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## Initial Teacher Training Academic Framework

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| Responsible Office      | Academic Services                       |
| Responsible Officer     | Head of Academic Governance and Quality |
| Approval authority      | Academic Board                          |
| Date of approval        | 21 May 2019                             |
| Amended (if applicable) | N/A                                     |
| Effective Date          | New enrolments after date of approval   |
| Supersedes              | Local regulations                       |
| Next review due         | May 2024                                |

## **1 Modular Structure**

- 1.1 The credits and levels for different initial teacher training awards are set out in the University's Qualifications Credit Framework. The programme intended learning outcomes for an Initial Teacher Training programme will normally be the Teacher Standards.
- 1.2 The academic year will normally be delivered over the course of a year with one final assessment point at the end of the programme. Where a programme is longer than one year, it will also include a progression point.
- 1.3 With the exception of subject specialisms on the Primary and Early Years ITT programmes, modules will be 15 credits in size or multiples thereof. The largest module size permitted is 60 credits.
- 1.4 There will, in addition, be a non-credit-bearing module related to the recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS). The Definitive Programme Document will note where responsibility for the recommendation of QTS or EYTS is located.
- 1.5 Subject specialisms on the Primary and Early Years ITT programmes will be enabled through an optional 5-credit module that reflects the specialism. Such a module will be in addition to the credits required for the award and cannot be used to substitute other credits.
- 1.6 Programmes will normally comprise a combination of University-based time and school-based time. The minimum time required of each part will be set out in the Definitive Programme Document.
- 1.7 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 may be subject-specific (ie count towards the credit the student must pass to be awarded a particular degree) or, additionally, available to students from other subjects as an Elective (ie outside of the subject-specific credit requirements for their named degree).

## **2 Types of award**

- 2.1 Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (PrGCE)
  - 2.1.1 A Professional Graduate Certificate in Education will comprise 60 credits, some or all of which may be at Level 6. The award of a Professional Graduate Certificate in Education is also dependent on a student successfully meeting the requirements to be recommended for Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Teacher Status.
- 2.2 Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE)
  - 2.2.1 A Postgraduate Certificate in Education will comprise 60 credits, all of which must be passed at Level 7. The award of a Postgraduate Certificate in Education is also dependent on a student successfully meeting the requirements to be recommended for Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Teacher Status.
- 2.3 Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDE)
  - 2.3.1 A Postgraduate Diploma in Education will comprise 120 credits, all of which must be passed at Level 7. The award of a Postgraduate Diploma in Education is also dependent on a student successfully meeting the requirements to be recommended for Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Teacher Status.
- 2.4 Recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status (QTS) or Early Years Teacher Status (EYTS)
  - 2.4.1 Students registered on the Assessment-only QTS programme will only take the non-credit-bearing module that determines the recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status. An academic award of the University will not be made in these instances.

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- 2.4.2 Students who are registered for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education or Postgraduate Diploma in Education who fail the non-credit-bearing module that determines the recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Teacher Status will receive an academic award with the title of PgCert/PgDip in Primary Education Practice or PgCert/PgDip in Secondary Education Practice, as per the age-related focus of their academic programme. Students who have achieved some or all credit at level 6 and would otherwise have been eligible for a Professional Graduate Certificate in Education will receive a Graduate Certificate in Primary Education Practice or Graduate Certificate in Secondary Education Practice, as per the age-related focus of their academic programme.
- 2.4.3 For students enrolled on the Professional Graduate Certificate in Education, the Postgraduate Certificate in Education or the Postgraduate Diploma in Education, a recommendation for Qualified Teacher Status or Early Years Teacher Status is also dependent upon successful completion of the credit-bearing modules on the programme.

### **3 Module assessment**

- 3.1 The pass mark for all credit-bearing modules is 50 for Level 7 and 40 for Level 6.
- 3.2 All assessments within a module must achieve the minimum mark for the Level 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 50 if reassessment is at Level 7. The module mark will not be capped unless as a consequence of comprising only one assessment item weighted at 100%.
- 3.4 Where reassessment is at Level 6, only an indication of Pass or Fail will be given and the overall module will then be awarded at Level 6.
- 3.5 A maximum of three attempts will be permitted. When making a third attempt, the student may elect whether to submit at Level 6 or at Level 7.
- 3.6 The 5-credit subject specialism modules will be Pass/Fail for the purposes of the award.
- 3.7 The QTS/EYS module is Pass/Fail for purposes of the award. Assessment is based on the Ofsted grading system and students are required to complete their training with a minimum rating of Grade 2 (Good).

### **4 Progression and outstanding credit**

- 4.1 Where a programme is two years in length (normally a PGDE) and there is a formal assessment point at the end of the first stage (normally the completion of the PGCE stage), up to 30 credits may be trailed to the next stage unless the programme regulations state otherwise.
- 4.2 Where an outcome of 'fail' has been recorded, the student must re-take the module with attendance; where an outcome of 'defer' or 'refer' has been recorded, only the outstanding assessments need to be attempted.

### **5 Determination of final award and classification**

- 5.1 The final degree mark for all academic awards will be an average of 60 credits taken and passed for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education and an average of 120 credits taken and passed for the Postgraduate Diploma in Education.
- 5.2 Postgraduate Certificates in Education and Postgraduate Diplomas in Education are classified as follows:

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| Pass | 50.00% and above |
| Fail | 49.99% and below |

- 5.3 Professional Graduate Certificates in Education are classified as Pass/Fail. As modules achieved at Level 6 will not receive a mark, a degree mark will not be provided although the transcript will indicate the mark of any modules achieved at Level 7.
- 5.4 The exit awards of Postgraduate Certificate/Postgraduate Diploma in Primary/Secondary Education Practice will be classified as per the relevant PGCE/PGDE in paragraph 5.2 above. The Graduate Certificate in Primary/Secondary Education Practice will be classified as per the Professional Graduate Certificate in Education in paragraph 5.3 above. Recipients of these exit awards will not, however, have qualified teacher status.
- 5.5 Recommendations for Qualified Teacher Status only do not include an academic award of the University therefore there is no degree mark.

## **6 Fitness to Practise (Suitability)**

- 6.1 For entry to an Initial Teacher Training programme, a student must meet the Government's definition for suitability or fitness to practise as a teacher. A condition of enrolment is that these entry requirements are maintained throughout the student's studies and failure to do so will normally lead to termination of enrolment.

## **7 Transfer**

- 7.1 Transfers between subject specialisms or age specialisms may be possible in some circumstances. 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.