

School of Law Assessment Regulations as in Handbook 2008/09

EXAMINATION REGULATIONS

Bachelor of Laws (Honours) Marks and Standards 2007/8	
Pass Standard (module level)	The pass standard for each module is 40%.
Progression from year 1&2.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Obtain an aggregate mark of 40%. (i.e. 160/400 marks) across all modules 2. Obtain a mark of not less than 30% in any module.
Award Classification (Honours Standard)	<p>In order to be eligible for the award at honours classification, a candidate must:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Satisfy the examination, credits and other requirements for the course as specified in the Approved Course Schedule. 2. Pass the final examination at years 2 and 3. 3. Have attained a weighted average in the award stages of the course in accordance with the requirements below. (Weighted average is calculated based on 40% of the students aggregate marks from year 2 <i>plus</i> 60% of the students aggregate marks from year 3) <p>First Class Honours: An aggregate of not less than 70%. (560/800 marks)</p> <p>2nd Class Honours- Grade 1: An aggregate of not less than 60% (480/800)</p> <p>2nd Class Honours- Grade 2: An aggregate of not less than 50% (400/800)</p> <p>3rd Class Honours: An aggregate of not less than 40% (320/800)</p>
Borderline Cases	<p>Notwithstanding the above provisions, an Examination Board may consider as a borderline case, any student falling within 2% (16 marks) of any of the above thresholds, provided the candidate has achieved full credits in all prescribed modules.</p> <p><u><i>Preponderance principle</i></u> Where a student's classification average falls within 2% of a classification boundary, the Exam Board shall consider the proportion of the marks obtained by the student in each classification band. In order that a student to be awarded the higher classification, marks in the higher classification band must have been achieved in modules attracting a credit weighting equal to half or more of those contributing to the degree classification.</p> <p><u><i>Exit Velocity Principle</i></u> Where a student's classification average falls within 2% of a classification boundary, the Exam Board shall consider the non-weighted average of the final year of study. Where the student's Final Year average is in the higher classification band, the Exam Board shall normally award the higher class degree.</p>
Reassessment regulations	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Normally, if a candidate is unsuccessful in the assessment of some or all of the modules for the year of the course, the candidate shall be permitted three further attempts at the unsuccessful assessment(s) following the first attempt. These further attempts will normally be at the next available sitting(s) 2. Any candidate who does not avail of one of these attempts is deemed to have exhausted one such attempt, except where extenuating circumstances prevent the candidate from attempting the assessment, in which case an application for a deferral should be made by the candidate by completing an Extenuating Circumstances Form.
Reassessment for Progression	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A candidate who is unsuccessful in some or all of the assessments for progression shall normally be entitled to be reassessed in the failed assessments at a supplementary examination prior to the commencement of the next academic year.

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	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 2. A candidate who satisfies the requirements of the module at reassessment shall be eligible for a pass result in the reassessment component(s) 3. A candidate who is unsuccessful in re-assessment of any modules may be required to repeat attendance and re-assessment of the year for that module.
Reassessment for an Award	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. A candidate who is unsuccessful in the assessment of some or all of the modules for the award shall normally be entitled to be reassessed in the failed assessment at the supplementary examination prior to the graduation event. 2. A candidate who satisfies the requirements for the award at reassessment shall be eligible for a pass result in the reassessment component (s)
Continuous Assessment	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. In the case of a candidate being referred in an examination, marks awarded on the basis of continuous assessment, shall, normally be carried forward from the original examination to the supplementary examination and shall be aggregated with the marks scored in the latter to determine the total marks to be awarded in respect of the referral. 2. In the case of a candidate who re-attends a year of a course, the marks to be awarded shall be those gained in both written examination(s) and continuous assessment elements by virtue of the re-attendance. 3. In the case of a candidate whose results are liable to be jeopardised by the carry forward of poor continuous assessment marks, alternative assessment arrangements may be approved by the Examination Board, in lieu of the continuous assessment. The results of such candidates at the supplementary examination shall be based on the marks awarded for the alternative assessment combined with supplementary examination result 4. In the case of a candidate who has been unsuccessful in the assessment of a module and who applies for reassessment in that module, the College may make alternative assessment arrangements where the module is no longer available.
Compensation regulations	<p>Compensation is the procedure whereby an Examination Board permits a candidate's overall assessment performance to compensate for partial failure. Compensation may be applied only to enable a candidate to pass the assessment as a whole; it may not be applied to grant exemptions or additional exemptions. Compensation may be applied in any year of any course.</p> <p>A candidate who does not achieve the required pass standard in one of the examination modules in an Examination, may, nevertheless, at the discretion of Examination Board, pass the examination by compensation. Compensation may be applied on the following basis, at the discretion of the Examination Board:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> (a) where the examination consists of four Examination Modules, compensation may apply in the case of one only, (b) Compensation will be awarded in one subject provided that the candidate has excess marks in other subjects at the same sitting, equivalent to double the deficiency. (i.e. a mark of 35 will require 10 marks in excess of 40 across other subjects in order to pass by compensation) (c) the marks obtained in the module being considered for compensation must not be lower than 30%, (d) the pass standard must be reached in the remaining Examination Modules requiring to be passed, (e) compensation can only apply where all the Examination Modules

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	<p>appropriate to a year are presented at the same sitting,</p> <p>(f) compensation may be applied only to enable a candidate to pass in the examination as a whole. It may not be applied to grant exemptions or additional exemptions.</p> <p>(g) for the purpose of student transcripts, in a module that has been passed by compensation, the mark will remain unaltered and will be annotated with the initials <i>PC</i>.</p>

Disclosure of Marks:

Marks shall not be disclosed prior to the issue of the Results List. Actual examination marks shall be disclosed in writing to individual candidates as soon as is practicable after the Exam Board meeting.

Fails

Third Year (Part 111 under Cardiff Law School system) fails under the University of Wales LLB. regulations :

‘ Any candidate who fails to satisfy the examiners of Part 111 that he should be awarded a degree may, upon the recommendation of the examiners of Part 111, present himself either externally or internally for the examination on not more than two subsequent occasions in the five years following the date of his first attempt; but he shall not, unless the Academic Board on the recommendation of the candidate’s constituent college otherwise resolves, be eligible for the award of a degree with honours ‘

Note: The recommendation on eligibility for Honours must be made on the basis of circumstances prevailing at the time of the failure.

Portobello College will adopt the procedures (para. 12 above) of the University of Wales in this regard.