



GLOBAL MSC MANAGEMENT GLOBAL MSC MANAGEMENT (CEMS MIM) GLOBAL MSC MANAGEMENT (MBA EXCHANGE)

SCHEME FOR THE AWARD OF A TAUGHT MASTERS DEGREE: PROGRAMMES COMPRISING COURSES TO THE VALUE OF EIGHT UNITS FOR STUDENTS ENTERING IN THE ACADEMIC YEAR 2019/20

This classification scheme is approved by the Graduate School Board of Examiners.
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This scheme should be read in conjunction with the General Academic Regulations, Regulations for Taught Masters Degrees, the relevant Taught Masters degree programme regulations, the relevant online Taught Masters course guides and the Code of Good Practice for Taught Masters Programmes: Teaching, Learning and Assessment.

In this scheme the term “programme” refers to the title of the degree e.g. Global MSc in Management as set out above. The term “course” refers to either a half or full unit course. Students must complete a total of 8 course units in order to be eligible for the award of a degree.

1. **Mark and Grade for a Course:**

1.1 The examiners for each course will decide a numerical mark for each student using the following scale:

Grade	Mark
Distinction	70-100
Merit	60-69
Pass	50-59
Fail	(x+1)-49
Bad Fail	0-x

Each Department, Institute and Group shall specify the Bad Fail value for all its courses, and this shall be clearly published in the School Calendar and in departmental student handbooks. The Bad Fail boundary can therefore vary between departments and courses. Students should consult with the department that teaches a course in order to establish the grade boundary between a Fail and Bad Fail. Alternatively, a full list of Bad Fail boundaries can be found [here](#).

1.2 The grade of Bad Fail will be used internally and will not appear on official transcripts.

2. **Eligibility for Award of Degree**

2.1 In order to be considered for a degree, a student must have completed all elements of summative assessment required for each course as listed in the corresponding programme regulations.

2.2 A student who makes no serious attempt at any element of summative assessment for a course, as set out in the General Academic Regulations, will be considered not to have completed the programme. Moreover, the absence of a serious attempt will count as one of the attempts allowed for the course unless it is authorised by the Chair of the Sub-Board of Examiners responsible for the programme, in accordance with section 10 of the Regulations for Taught Masters Degrees.

2.3 A student will not be recommended for the award of a degree if they have failed courses to the value of 1.5 or more units, subject to the compensation and penalty rules for failed courses in section 3.2 or, if in the judgement of the examiners, the fail is a direct result of exceptional circumstances in accordance with the Regulations for Taught Masters Degrees.

3. Calculation of the Award of Degree

3.1 The Sub-Board of examiners have designated the following courses as being critical to assessment:

For the Global MSc in Management, students must pass the MG420 dissertation in order to be eligible for the award of the degree.

For Global MSc in Management (CEMS MIM), and Global MSc in Management (MBA EXCHANGE), students must pass the MG410 Term Abroad. Please also refer to the relevant programme local rules.

3.2 Where a student receives a Fail mark in any course, the following penalty rules shall apply:

3.2.1. A Bad Fail mark in any course of any unit value will result in an overall Fail for the degree. (See section 4.)

3.2.2. A Fail (but not a Bad Fail) in a course(s) totalling 0.5 or 1.0 unit value does not require compensation.

3.2.3. A Fail (but not a Bad Fail) in courses totalling 1.5 or 2.0 unit value will result in an overall Fail unless compensated either:

- (i) by a mark of at least 60% in courses of an equivalent value. For the avoidance of doubt, a mark of at least 60% is required in each course providing compensation.
- (ii) by a compensation aggregate mark of 330 in the non-failed courses. If compensated, a Fail shall result in a drop in the overall award classification where a Distinction or Merit would otherwise have been awarded. It shall have no further impact where a Pass is to be awarded ¹.

3.3 The overall classification of an award shall, subject to the penalty rules for failed courses in section 3.2 above, be calculated on the basis of the best marks in courses to the value of 8 units as follows:

3.3.1. For a Distinction:

- (a) marks of a Distinction grade in courses to the value of at least 6.0 units;
- (b) marks of a Distinction grade in courses to the value of at least 5.0 units and marks of a Merit grade or higher in courses to the value of at least 2.0 units.

3.3.2. For either a Distinction, if no failed course, or a Merit, if a failed course (but not a Bad Fail):

- (c) marks of a Distinction grade in courses to the value of at least 5.0 units and a mark of a Merit grade or higher in course(s) to the value of at least 1.0 unit;
- (d) marks of a Distinction grade in courses to the value of at least 4.0 units and marks of a Merit grade or higher in courses to the value of at least 2.0 units and an overall Distinction aggregate mark of at least 520².

3.3.3. For a Merit:

- (e) marks of a Distinction grade in courses to the value of at least 4.0 units;
- (f) marks of a Merit grade or higher in courses to the value of at least 6.0 units;
- (g) marks of a Distinction grade in course(s) to the value of at least 1.0 unit and marks of a Merit grade or higher in courses to the value of at least 4.0 units.

3.3.4. For either a Merit, if no failed course, or a Pass, if a failed course (but not a Bad Fail):

- (h) marks of a Distinction or Merit grade in courses to the value of at least 5.0 units;
- (i) marks of a Distinction grade in courses to the value of at least 2.0 units and marks of a Merit grade or higher in courses to the value of at least 2.0 units.

3.3.5. For a Pass

- (j) marks of at least a Pass grade in courses to the value of 7.0 units;

- (k) marks of at least a Pass grade in courses to the value of 6.0 units with compensation for the failed unit(s) as described under section 3.2.

4. **Failure to Achieve an Award of Degree**

- 4.1 If a student has not been awarded a degree, they shall normally be entitled to repeat the failed courses only (on one occasion) and at the next normal opportunity, in accordance with the General Academic Regulations.
- 4.2 A repeating student under section 4.1 is entitled to repeat any failed first or second year courses (on one occasion only). They must ensure they repeat enough courses to meet the minimum criteria for an award as set out at section 3.3. Opting out of repeating any failed course or courses is at the student's own risk. The student must ensure they have passed courses that are critical to assessment under section 3.1.
- 4.3 If a student has met the requirements for the award of a degree having repeated failed courses, they can only be recommended for the award of a Pass degree unless, in the judgement of the examiners, the initial failure(s) was at least in part a direct result of an exceptional circumstances submission, subject to the provisions of section 5.

5. **General Proviso**

It is also open to a Sub-Board of Examiners to recommend to the Graduate School Board of Examiners any departure from this Scheme and if, in their judgement, this would be equitable for any individual student as a direct result of exceptional circumstances. Such circumstances would need to be extraneous to the normal assessment process and would apply to that student only. All the following conditions also apply:

- 5.1 That the student is very close to the next higher classification boundary (within 3 marks in a single paper or 5 marks on aggregate)²;
- 5.2 that the student has course marks in the higher classification range;
- 5.3 that the student has demonstrated that the assessment or set of assessments were significantly and negatively affected by exceptional circumstances that were sudden, unforeseen, out of the student's own control and proximate to the assessment(s) in question;
- 5.4 that the student has demonstrated that his / her performance in the affected assessment(s) was significantly out of line with his / her performance in other, unaffected assessments.

6. **SUPPLEMENTARY CRITERIA FOR PROGRESSION FROM THE FIRST TO THE SECOND YEAR OF MSC MANAGEMENT**

The following rules set out what marks are required in order to be eligible to proceed into the second year. Students with the following mark profiles progress as follows:

- 6.1 Pass marks in all first year courses will allow progression to year two.
- 6.2 A pass in 3 units of courses, including all core courses will allow progression to year two.
- 6.3 2 or more Bad Fail marks (full or half units) in any course will prevent progression to year two.

Students must resubmit all failed components of assessments in courses in which they receive a Bad Fail mark order to be eligible for the award of a degree. The Repeat Teaching Panel may consider an application for repeat tuition in any failed courses from a student. Results obtained following a repeated attempt at assessment shall bear their normal value.



Footnotes

¹ Each Sub-Board of Examiners shall establish clear 'local rules' about: (i) what special consideration will be given to any course designated as 'critical to assessment' and (ii) when and how the overall classification of an award will be determined where two options are available. Each Sub-Board will also ensure its 'local rules' are published in the relevant departmental student handbook(s). The Academic Registrar's Division will also maintain an authoritative central website about 'local rules'.

² The aggregate will be calculated by taking the sum of all relevant courses weighted according to their relative value in terms of half or full units. A half unit mark is halved for aggregate purposes, e.g. a half unit mark of 60 adds 30 to the aggregate and a half unit mark of 55 adds 27.5. Once all marks have been added, the final aggregate total is rounded up if necessary. A compensation aggregate will only be calculated using the marks in passed courses.

See the [Calendar](#) for further information about Programme Regulations, Course Guides, School and academic Regulations.