting Scale	Descriptor
20 19	Outstanding Distinction
18	Clear Distinction
17 16.5	Borderline Distinction
16 15 14 13.5	Merit (of Masters Quality)
13 12 11 10 9 8 7	Pass
6 5 4 3 2 1 0	Fail

Taught Element Grading Scale

Combined Mean	Descriptor
20 19 18 17 16.5	Distinction in the Coursework and Progression to the Dissertation Element
16 15 14 13.5	Progression to the Dissertation Element
13 12 11 10 9 8 7	Postgraduate Diploma
6 5 4 3 2 1 0	Fail

Individual/

FINAL: PGT Grading Sheet

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Individual modules taken as part of an approved taught Masters programme are assessed using the scale shown on the left-hand side. Students meeting their individual programme requirements and achieving passes in at least 120 credits will then have their eligibility to progress to the dissertation element assessed according to the scale on the right-hand side. Note that students failing any module on the first attempt are not eligible to progress to the Masters dissertation.

Those students progressing to the dissertation element must achieve a minimum grade of 13.5 in the dissertation in order to be eligible for the Masters degree.

The Masters degree may be awarded with a distinction, or with distinction in the coursework or dissertation elements alone. To achieve an overall distinction the student must achieve a distinction in the coursework and the dissertation elements (16.5 or above).