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## Foundation Year Academic Framework

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V1.1

## **1 Modular Structure**

- 1.1 The credits and levels for all University awards are set out in the University's Qualifications Credit Framework.
- 1.2 The academic year will be delivered in two equal semesters.
- 1.3 Modules will be 20 credits in size or multiples thereof.
- 1.4 Modules can be Core (these must be taken and passed by all students in the subject), Required (these must be taken and passed by all students on a particular route or pathway), Required\* (these are modules within a defined list from which a selection must be taken and passed by students on a particular route or pathway) or Optional. Optional modules will normally be subject-specific but may, on occasions, be broader in their scope and intended to enhance the student's knowledge and experience.
- 1.5 At least 40 credits must be identified as Core. Core modules will normally be delivered as 20 credits in each semester.

## **2 Types of award**

- 2.1 A Foundation Year is intended to provide students with a route on to specified undergraduate degree programmes at the University and will normally be integrated with the degree programme(s) on to which it leads.
- 2.2 Credit awarded for a Foundation Diploma or University Certificate will be Bath Spa University credit and will not necessarily be recognised outside of the University. Up to a third of the credit for the Foundation Diploma may be equivalent to level 4 of the Frameworks for Higher Education Qualifications.
- 2.3 Students who choose to exit following successful completion of the Foundation Year will be eligible to claim a Bath Spa University Foundation Diploma as an exit award.
- 2.4 Students who exit following successful completion of 60 credits may be eligible to claim a Bath Spa University Certificate as an exit award.

## **3 Module assessment**

- 3.1 The pass mark for all modules is 40.
- 3.2 All assessments within a module must achieve the minimum mark of 40 in order for the module to be passed. Failure in one assessment cannot be compensated by a higher mark on another assessment within the module nor can success in one module compensate for failure of another one.
- 3.3 Where an item has been failed, the mark for any assessment item that is passed following reassessment will be capped at 40. The module mark will not be capped unless as a consequence of comprising only one assessment item weighted at 100%.

## **4 Progression and outstanding credit**

- 4.1 By its nature, the programme of study on a foundation year is discrete within the overall award. Thus, credit from a foundation year cannot be trailed into the award to which the programme of study leads.
- 4.2 The overall outcome for a Foundation Year is pass/fail only.

## **5 Transfer**

- 5.1 Students who wish to transfer between modules must normally do so within the first two weeks of the semester. After that point, s/he will be considered to be taking the module and an assessment outcome must be recorded.
- 5.2 The latest opportunity for transfer between awards will be dependent on the precise nature of the transfer and students should seek advice as early as possible.