

Imperial College London

Academic Regulations for Short Courses

1 General

- 1.1 Short courses ('courses') are units of study with a defined set of learning outcomes, which do not lead to an award of the College. Courses may be assessed and therefore can be credit-bearing and, in some instances, may contribute to an award of the College through accreditation of prior learning (APL) procedures (see 8.5 and 8.6).
- 1.2 Participants registered on a short course will be given delegate status¹ unless the participant already holds student status with the College.
- 1.3 Where a short course is assessed delegates may be awarded the relevant credit, usually ECTS (see 4.4).
- 1.4 Short courses may be referred to, amongst other things, as 'Summer Schools', 'stand-alone modules', 'CPD courses' or 'pre-sessional courses'.
- 1.5 A 'Course Leader' should be appointed for each short course to have responsibility for academic standards and the management of the course.

2 Entrance Requirements

- 2.1 To register for a short course delegates must;
 - a) Meet the English Language requirements for the course as specified by Senate
 - b) Satisfy any entrance criteria for the course as specified by Senate.

3 Minors

- 3.1 The College's policies on admission of minors and child protection apply for applicants which are under 18 years of age when applying to the course and to delegates who are under 18 years of age whilst on the course.

4 Course Structures

- 4.1 Each short course must have a course specification and, unless the course is a closed course, the course details should be made available on departmental webpages and/or short courses catalogue.

¹ Delegates may not have access to all the facilities normally offered to enrolled students of the College. Which facilities might be available will depend on the course a delegate is registered on.

- 4.2 Senate and/or the relevant quality committee acting on its behalf must approve the short course specification including any modifications, usually on an annual basis.
- 4.3 Senate and/or the relevant quality committee acting on its behalf will monitor and review each short course according to a schedule and process agreed by Senate and/or the relevant quality committee.
- 4.4 Where credit is applied, short courses, which are delivered in an intensive format, will normally have a credit volume of 2.5 ECTS per week where 1 ECTS is equal to 25 notional hours of delegate effort.
- 4.5 Short courses, which are not stand-alone but are delivered and assessed as part of a programme of study leading to an award of the College, will have a credit volume determined by Senate according to the regulations for the relevant programme of study.

5 Attendance & Progression

- 5.1 A delegate admitted to a short course must participate in the course to the satisfaction of the Course Leader.
- 5.2 The College reserves the right to require any delegate whose academic progress, conduct or attendance is unsatisfactory to withdraw from the course.
- 5.3 A delegate required to withdraw has the right to appeal against the withdrawal decision but not against any academic assessment on which the decision may be based. The responsibility for hearing and deciding upon appeals is vested in the Academic Registrar, whose decisions are final.

6 Assessment & Examination

- 6.1 Examinations will be carried out in accordance with the College's [General Regulations](#) (section 14: Examination Tests).
- 6.2 Examinations and Boards of Examiners for short courses will be governed according to the [examination regulations](#) for awards at the relevant [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) level with the following exceptions;
 - a) In the case of stand-alone modules, including summer schools, the Short Course Quality Committee will fulfil the role of the relevant quality committee.
 - b) Boards of Examiners will require at least one External Examiner.
- 6.3 The pass mark for courses at levels 4-6 of the [Framework for Higher Education Qualifications](#) (FHEQ) is 40%. The pass mark for courses at level 7 of the FHEQ is 50%.
- 6.4 Assessment results for short courses are not classified and will be issued to delegates as a percentage mark.

- 6.5 Delegates who fail to achieve a percentage mark equal to or greater than the relevant pass mark will not be permitted to re-sit any part of the assessment except where individual course specifications allow.
- 6.6 A delegate who re-enters for an assessment may be liable for [re-entry fees](#).
- 6.7 Delegates wishing to appeal their percentage mark(s) should do so according to the [Procedure for the Consideration of Representations concerning decisions of Boards of Examiners](#).

7 Mitigating Circumstances

- 7.1 Delegates wishing to submit a request for mitigation should do so according to the [Mitigating Circumstances Policy & Procedure](#) with the following exceptions;
 - a) The Course Leader will fulfil the role of the Senior Tutor or Postgraduate Tutor.
 - b) The Mitigation advisory Panel will consist of the Course Leader and at least two other members of academic staff. At least one member of the Mitigation Advisory Panel should be a member of the Board of Examiners.
 - c) Delegates may not be offered the opportunity to re-sit any part of the assessment or to sit a supplementary qualifying test except where individual course specifications allow.
 - d) Where mitigating circumstances have been independently corroborated and are judged by the Mitigation Advisory Panel to be of sufficient severity to have substantially affected performance of a delegate who has achieved a grade less than the relevant pass mark may have their marks raised at the discretion of the Board of Examiners in accordance with College policy.
 - e) Mitigating circumstances will be considered in a timeframe appropriate for the duration of the course.

8 Attendance Certificates & Transcripts

- 8.1 Delegates with an attendance rate greater than 80% will receive a Certificate of Attendance for the relevant short course.
- 8.2 Delegates who are registered for an assessed course and who achieve a percentage mark equal to or greater than the relevant pass mark will receive a transcript stating the course(s) successfully completed, the final percentage mark(s) and the value of the course(s) in ECTS credit.
- 8.3 For courses which are assessed, after the Examiners have reached a decision, delegates will be notified of the result of his/her examination, including the marks obtained.
- 8.4 Delegates can normally expect to receive their percentage marks within 1 month of the end of the course and their certificate(s) and/or transcript within 2 months of the end of the course.

- 8.5 The award of credit by the College or the successful completion of any short course does not confer right of entry to any other College course or programme of study.
- 8.6 The award of credit by the College or the successful completion of any short course does not provide automatic credit exemption or accreditation of prior learning in the event of entry to any other College course or programme of study.