

Section 40 Scheme A – Undergraduate, graduate and foundation awards

40.1 Eligibility for award

- 40.1.1 Students are eligible for an undergraduate/graduate award when they have:
- Fulfilled specified enrolment requirements, including the payment of relevant fees.
 - Attempted the assessment for all modules specified for the programme of study in the programme specification.
 - Been awarded the required credits at the appropriate level.
 - Fulfilled any additional requirements as specified in the programme specification, and in particular must have passed all modules designated as compulsory for award.
 - Achieved a classification average, determined across all modules contributing to award, calculated in accordance with the classification rules.
 - For the award of Integrated Master's or Bachelor's Degrees with Honours, the classification average must be at least the classification average for the Class 3 Honours Degree.
- 40.1.2 A student enrolled on a programme that confers professional status who does not meet the requirements of the intended award may nonetheless be eligible for a non-professional award. This would be detailed in the programme specification.
- 40.1.3 Students who have not achieved sufficient credit or the necessary standard for the award may be considered for the exit award as detailed on the relevant programme specification.

40.2 Credit requirements for award

- 40.2.1 Credit requirements for undergraduate, graduate and foundation programmes are set out in the table below. These will be used in conjunction with programme specific rules detailed on the programme specification, for example, where modules must be passed and cannot be compensated. Modules indicated as non-compensatable in the programme specification cannot be compensated for a lower exit award. Exit awards may only be awarded where stated on the programme specification.

Further details of the eligibility to use external credit towards an exit award can be found in [section 4.8](#).

Modules identified as non-compensatable on programme specifications cannot be compensated to obtain exit awards.

Award	Credits taken	Credit requirement for award
Integrated Master's Degree with Honours	480	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 480 credits • Including at least 120 credits at each of Levels 4, 5, 6 and 7 • Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit at each of Levels 4, 5, and 6 for the failure to be compensated (to a maximum of 20 credits per level) • Where eligible, a minimum mark of 45 must be achieved for any failed credit at Level 7 for the failure to be compensated (to a maximum of 20 credits per level) • No more than 240 external credits at Levels 4 and 5
Graduate Diploma	120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 120 credits at Levels 5 and 6 • Including at least 80 credits at Level 6 • Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit to be compensated (to a maximum of 20 credits) • <i>Credits cannot be compensated to contribute to this as an exit award</i> • No more than 60 external credits at Level 5 and 6
Professional Graduate Certificate in Education (exit award)	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 60 credits at Level 6 • Including passing all placement modules • <i>Credits cannot be compensated to contribute to this as an exit award</i> • No external credits can contribute to this as an exit award
Graduate Certificate	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 60 credits at Levels 5 and 6 • Including at least 40 credits at Level 6 • <i>Credits cannot be compensated to contribute to this as an intended or exit award</i> • No more than 30 external credits at Level 5 and 6
Bachelor's Degree with Honours	360	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 360 credits • Including 120 credits at each of Levels 4, 5 and 6 • Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit at each level for the failure to be compensated (to a maximum of 20 credits per level) • No more than 240 external credits at Levels 4 and 5
Ordinary Degree of Bachelor (exit award)	300	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 300 credits • Including at least 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 and at least 60 credits at Level 6 • Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit at Levels 4 and 5 for the failure to be compensated (to a maximum of 20 credits per level) • <i>Credits cannot be compensated at Level 6 to contribute to this as an exit award</i> • No more than 200 external credits at Levels 4 and 5. Students entering Level 6 with 240 external credits cannot achieve this as an exit award.
Foundation Degree	240	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Awarded 240 credits • Including 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 • Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit at each level for the failure to be compensated (up to a maximum of 20 credits per level) • No more than 120 external credits at Level 4

Award	Credits taken	Credit requirement for award
Diploma of Higher Education (exit award)	240	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded 240 credits Including 120 credits at each of Levels 4 and 5 Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit to be compensated (up to a maximum of 20 credit per level) No more than 120 external credits at Level 4
Certificate of Higher Education (exit award)	120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded 120 credits at Level 4 Where eligible, a minimum mark of 30 must be achieved for any failed credit to be compensated (up to a maximum of 20 credit per level) No more than 60 external credits at Level 4
University Diploma	60	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded 60 credits at Levels 4 and 5 Including at least 40 credits at Level 5 <i>Credit cannot be compensated to contribute to this award</i> No external credits can contribute to this award
University Certificate	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded 40 credits at Level 4 <i>Credit cannot be compensated to contribute to this award</i> No external credits can contribute to this award
Foundation Certificate – International	120	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded 120 credits at Level 3 <i>Credit cannot be compensated to contribute to this award</i> No external credits can contribute to this award
Foundation Certificate (exit award)	40	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awarded 40 credits at Level 3 <i>Credit cannot be compensated to contribute to this award</i> No external credits can contribute to this award

* Additional criteria for award may be specified in the [programme specification](#).

40.3 Undergraduate, graduate and foundation award mark calculations

40.3.1 Classification depends on the performance of the student in modules contributing to the award. It is calculated on the basis of a credit-weighted average of marks across an award, unless otherwise specified in the programme specification.

40.3.2 Integrated Master's and Bachelor's Degrees with Honours are classified as follows:

Classification	Overall weighted mark
Class I	70 or above
Class II Division i	60-69
Class II Division ii	50-59
Class III	40-49
Fail	0-39

40.3.3 The **Ordinary degree of Bachelor** is not given a classification and is awarded with a 'pass' based on credit accumulation.

40.3.4 Undergraduate awards other than Honours Degrees, including Foundation Degrees, Foundation Certificates, and graduate awards may be pass/fail awards or may be awarded with merit or distinction*, as follows:

Award	Overall weighted mark
Distinction	70 or above
Merit	60-69
Pass	40-59
Fail	0-39

* In exceptional cases where specified in a programme specification, the award classification may vary from the standard classifications

Classification calculation method

40.3.5 Level 4 (and Level 3 if applicable) marks are excluded from the classification calculation for Integrated Master's and Bachelor's programmes.

40.3.6 Level credit-weighted averages are calculated and rounded to 2 decimal places.

40.3.7 2 award mark calculations are made using different level-weightings with the exception of graduate programmes which are a single level. The student is entitled to the better of the results to determine the class to be awarded.

Programme	Calculation 1	Calculation 2
Integrated Master's	Uses equal weightings of the final 3 levels (Levels 5, 6 and 7)	Uses a double weighting of the final 2 levels (Levels 6 and 7) and a single weighting of the second level (Level 5)
	<i>Direct entrants to Level 6</i> Uses equal weightings of the final 3 levels (Levels 6 and 7)	<i>Direct entrants to Level 6</i> Uses a double weighting of the final 2 levels (Levels 6 and 7)
Bachelor's	Uses equal weightings of the final 2 levels (Levels 5 and 6)	Uses a double weighting of the final level (Level 6) and a single weighting of the second level (Level 5)
Foundation Degree	Uses equal weightings of both levels (Levels 4 and 5)	Uses a double weighting of the final level (Level 5) and a single weighting of the first level (Level 4)
Foundation Certificate	The award mark is calculated using the credit-weighted average for all modules	Not applicable
Graduate	The award mark is calculated using the credit-weighted average for all modules	Not applicable

40.3.8 Only results obtained from York St John University will be used to calculate degree classifications (refer to [section 4.7](#)).

40.3.9 Where an Integrated Master's student is awarded a Bachelor's degree as a lower exit award marks from Level 7 modules are not included in the Bachelor's degree calculation.

40.3.10 Exceptions to these arrangements will have been agreed by the Quality and Standards Committee for specific programmes or individuals and normally require classification based on final-level modules only, for example, through direct entry to Level 6 study through recognition of prior learning (RPL) or to a top-up degree.

Calculating credit-weighted averages for a level

40.3.11 To calculate a credit-weighted average for a level:

- a) Calculate the credit-weighted average for each level separately.
- b) List the final module marks and the module credit values for the level (columns B and C in the Example 1 below).
- c) Multiply each module mark by the module's credit value and enter that into column D. This gives the credit-weighted mark for each module.
 - Note that failure marks must also be included in this calculation – the failure mark is multiplied by the credit value for the module in the normal manner.
- d) Total the number of credits in column C **excluding the credits for pass/fail modules**.
 - This is normally 120, but in some cases, it may be 100 or 110 if there is a pass/fail module or a module reflecting external credit with no numeric mark – refer to Example 2 below.
- e) Total the weighted marks for all modules in the level (column E, Example 1 = 7,740).
- f) Then divide total weighted marks by the total number of credits.
- g) This gives a credit-weighted average mark **for the level**.
- h) In Example 1 below the credit-weighted average for the level is 64.5
- i) Weighting the module marks in this way gives greater emphasis to the marks for the larger modules.

Example 1: Worked example for 120 credits in Level 5

A Modules for Level 5	B Mark	C Credit	Mark x Credit	D Weighted mark
Module A	44	10	44 x 10 =	440
Module B	55	20	55 x 20 =	1,100
Module C	44	10	44 x 10 =	440
Module D	66	40	66 x 40 =	2,640
Module E	78	40	78 x 40 =	3,120
Total		120		7,740

Credit-weighted average calculation for Level 5	
Total weighted mark / Total credits	
7,740 ÷ 120	64.50

Example 2: Worked example for 120 credits in Level 5 where 10 credits are marked on a pass/fail basis

A Modules for Level 5	B Mark	C Credit	Mark x Credit	D Weighted mark
Module A	44	10	44 x 10 =	440
Module B	55	20	55 x 20 =	1,100
Module C	Pass	(10)	N/A	
Module D	66	40	66 x 40 =	2,640
Module E	78	40	78 x 40 =	3,120
Total		110		7,300

Credit-weighted average calculation for Level 5	
Total weighted mark / Total credits	
7,300 ÷ 110	66.36

Calculating a credit-weighted average for a Bachelor's Degree classification

40.3.12 To calculate a degree award mark and classification

- a) Follow the instructions in the section above to calculate the **Level 5 credit-weighted average**
- b) Follow the instructions in the section above to calculate a separate **Level 6 credit-weighted average**
- c) 2 further calculations now need to be made to calculate the level-weighted average marks
- d) Calculation 1:
 - For the first award calculation (**Award calculation 1**) add the Level 5 and Level 6 credit-weighted averages together
 - Then divide this total by 2
 - This calculates an award level-weighted average (**Award calculation 1**) with a ratio of 1:1 (i.e., equal weighting for each level)
- e) Calculation 2:
 - For the second award calculation (**Award calculation 2**) it is necessary to double-weight Level 6 so that this contributes more in the degree classification calculation
 - To calculate **Award calculation 2** – add the Level 5 credit-weighted average to the Level 6 credit-weighted average, and then add the Level 6 credit-weighted average again to this total
 - Then divide this total by 3
 - This calculates an award level-weighted average (**Award calculation 2**) with a ratio of 1:2 (i.e., Level 6 is weighted twice as much as Level 5)

Example 3: Calculating a credit-weighted average for a Bachelor's Degree classification

Example values – Bachelor's Degree	CWA level mark
Level 5 credit-weighted average (L5 CWA)	55.23
Level 6 credit-weighted average (L6 CWA)	68.66

Calculation method Bachelor's Degree		Example calculation	Award mark
Calculation 1 (level ratio 1:1)	$(L5\ CWA + L6\ CWA) \div 2$	$(55.23 + 68.658) \div 2 =$	61.94
Calculation 2 (level ratio 1:2)	$(L5\ CWA + L6\ CWA + L6\ CWA) \div 3$	$(55.23 + 68.658 + 68.66) \div 3 =$	64.18
The final weighted award mark is the higher result from the 2 calculations			64.18

Example 4: Calculating a credit-weighted average for an Integrated Master's Degree classification

40.3.13 Following the method outlined in [section 40.3.6](#) calculate the Level 5, Level 6 and Level 7 credit-weighted averages.

Example values – Integrated Masters	CWA level mark
Level 5 credit-weighted average (L5 CWA)	69.12
Level 6 credit-weighted average (L6 CWA)	75.01
Level 7 credit-weighted average (L7 CWA)	70.25

Calculation method Integrated Masters		Example calculation	Award mark
Calculation 1 (level ratio 1:1:1)	$(L5\ CWA + L6\ CWA + L7\ CWA) \div 3$	$(69.12 + 75.01 + 70.25) \div 3 =$	71.46
Calculation 2 (level ratio 1:2:2)	$(L5\ CWA + L6\ CWA + L6\ CWA + L7\ CWA + L7\ CWA) \div 5$	$(69.12 + 75.01 + 75.01 + 70.25 + 70.25) \div 5 =$	71.93
The final weighted award mark is the higher result from the 2 calculations			71.93

Example 5: Calculating a credit-weighted average for a Foundation Degree classification

40.3.14 Following the method outlined in [section 40.3.6](#) above calculate the Level 4 and Level 5 credit-weighted averages.

Example values – Foundation Degree	CWA level mark
Level 4 credit-weighted average (L4 CWA)	59.52
Level 5 credit-weighted average (L5 CWA)	65.37

Calculation method Foundation Degree		Example calculation	Award mark
Calculation 1 (level ratio 1:1)	$(L4\ CWA + L5\ CWA) \div 2$	$(59.52 + 65.37) \div 2 =$	62.45
Calculation 2 (level ratio 1:2)	$(L4\ CWA + L5\ CWA + L5\ CWA) \div 3$	$(59.52 + 65.37 + 65.37) \div 3 =$	63.42
The final weighted award mark is the higher result from the 2 calculations			63.42

40.4 Undergraduate classifications thresholds

40.4.1 Classification credit and level weighted average marks are rounded to 2 decimal places. If a student's overall credit and level weighted average falls above the **classification threshold**, the Progress and Award Examination Panel awards the higher classification. The thresholds for Integrated Masters' and Bachelors' Degrees with Honours are as follows:

Classification	Overall weighted mark classification threshold
Class I	69.50
Class II Division i	59.50
Class II Division ii	49.50
Class III*	39.50

40.4.2 The thresholds for graduate awards, Foundation Degrees, Foundation Certificates and other non-Honours undergraduate awards are as follows:

Award	Overall weighted mark classification threshold
Distinction	69.50
Merit	59.50
Pass	39.50

40.5 Failure to meet award thresholds

40.5.1 A student who is not successful in the final attempt to meet the award requirements of a programme of study after all assessment opportunities have been exhausted will have their enrolment for their programme of studies terminated.

40.5.2 Third attempts are not permitted for a failed module(s) in the final year of the intended award, unless approval is granted by the Special Cases Panel or the Appeals and Conduct Committee. This applies to all levels 3 to 6.

40.5.3 Subject to the provisions of the relevant programme specifications, students who have not met the progression requirements for an award may be deemed to be eligible for an exit award as defined within the programme specification, provided that they have met the requirements of that award. A student who has been granted an exit award in such circumstances and has exhausted all assessment opportunities as specified in the [University Regulations](#) is not normally permitted to progress to a further attempt at the higher award.

40.5.4 There is no automatic right to repeat the final level of an undergraduate programme of study. In exceptional circumstances this may be permitted. For the process to be followed refer to [section 37.11](#).

40.5.5 Students should note that there are strict **time limits on making appeals**. Students have **20 working days from the publication of results** to submit their appeal. Details of the 'Appeals Procedure' can be found in [section 58](#). The Students' Union can also offer advice and support. Information is available on the [Students' Union page](#).