



**GUIDE FOR STUDENTS ON THE
UNDERGRADUATE FRAMEWORK
2018/19
LEVELS 4 AND 5 ONLY**

DECEMBER 2018

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ACADEMIC CALENDAR

The undergraduate academic year runs across two semesters. Each semester includes a Special Projects and Activities week (SPA week) and an examination period.

SEMESTER ONE

| | |
|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Start of Semester One | 24 September 2018 |
| Semester One SPA Week | 5 - 9 November 2018 |
| Winter Vacation | 17 December 2018 - 6 January 2019 |
| Resumption of Semester One | 7 January 2019 |
| Semester One Examination Period | 4 - 8 February 2019 |
| Semester One Reassessment Period | 29 April - 3 May 2019 |

SEMESTER TWO

| | |
|----------------------------------|----------------------------|
| Start of Semester Two | 18 February 2019 |
| Semester Two SPA Week | 18 - 22 March 2019 |
| Spring Vacation | 22 April - 5 May 2019 |
| Resumption of Semester Two | 6 May 2019 |
| Semester Two Examination Period | 10 - 14 June 2019 |
| Semester Two Reassessment Period | 19 August - 23 August 2019 |

Full term dates for the academic year can be found online:

<https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/about-us/term-dates/>

LEVELS, CREDITS AND MODULES

LEVELS

Undergraduate teaching at Bath Spa University is delivered at the following levels. These levels reflect the year of study that you are taking.

Integrated Foundation year

| | |
|---------|--------|
| Level 0 | Year 0 |
|---------|--------|

BA/BSc (Hons) degree

| | |
|---------|--------|
| Level 4 | Year 1 |
| Level 5 | Year 2 |
| Level 6 | Year 3 |

Foundation degree

| | |
|---------|--------|
| Level 4 | Year 1 |
| Level 5 | Year 2 |

CREDITS

You are required to successfully complete 120 credits at each level in order to complete that level.

Credits are achieved by passing modules. All assessment items within a module must achieve the minimum pass mark of 40 in order for the module to be passed.

Modules will usually be worth 20 credits (or multiples thereof). The number of credits that a module is worth is indicated (at the end of the) by the module code; e.g.

BMA4005-20

Your award, degree and route (i.e. single, joint, major/minor) determines the combination of modules available to you.

Modules are classed in the following ways:

| | |
|-----------|---|
| Core | Must be taken and passed by all students on a programme. A minimum of 40 credits at each of level 4 and 5 must be identified as core. Core modules will normally be delivered as one 20 credit module in each semester of the academic year |
| Required | Must be taken and passed by all students on a particular route or pathway |
| Required* | Modules within a defined list, from which a selection must be taken and passed by students on a particular route or pathway |
| Optional | Subject specific and count towards the credit you must pass in order to be awarded a particular degree |
| Open | Options from a defined list of modules available across the University |

FULL-TIME AND PART-TIME STUDENTS

If you are a full-time student, you should study a total of 120 credits per year, which would normally comprise studying 60 credits in each semester.

If you are a part-time student, you should study a minimum of 40 credits and a maximum of 80 credits per academic year. These modules can be taken in either semester.

LENGTH OF STUDY / REGISTRATION PERIOD

Courses have a minimum and maximum period of registration. Courses should be completed within the maximum time scale specified below:

BA/BSc (Hons):

| Mode of Study | Minimum | Maximum |
|---------------|---------|---------|
| Full-time | 3 years | 5 years |
| Part-time | 5 years | 8 years |

BA/BSc (Hons) with Professional Placement Year:

| Mode of Study | Minimum | Maximum |
|---------------|---------|---------|
| Full-time | 4 years | 6 years |
| Part-time | 6 years | 9 years |

Foundation Degrees:

| Mode of Study | Minimum | Maximum |
|---------------|---------|---------|
| Full-time | 2 years | 4 years |
| Part-time | 3 years | 6 years |

TYPES OF AWARD**Single Honours BA/BSc (Hons)**

You are required to successfully complete 360 credits, of which a minimum of 100 credits at each of levels 5 and 6 must be in your degree subject.

A minimum of 40 credits in your degree subject is required at Level 4, although some programmes may require up to 120 credits to be taken within the degree subject.

Combined Awards BA/BSc (Hons)

Some subjects are available as Combined Awards. You are required to successfully complete 360 credits.

Major/Minor (Subject A with Subject B)

| Level | Credits |
|---------|--|
| Level 4 | Normally a minimum of 40 credits in each subject |
| Level 5 | Normally 80 credits in your major subject |
| Level 6 | Normally 80 credits in your major subject |

Joint (Subject A and Subject B)

| Level | Credits |
|---------|--|
| Level 4 | Normally a minimum of 40 credits in each subject |
| Level 5 | Normally 60 credits in both subjects |
| Level 6 | Normally 60 credits in both subjects |

BA or BSc

If you are studying a combination which comprises one subject designated as Science (normally indicated as BSc) and the other designated as Arts (normally indicated as BA), the degree awarded (BA or BSc) will be determined by the designation in which the greater proportion of credit has been achieved. Where the balance is exactly half of each subject, you will be offered the option of BSc or BA for the designation of your award.

Pathways

Named pathways, e.g. Business and Management (Accounting), are only available on single honours awards.

A minimum of 40 credits at each of levels 5 and 6 must be pathway-specific.

Honours Degree with Professional Placement Year

A Professional Placement Year (sometimes known as a “Sandwich Year”) will comprise a single 120-credit module and will take place between Levels 5 and 6. This module will be assessed at Level 5 and be Pass/Fail only.

Foundation Degrees

You should successfully complete 240 credits, of which a minimum of 100 credits at

Level 5 must be in your degree subject.

A minimum of 40 credits in your degree subject is required at Level 4, although some programmes may require up to 120 credits to be taken within the degree subject.

Integrated Foundation Year (Level 0)

You should successfully complete 120 credits in order to be eligible to progress onto Level 4 (Year 1) of a BA/BSc (Hons) degree

Top-up Year for Honours Degree/Level 6 Direct Entry

For students eligible to enter directly into Level 6. The top-up year will comprise 120 credits, of which a minimum of 100 credits must be at Level 6 and in the degree subject.

PROGRESSION AND AWARD CLASSIFICATIONS

Progression rules

In order to progress onto the next level of your course, you are required to have passed a minimum of 80 credits (Level 4 to Level 5) or 200 credits (Level 5 to Level 6)

| Number of failed credits (at one level) | Progression rule |
|--|--|
| 20-40 credits | Progress onto the next level of your course and retake failed credits with attendance |
| 60 credits | You will not be able to progress, instead you will need to return to the University as a part-time student and retake failed credits with attendance |
| 80 or more credits | You will not be permitted to progress onto the next level of your course and you will be excluded from your course |

| Number of referred or deferred credits | Progression rule |
|---|--|
| 20-40 credits | You will be able to progress onto the next level of your course and you will be asked to complete and submit any outstanding assessments alongside the next level of your course |
| 60 credits or more | You will be required to take a break from your studies in order to complete and submit your outstanding assessments |

Please access the following link for further details regarding [Progression rules](#).

Classification

Your grades at Levels 5 and 6 contribute to your final award classification (Level 4 modules must be successfully completed, but are not included when calculating your final award).

| Classification | Percentage ranges |
|--------------------------|-------------------|
| First Class (1st) | 70.00% and above |
| Upper Second Class (2:1) | 60.00 - 69.99% |
| Lower Second Class (2:2) | 50.00 - 59.99% |
| Third Class (3rd) | 40.00 - 49.99% |
| Fail | 39.99% and below |

How we calculate your final award classification

BA or BSc Honours

If you are studying for either a Bachelors of Art (BA) or Bachelors of Science (BSc) degree, the final degree mark for all Honours degrees will be calculated from the best 100 credits at both Level 5 (Year 2) and Level 6 (Year 3). These marks will be weighted at 30% from level 5 and 70% from Level 6 (Year 3).

Foundation Degree

The final degree mark for a Foundation Degree will be calculated from the best 100 credits at Level 5 (Year 2).

Top-up Year

If you are completing a Top-up Year to obtain a Bachelors degree with honours, your final award will be calculated from the best 100 credits at Level 6 (Year 3). Any credits achieved prior to the Top-up Year will not be included in the calculation of your degree mark.

How we calculate final awards using credits from prior learning/overseas study

Credit for prior learning at other institutions is regarded solely on a pass/fail basis and you will not be awarded a grade for prior learning.

What happens if you take a Level 5 (Year 2) overseas placement for half the year?

Your overall mark for Level 5 (Year 2) is the mean percentage of all 60 credits taken during the semester at Bath Spa University. Level 5 (Year 2) grades contribute to 30% of

your final degree.

What happens if you take a Level 5 (Year 2) overseas placement for the full year?

You will gain credit for the modules passed, but no marks. Your degree will be classified using the best 100 credits successfully completed at Level 6 (Year 3).

What happens if you take a Level 6 (Year 3) overseas placement for half the year?

Your overall mark for year 3 is the mean percentage of all 60 credits taken during the semester at Bath Spa University. Level 6 (Year 3) grades contribute to 70% of your final degree.

What happens if you take a Level 6 (Year 3) overseas placement for the full year?

You will gain credit for the modules passed, but no marks. Your degree will be classified using the best 100 credits taken at Level 5 (Year 2).

Exit Awards

If you withdraw from the University before completing your registered award, or you fail to pass with sufficient credit for your registered award, you may be eligible for an Exit Award. Please note that, if you are awarded a CertHE or DipHE, you will not be eligible to attend graduation.

You may be eligible for one of the following Exit Awards, provided you have met the requirements*:

| Exit Award | Number of successfully completed credits |
|--|---|
| Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) | 120 credits |
| Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) | 240 credits |
| Ordinary Degree | At least 300 credits at Levels 4, 5 and 6, 160 of which should be at Levels 5 and 6 |

*Direct-entry Level 6 students are not eligible for exit awards

Exit Awards for Foundation Degree candidates

If you choose to withdraw from the University before completing your full award or if you fail to successfully complete your studies, you may be eligible for the following award (provided you have met the award requirements): **Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE)**.

TIMETABLING

TEACHING TIMES

Teaching will normally be scheduled within the following times:

| | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Monday - Thursday | 09.00 to 19.00 hours |
| Friday | 09.00 to 18.00 hours |

MODULE CHOICES

You must be enrolled on a total of 120 credits worth of modules across each academic year. You must have a total of 60 credits in Semester 1 and a total of 60 credits in Semester 2.

Core modules are compulsory and automatically selected for you. You are required to choose the remainder of your modules online.

| Year of study | When to choose your modules |
|--------------------------------|--|
| Year 1 (Level 4) | Normally prior to or during the first week of Semester 1 |
| Years 2 and 3 (Levels 5 and 6) | Normally before the end of your current academic year |

Incorrect module selection

If you think you have incorrectly selected a module choice online, please seek advice from your Subject Leaders, the Student Information Desk (SID) in Commons at Newton Park or email timetables@bathspa.ac.uk

Changing modules

It is normally only possible to change modules within the first two weeks of each semester. If a module is changed after the first two weeks of the year, the original module will be retained on your record and noted as a "fail".

Changing timetables

Where a module only offers one session of delivery in a week, e.g. a Lecture, the Timetabling Team will be unable to change this timeslot on your timetable.

Where a module offers more than one session of delivery in a week, for example

multiple Seminar groups to accommodate a large cohort, you may request to change sessions, provided you have a valid reason.

Valid reasons include:

- Students with responsibilities as a carer or parent;
- Students with recurring medical appointments;
- Students with certain religious beliefs;
- Students with a commitment to an employer already entered into before timetables are published and which cannot be easily altered (evidence must be provided).

Upon providing a valid reason the Timetabling Team will only move you if there is room in the timetabled activity you wish to move to and that any move doesn't then cause a clash with other activities on your timetable.

Transfer of Award

If you are considering changing your award, please follow the steps below:

1. Discuss your plans with your personal tutor, current course director or subject leaders
2. Complete the 'Transfer of Award' form, which will require the agreement and signature of your current and proposed course director. You can download a [Transfer of Award](#) form from the Student Services website.
3. Return your "Transfer of Award' form to the Student Information Desk (SID), or by email to mycourse@bathspa.ac.uk

ASSESSMENTS

Completing assessments ensures that students are attaining the learning outcomes of their modules and overall aims of their award.

Details of module assessments are published in the [Guides to Modules](#) and in individual module documentation (the module descriptor, the module handbook and Minerva).

Types of Assessment

Types of assessments may include: coursework (such as an essay); composition; seminar presentation; or seminar folder and practical work.

Your module may include examinations, such as an unseen written paper, an open paper, a documentary, a performance or an exhibition.

Assessment may be 'formative' or 'summative'. Feedback from formative assessment will help you prepare for summative assessment, but will not count towards the credits for your module. Marks for summative assessments count towards the credits for your module. Summative assessment weightings will add up to 100% (e.g. 001 Essay - 2000 words: 60%; Group presentation - 15 minutes (40%))

Where practical, all work submitted for assessment is anonymous unless the nature of the work makes this impossible; for example, a performance piece.

Coursework and examinations may be subject to internal and external moderation.

Assessment Submission Guidelines:

You must:

- Meet all coursework deadlines;
- Hand in coursework according to the instructions that you have received;
- Submit an electronic version of your coursework via Minerva using the TurnitinUK process for text-based submissions (if you are having difficulties submitting your coursework via Minerva, send an electronic version by email to your module tutor prior to the submission deadline and report the issue to IT Services) ;
- Keep an electronic copy or photocopy of all submitted work. Work is sometimes sent to external examiners for scrutiny, with the result that you may not receive the original versions back in time for revision purposes;
- Back up your work on a hard drive.

If you miss a deadline

If you miss a coursework deadline (unless you have arranged an approved extension), the following penalties will apply:

- Work handed in after the deadline, but before the cut-off date (usually one week later), will be given a maximum score of 40 (pass mark);
- Work handed in after the cut-off date will be marked zero (fail).

How to arrange an extension

Contact your module leader to request an extension in advance of the coursework deadline. You should provide a valid reason for requesting an extension; e.g. illness, and you may be required to support your claim with evidence.

The normal extension period is a week, however, this period can be extended at a module leader's discretion.

If an extension is agreed, your module leader will agree a new submission date with you and you should submit the outstanding work by this new deadline.

Module pass mark

The pass mark for all modules is 40.

All assessment items within a module must achieve a minimum mark of 40 before the module can be successfully completed.

If you fail an assessment

If you fail an assessment item, this cannot be compensated by achieving a higher mark on another assessment item within the module. Successfully passing one module cannot compensate for failure in another module.

If you fail an assessment item, the mark for any assessment item that you pass following reassessment will be capped at 40.

Publication of results

All marks are provisional until confirmed following the completion of the University Assessment Board process. Results will be available on the scheduled publication dates as listed on the [Assessments](#) page on the Hub. Your results will be emailed to your Bath Spa email address on the scheduled publication date and will include a link to your transcript, showing all confirmed marks to date.

Academic Judgement

Academic judgement is defined as a judgement that is made about a matter where only the opinion of an academic expert will suffice.

If you are uncertain why you have received a particular outcome or mark, you should contact your module tutor for further feedback and clarification.

The marking, assessing, and grading of a piece of work is an academic judgement, and as such it is not possible for you to make an appeal against this judgement on the

grounds that you simply disagree with it. This is because robust mechanisms exist within the University to ensure that standards are fair and appropriate. Further details of what constitutes a valid Appeal are available in the [Appeals and Complaints](#) section of this guidance.

Marking is conducted carefully and is subject to internal moderation and samples are checked by External Examiners, who oversee the assessment process. Further information about the assessment of students at Bath Spa University can be found in the [Assessment Policy](#).

Attendance Matters

Attending lectures and seminars is not optional and attendance is closely monitored.

For further details about how to 'tap-in' to register your attendance and about the [Attendance Matters](#) policy, please visit the Hub.

EXAMINATIONS

Examinations

Some courses include summative assessments which take the form of examinations. Formal examinations usually take place at the Newton Park campus.

If you notice any clashes or errors in your examination timetable, please report these to exams@bathspa.ac.uk immediately.

On the day of your examination

- Bring your Student ID with you to your examination, otherwise you may not be allowed to sit the examination;
- Aim to be at the examination room at least 20 minutes before the start time of your examination;
- Switch your mobile phone off;
- Remove your smart watch;
- Leave all bags, papers and unauthorised materials in the area instructed by the invigilator;
- You will be admitted to the examination room 10 minutes before the examination starts;
- During this time, you will normally be permitted to read the questions on the examination paper, but you will not be permitted to start writing until instructed to do so by an invigilator;
- Do not use any course texts, printed or electronic information of any kind during the exam, unless the examination paper permits this. Where calculators (you will need to provide your own) or other electronic equipment is required, you must ensure they do not contain or enable access to inappropriate information;
- If English is not your first language, you may be able to take a printed (not electronic) foreign-language dictionary into your exam. We suggest that you consult with your tutor in advance regarding bringing an appropriate dictionary into the examination.

Special arrangements for examinations

Special arrangements for examinations are made for students who have disabilities, specific learning difficulties, mental health conditions, medical or personal issues.

Requests for special arrangements must be made through [Student Support](#). If you wish to discuss special examination or assessment arrangements, please read the information on the Student Support website. You should note that, to ensure fairness to all candidates, you will be asked to provide supporting documentation to confirm why

special arrangements are required.

The deadline for all requests for special arrangements will be four weeks prior to the first exam. No late requests will be accepted.

- For semester 1 undergraduate exams in February, the deadline is **11 January 2019**
- For semester 2 undergraduate exams in June, the deadline is **10 May 2019**

Examples of special examination arrangements include:

- Extra time added to the length of your exam;
- Rest breaks, during which your allotted examination time is paused;
- Being in a room on your own or with fewer students;
- Use of a computer (including computers with voice recognition software);
- Provision of a support worker who may act as a scribe and/or reader;
- Exam papers in large print or printed on coloured paper;
- Being allowed to bring in necessary items such as coloured overlays, food and drink, digital non-ticking clock, medical equipment;
- Provision of an ergonomic chair

All students with special exam arrangements will be emailed confirmation at least two weeks before the exam period. What is included in this email is definitive; if the email does not explicitly state that (for instance) you will be given use of a computer then do not assume that this will be provided. If you believe you are entitled to something different, please contact the Exams Office by emailing exams@bathspa.ac.uk immediately.

MITIGATING CIRCUMSTANCES

Mitigating circumstances are unforeseen or unpreventable circumstances that significantly affect your performance in an assessment. Mitigating circumstances are based on a 'Fit to Sit/Submit' principle. When you submit an assessment or sit an examination, then you are declaring that you are fit to do so. If you submit coursework or sit an examination, you cannot later claim that your performance was affected by mitigating circumstances.

If you are unwell or have personal problems that are affecting your academic performance, you should consider whether a short extension will help you to complete the assessment, you should speak with your module leader to request an extension to the submission deadline. If, however, you feel that you are eligible to submit mitigating circumstances to defer your coursework to the next assessment point in the academic year, you should complete the Mitigating Circumstances form, which is available on the [Student Policies](#) page.

Mitigating circumstances claims should be submitted as close as possible to the date of the affected assessment. Claims should not be submitted so far in advance that the impact of the mitigating circumstances cannot be assessed. Please access the following link for further information about [Mitigating Circumstances deadlines](#).

You may apply for mitigating circumstances for more than one module if the same circumstances have affected more than one assessment. The claim form must clearly explain the details of the circumstances, which assessments or modules have been affected, and how these circumstances have affected your performance.

Mitigating circumstances do not excuse you from completing the assessment task. You are still required to demonstrate that you can achieve the required learning outcomes to pass each module and can meet the programme requirements for progression or award.

All mitigating circumstances, claims will need to be supported by independent evidence. For guidance on examples of mitigating circumstances and the types of evidence that are accepted, please consult the [Mitigating Circumstances](#) information on the Hub.

STUDY SUPPORT

There are many ways of accessing support and advice at Bath Spa University.

Student Information Desk (SID)

The Student Information Desk can help with any type of queries or questions including:

- Course regulations;
- Timetabling queries;
- Requests to change modules;
- Assessment and examination queries;
- Signposting to other services within the University.

Contact the Student Information Desk by emailing mycourse@bathspa.ac.uk, by phone on 01225 876 115 or by visiting the SID desk in Commons, Newton Park.

Course Director, Subject Leader or Module Tutor

Your course director, subject leader or module tutor may be able to answer questions about your academic study and the options available to you.

Student Support

Student Support provides a wide range of information, advice and guidance, allowing you to fulfill your potential whilst at Bath Spa University.

Student Support covers 3 key areas:

- Accessibility & Disability;
- Mental Health & Wellbeing;
- Money Advice & Engagement.

Email: studentsupport@bathspa.ac.uk

Telephone: 01225 876543

Website: <https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/students/student-support/>

Writing and Learning Centre

The Writing and Learning Centre operates a drop-in service and offers appointments with advisers.

- Email: wlc@bathspa.ac.uk
Telephone: 01225 875795
Website: <https://www.bathspa.ac.uk/library/writing-and-learning-centre>

The WLC provides the following support services:

- All types of academic writing
- Referencing
- Digital literacy
- Academic reading
- Critical thinking
- Making the transition to university study
- Returning to study after a break
- Maths and Stats

ACADEMIC MISCONDUCT

Bath Spa University is clear that all students will be judged on their own ability and that all assessment work submitted must be original. Academic Misconduct is defined as any activity used by a student which provides them with an unfair academic advantage over others. Academic Misconduct is sometimes called 'unfair practice' or 'cheating'. Any academic work submitted which suggests that there is an intention to deceive in any way may be regarded as Academic Misconduct.

Academic Misconduct is different from Poor Academic Practice, which the University defines as a minor breach of standard academic conventions, such as poorly attributed or incorrect referencing, or limited over-reliance on reference material, usually resulting from a misunderstanding or lack of confidence in conventions and where there is clearly no intention to deceive. Poor academic practice will be dealt with as part of the marking and feedback process as it represents a failure to follow assessment and marking criteria.

You are expected to present your own words, your own analysis and your own argument. It is acceptable to use the work of others to support arguments and analysis, and tutors will be able to inform you as to what constitutes good practice and to give help with subjects such as referencing and the provision of footnotes. If you are in any doubt about what constitutes good practice rather than plagiarism, you should consult your tutors for advice.

For details of Bath Spa University's Academic Misconduct policy, examples of Academic Misconduct and confirmation of the range of penalties for Academic Misconduct, please visit consult the [Academic Misconduct policy](#) on the Hub.

APPEALS AND COMPLAINTS

Every student registered at Bath Spa University and at our associate institutions has the right to appeal or make a formal complaint.

What's the difference between an appeal and a complaint?

The appeals procedure concerns assessment, exams and results. The complaints procedure is broader, covering any aspect of the student experience at Bath Spa University and our partner institutions.

Can I get help to make an appeal or complaint?

You can approach a [Students' Union](#) representative or your personal tutor.

APPEALS

What are accepted grounds for appeal?

Every student has the right to appeal, but you may only appeal if you feel you meet one or more of these accepted grounds:

- Your performance in an examination or assessment was adversely affected by illness or other factors that you could not reasonably have been expected to divulge before the Assessment Board reached its decision;
- There has been a material and significant administrative error;
- The examination or assessment was not conducted in accordance with the current regulations for the course;
- The outcome of the decision of the Unfair Practice Committee was mistaken
- A material or procedural irregularity has occurred.

What grounds are not accepted?

- Marginal failure to attain a higher class of degree;
- Appeals against the academic judgement of examiners;
- Informal assessment of your work by members of academic staff;
- Late reporting of mitigating circumstances which you may have reasonably been expected to disclose to the Examination Board at the appropriate time.

How to submit an appeal

If you have believe that you have acceptable grounds for appeal, submit these in writing to:

The Secretary to the Appeals Committee
Bath Spa University
Newton Park
Newton St Loe
Bath BA2 9BN

or by emailing appeals@bathspa.ac.uk

For further details regarding Bath Spa University's Appeals procedures, please consult the [Appeals Policy](#) on the Hub.

COMPLAINTS

If you wish to submit a complaint, please complete the online [Student Complaints Form](#), making your complaint as detailed and precise as possible, clearly explaining the nature of the complaint, the service and/or persons involved, and specifying the desired outcome. All students must read the full Complaints Procedure document before submitting a complaint. The Procedure document contains key information such as what complaints can and cannot be considered under the procedure, who can submit a complaint, and what happens at each stage of the procedure.

Complaints must be made within three months from the date of the incident or sequence of events giving rise to the complaint.

Please consult the [Complaints](#) section of the website for further details.

INTERCALATION AND WITHDRAWAL FROM STUDIES

Intercalation - taking a break from your studies

Intercalation is a formal way of taking a break from your studies and requests for intercalation will be considered for medical reasons or for other extenuating circumstances which prevent you from engaging with your course for an extended period of time. Intercalation may also be approved to enable students to take advantage of opportunities related to your studies, such as internships or placements.

We would advise that you consult with either your course team or your personal tutor about intercalating your studies, before formally requesting to do so. If you wish to make a request for intercalation, you will need to do so in writing by emailing mycourse@bathspa.ac.uk or by handing in the request to the Student Information Desk (SID) in the Commons building at Newton Park.

Your request should include:

- Your name and student number;
- Course title;
- Detailed explanation why it would be beneficial for you to take a break from your studies;
- Dates that you wish to stop and restart your studies;
- Third party supporting evidence, such as a hospital letter.

If you are unsure of what will constitute suitable third party evidence for your situation, please contact us and we can advise you.

We would also recommend you speak to the Finance Office in order to understand how intercalation may affect your fee liability and finances. Their contact details and further information can be found on their webpages:

<https://thehub.bathspa.ac.uk/services/finance/students>

Withdrawing from your course

If you are considering withdrawing from your course, we recommend that you discuss this with either the course team or your personal tutor before formally requesting to be withdrawn. If relevant, we also recommend that you contact [Student Support](#) in order to see if there is anything that the University can do to support and help you with your reasons for wanting to withdraw.

If you have discussed your decision with your course team or personal tutor and still

decide to leave, please submit a formal notification of withdrawal by emailing mycourse@bathspa.ac.uk.

The notification must include:

- Your name and student number;
- Confirmation that you wish to be withdrawn from your course;
- Brief reasons for your withdrawal;
- Contact address for confirmation of withdrawal from the University.

Please be aware that the official withdrawal date will be recorded as the date that the University receives the formal notification of withdrawal.

We would also recommend you speak to the Finance Office in order to understand how withdrawal may affect your fee liability and finances. Their contact details and further information can be found on their webpages:

<https://thehub.bathspa.ac.uk/services/finance/students>

If you are staying in accommodation provided by the University, we recommend contacting our Accommodation team to understand how withdrawal may affect your living arrangements and fees. Their contact details and further information can be found on their webpages: <https://thehub.bathspa.ac.uk/services/housing>

GLOSSARY

Academic judgement - an opinion in a matter where only the opinion of an academic expert will suffice

Academic Misconduct - any activity used by a student which provides them with an unfair academic advantage over others. Sometimes referred to as Unfair Practice

Academic Year - the period of time in which students attend university. [Bath Spa University's Academic Year dates](#)

Appeal - a process wherein a student can formally ask for a review of a university decision made relating to his or her course of study

Appeals Committee - the body to which appeals should be submitted

Appeals Panel - the forum in which appeals are heard and decisions regarding the appeals are confirmed

Assessment item - an individual assessment item (e.g. an essay) which contributes to the assessment of a module

Award - a recognition of academic achievement, which is bestowed upon a student who has attained the required proficiency

Certificate - a document which certifies an academic award or achievement

Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE) - a higher education qualification, which can be awarded upon achievement of 120 credits

Cheating - fraudulent activity in relation to the submission of academic work, which could take many forms, including plagiarism, collusion or the use of unauthorised notes in examinations

Classification - a grading structure for undergraduate degrees. At Bath Spa University, the final degree mark for all Honours degrees will be calculated from the best 100 credits at both level 5 (year 2) and level 6 (year 3). These marks will be weighted at 30% from level 5 and 70% from level 6

Collusion - collaboration with others on an assessment which is meant to be an individual submission

Combined Award - a degree which is comprised of two subjects. Minimum number of credits in each subject will be specified and the volume of credit achieved will determine whether the Combined Award is Joint or Major/Minor

Complaint - a form of feedback which can be submitted to the university and, where

appropriate, a formal policy will be followed

Core module - must be taken and passed by all students in the subject. A minimum of 40 credits at each of level 4 and 5 must be identified as core. Core modules will normally be delivered as a 20 credit module in each semester of the academic year

Course leader - an academic member of staff, to whom the responsibility for the academic leadership, management and assessment for a programme has been assigned

Coursework - work which is carried out by students for the purposes of learning. Coursework may or may not be credit-bearing

Credit - the academic unit which is gained upon successful completion of modules and determines a student's final award classification

Deadline - the date which has been specified upon which an assessment must be submitted in order for the work to be accepted and marked without restrictions

Deferred - A deferred assessment is an assessment which is normally carried over to the assessment board following the original assessment board at which the marks for the assessment would be considered. The marks for a deferred assessment will be uncapped

Degree - a qualification awarded to a student upon successful completion of a course of study

Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE) - a higher education qualification, which can be awarded upon achievement of 240 credits

Dissertation - a substantial paper which usually involves original research and demonstrates a student's mastery of his or her subject and of the scholarly method

Examination - a formal test of knowledge and skills in a given area

Exit award - a recognition of academic achievement, which is awarded to a student upon the achievement of a certain number of credits

Extension - an agreed period of time following a deadline for the submission of an assessment item, after which the assessment item should be submitted on the date of a new deadline agreed between a student and a relevant academic member of staff

Fit to sit/submit - a principle in which the submission of an assessment or the participation in an examination is a declaration by the student that he or she is fit to do so

Formal teaching - academic tuition which is delivered by an academic member of staff within an education setting

Formative - a non-credit bearing form of assessment, usually conducted during academic sessions and followed by feedback being provided to a student in order to facilitate improvements in the student's learning

Foundation degree - a degree which is awarded upon achievement of 240 credits. The achievement of a certain number of credits at a minimum degree level is usually required. Further details are available in the [Qualifications Credit Framework](#) document

The Hub - a student and staff intranet at Bath Spa University, which provides a wide range of information and resources

Intercalation - a period of time in which a student is officially permitted to take time away from studying on his or her academic degree

Internal moderation - a process in which assessments are checked by a number of academic members of staff, to ensure consistency in the application of academic criteria and marking practices

Invigilator - a person appointed to be in attendance during an examination and is given the responsibility of ensuring that the examination regulations are maintained throughout the assessment

Joint - a Combined Award in which the balance of credits achieved in each degree subject is equal

Lecture - an oral presentation with the intention of instruction and dissemination of knowledge

Major/Minor - a Combined Award in which a greater balance of credits is achieved in the major degree subject than in the minor degree subject

Minerva - a student and staff learning portal at Bath Spa University

Mitigating circumstances - unforeseen or unpreventable circumstances that significantly affects a student's performance in an assessment

Module - discrete unit of study at a designated level, with its own objectives and outcomes, prerequisites, syllabus and scheme of assessment

Module leader - an academic member of staff, to whom the responsibility of managing the delivery and assessments of a module has been assigned

Optional module - subject specific and count towards the credit you must pass in order to be awarded a particular degree

Ordinary degree - a degree which is awarded upon achievement of 300 credits. The achievement of a certain number of credits at a minimum degree level is usually required. Further details are available in the [Qualifications Credit Framework](#) document

Open Module - outside of subject-specific credit requirement for your named degree. All students will have the opportunity to take 20 credits at levels 5 and 6 from outside their degree subject(s)

Pathway - a defined combination of modules within a route to lead to a final award. At Bath Spa University, a minimum of 40 credits at each of levels 5 and 6 must be pathway-specific in order for a named pathway to appear on an award

Personal study - study which is carried out by a student outside of formal teaching sessions. Students are expected to carry out a certain number of hours of personal study a week. The [number of hours of personal study](#) which students are expected to carry out are specified earlier in this document

Personal tutor - an academic member of staff, whose contact details are provided to a student in order to allow him or her to act as a first point of contact for the student as well as serving as a source of advice and support

Placement - a defined period of work experience during a course of study

Plagiarism - the submission of work which is not the student's own, without appropriate referencing

Programme of study - a coherent set of modules, chosen by the individual student in order to gain an award.

Project - a multi-faceted assignment which may be carried out individually or in groups

Publication date - the date on which academic results are released to a cohort of students

Reassessment - the opportunity to re-submit an individual assessment item by a specified deadline (usually following the failure of the assessment upon initial submission)

Referred - A referred assessment is an assessment which has been failed at the first attempt and is normally due to be submitted by the deadline for the next assessment board. Marks for referred assessments are capped according to the regulations stipulated in the [Undergraduate Academic Framework](#)

Registrar - official keeper of student records at a university

Registration - the process of enrolling onto a programme of study

Required module - must be taken and passed by all students on a particular route or pathway

Required* module - modules within a defined list, from which a selection must be taken and passed by students on a particular route or pathway

Resit - the opportunity to take an examination again on a specified date (usually following the failure of the examination at the initial attempt)

Route - the combination of modules which comprise a course and, upon successful completion, lead to a final award. Some programmes offer a number of different pathways towards the final award, which allow students to choose certain specialisations

Sandwich year - a professional placement within a working environment during the course of a degree, with the purpose of allowing students to develop skills and knowledge within an industry relevant to their degree subject

Semester - a half-year term at university

Seminar - a class composed of a group of students, usually led by an academic member of staff

Single Honours - a degree which is awarded upon achievement of 360 credits. A minimum number of credits in the degree subject will be specified, which varies from course to course

Special arrangements for examinations - the provision of specific support, equipment or procedures relating to examinations for students who are eligible and who submit a request for special arrangements

Students' Union - an organisation run by and for students. The [Students' Union](#) at Bath Spa University is a registered charity

Subject leader - an academic member of staff, to whom the responsibility for the academic leadership, management and coordination of an academic subject area has been assigned

Submission - the handing in of an assessment, usually on a defined submission date

Summative - a credit-bearing form of assessment. The successful passing of the summative assessments defined for a module is required to enable a student to successfully pass a module. The marks from a summative assessment may contribute towards the classification of a final award

Top-up degree - a degree which usually comprises only the final year of academic study and follows on from earlier academic study or training

Transcript - a document which details a student's academic record

TurnitinUK - an internet-based plagiarism detection service

Unfair practice - any activity used by a student which provides them with an unfair academic advantage over others. Usually referred to as Academic Misconduct

University Assessment Board - Assessment Boards within the University operate at two levels: a) Subject Boards, at which the marks for individual students are considered and agreed within each module; and Final Awards Boards, at which overall outcomes for individual students are confirmed for a stage (end of semester or trimester) or level

Workshop - an interactive class session, usually involving a small number of students, with the intention to facilitate the development of specific skills