



ACADEMIC REGULATIONS 2026

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ACADEMIC REGULATIONS 2026

1 GENERAL PROVISIONS

1.1 Legal Requirements

1.1.1 These Regulations are subject to:

1.1.1 (a) the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, 1996;

1.1.1 (b) all statutory and common laws, in particular the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 (as amended) and all other statutes relating to higher education;

1.1.1 (c) all policies, frameworks and regulatory documents, guidelines, directives, and regulations as published by statutory bodies established under the Higher Education Act and other relevant acts to higher education;

1.1.1 (d) the UJ Institutional Statute, 2019;

1.1.1 (e) amendments of and deviations from these Regulations as approved by the Senate and // or Council as appropriate.

1.2 Application of Regulations

1.2.1 These regulations apply to all subsidised and non-subsidised whole programmes, modules, and any other learning programmes approved or ratified by Senate or its committees.

1.2.2 Insofar as each section of these Academic Regulations affects, has an impact on, refers to, or by its nature, relates to any students (or prospective students) of the University, these Academic Regulations are applicable to such persons. Any affected, impacted or related students (or prospective students) are directed and expected to read and familiarise themselves with these Academic Regulations. By registering at the University of Johannesburg, students agree to abide by the Academic Regulations.

1.2.3 Reference to Faculty includes the College of Business and Economics (CBE) and the Johannesburg Business School (JBS). Faculty Board includes the College Board and the JBS Board.

1.2.4 Reference to Executive Dean includes Dean.

1.2.5 Reference to Head includes Head of Department (HOD), Head of School (HOS), and Director.

1.2.6 Reference to Head of Faculty Administration (HFA) includes Head of College Administration (HCA) and the Head of JBS Administration.

1.3 **Status of Regulations**

- 1.3.1 These Academic Regulations form part of the Rules of the University, which include policies, guidelines, and standard operating procedures ([see here](#)).
- 1.3.2 Any Rules, or Faculty Rules and Regulations, may be amended by the University from time to time, after following due process. Any and all amended, published, or repealed Rules, as well as Faculty Rules and Regulations, shall be applicable to the affected person upon any such publication or amendment.
- 1.3.3 The University is not bound by any act inconsistent with its Rules and Procedures. The University has the right to rectify any act (including administrative errors) inconsistent with its Rules and Procedures or the law, and it is not precluded (estopped) by such an inconsistent act from doing so.
- 1.3.4 In the event of any conflict, ambiguity or inconsistency between the Student Agreement, Academic Regulations, Rules or Faculty Rules and Regulations, or any other applicable institutional policies, the document that shall take precedence for the purposes of resolving that conflict, ambiguity or inconsistency shall be as follows:
- 1.3.4 (a) Firstly, the Student Agreement (where applicable);
- 1.3.4 (b) Secondly, these Academic Regulations (in matters relating to academic matters, the Academic Regulations take precedence);
- 1.3.4 (c) Thirdly, the Rules and // or the Faculty Rules and Regulations, save where such Rules or Faculty Rules or Regulations specifically set out that they take precedent over these Academic Regulations (whichever is applicable);
- 1.3.4 (d) Thereafter, any other applicable institutional policies or documents.
- 1.3.5 When applying the hierarchy of terms set out above, notwithstanding any precedent a document may have over another document, all applicable documents should be read together insofar as possible, with any conflicting provisions being dealt with in terms of the above hierarchy of terms.
- 1.3.6 Faculty Rules that are in force at the commencement of these Regulations remain in force until amended by Senate.
- 1.3.7 In situations that are not covered by these Academic Regulations, the Faculty Rules and Regulations or institutional policies or procedures are dealt with in terms of the applicable legislation and the common law.

2 ABBREVIATIONS, DEFINITIONS AND CONCEPTS

2.1 Abbreviations

ABBREVIATION	FULL TERM
APS	Admission Point Score
AR	Academic Regulation
CAA	Central Academic Administration
CAT	Centre for Academic Technologies
CBE	College of Business and Economics
CEP	Continuing Education Programme
CHE	Council on Higher Education
CPD	Continuous Professional Development
DBE	Department of Basic Education
DHET	Department of Higher Education and Training
DIPEM	Division for Institutional Planning, Evaluation and Monitoring
DVC	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
EM	Examination Mark
FHDC	Faculty Higher Degrees Committee
FM	Final Mark
FO	Final Opportunity
GED	General Education Development
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HEMIS	Higher Education Management Information System
HEQC	Higher Education Quality Committee
HEQSF	Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework
HFA // HCA	Head of Faculty Administration/Head of College Administration
HOD	Head of Department
ID	Identity Document (card) // Refugee Identity Documents
IELTS	International English Language Testing System
JBS	Johannesburg Business School
LMS	Learning Management System
MEC	Management Executive Committee
NASCA	National Senior Certificate for Adults
NBT	National Benchmark Test
NCV	National Certificate Vocational
NDP	Non-Degree Purpose
NSP	Non-Subsidised Programme
NQF	National Qualifications Framework

ABBREVIATION	FULL TERM
NSC	National Senior Certificate
ODE	Online Distance Education
PG	Postgraduate
PQM	Programme Qualification Mix
PsyCaD	Centre for Psychological Services and Career Development
PWG	Programme Working Group
RPL	Recognition of Prior Learning
SACAI	South African Comprehensive Assessment Institute
SAQA	South African Qualifications Authority
SC(A)	Senior Certificate (Amended)
SEC	Student Enrolment Centre
Senex	Senate Executive Committee
SHDC	Senate Higher Degrees Committee
SL	Service Learning
SLP	Short Learning Programme
SM	Semester Mark
SOP	Standard Operating Procedure
STLC	Senate Teaching and Learning Committee
TOEFL	Test of English as a Foreign Language
WIE	Work-integrated Education
WIL	Work-integrated Learning
UG	Undergraduate
UJ	University of Johannesburg
UJELP	UJ English Language Programme
USAf	Universities South Africa

2.2 Definitions and Concepts

Note: The definitions in this section apply in the UJ context.

- 2.2.1 Unless the context requires otherwise, where acronyms, words, and phrases are used in these Academic Regulations, they bear the meanings as assigned below, and other grammatical forms of the words or phrases have corresponding meanings. These definitions should also be read in conjunction with the relevant policies that address similar matters.
- 2.2.2 If any definition contains a substantive provision conferring rights or imposing obligations or duties on the University or any person, notwithstanding that it is only in the definition (or such other clause), effect shall be given to it as if it were a substantive provision in the body of these Academic Regulations.

- 2.2.3 **Academic Misconduct** (refer also to all the relevant University policies and standard operating procedures (SOP) documents) has the meaning ascribed to it in the Policy on Academic Misconduct, as amended from time to time. Academic misconduct does not include honest errors or differences of opinion. Academic misconduct broadly refers to:
- 2.2.3 (a) **Cheating**, which means any activity that contravenes or subverts academic rules or regulations with the intention of gaining an unfair academic advantage.
- 2.2.3 (b) **Collusion**, which refers to unauthorised collaboration between students and/or staff (sharing or copying of work) or passing off the work of a group as one's own. Collusion includes receiving, providing, or passing off the work of another person, a professional agency or electronically generated content as one's own.
- 2.2.3 (c) **Fabrication**, which includes but is not limited to the invention of data or results and the recording or reporting of them.
- 2.2.3 (d) **Falsification**, which includes but is not limited to the manipulation of research materials, equipment or processes, or changing or omitting data or results such that the data or results are not accurately represented in the research record.
- 2.2.3 (e) Unethical use of **generative artificial intelligence (AI)**, which means AI capable of generating new content (such as text, image, creative output, or video content) from data it has learned from.
- 2.2.3 (f) **Plagiarism**, which is the appropriation of another person's ideas, processes, results, presentations, words or any compilation of such (whether published or unpublished) without appropriate credit through recognised methods of referencing. Plagiarism also includes the use of substantive text, images, or other outputs generated through artificial intelligence applications without declaration. The use of one's own work without appropriate referencing constitutes a form of plagiarism (i.e., self-plagiarism). Plagiarism further includes paraphrasing the work of others by selectively altering words or phrases, changing the order of words, or closely following the structure of one or more arguments, even if the original source is cited through a recognised method of referencing.
- Note: where reference to "plagiarism" is used, it should not be confused with the assignment and transfer of intellectual property rights set out in the Student Agreement and the University's Policy on Intellectual Property. Please refer to those sources for further information.*
- 2.2.3 (g) Any other act committed with the intention to misrepresent, defraud or subvert the standard academic processes involved in teaching and learning, assessment and research.

- 2.2.4 **The Applications and Selections Policy** means the policy of the University in terms of Section 37 of the Higher Education Act, which creates a legally binding framework for determining admission requirements and selection procedures for holders of qualifications that provide them with entrance to the range of qualifications offered by the University.
- 2.2.5 **Academic Regulations (AR)** means the regulations contained in this document.
- 2.2.5 (a) **Faculty Rules and Regulations** means the compilation of the specific rules that apply to the faculty and includes programme and departmental specific regulations.
- 2.2.6 **Appeal**, by a student, in respect of an academic decision, means an earnest and formal request made in accordance with the provisions of the Academic Regulations to reconsider such a decision.
- 2.2.7 **Assessment** means the process in which evidence is gathered, and academic judgements are made, about students' performance in relation to agreed and defined criteria.
- 2.2.7 (a) **Assessment criteria** means the clear and transparent expression of requirements against which the student's performance is assessed, as derived from the learning outcomes.
- 2.2.7 (b) **Assessment methods** refer to the activities in which an assessor engages to determine student competence, for example, observation (observing students while carrying out a task), document review (evaluating a product submitted by a student, such as an artefact or portfolio of evidence) and the assessment of oral or written questions.
- 2.2.7 (c) **Assessment opportunity** refers to an assessment that provides students with the opportunity to provide evidence of their knowledge and skills. The opportunity may be scheduled and supervised, or it may not, and the specific date for submitting the evidence is predetermined.
- 2.2.7 (d) **Continuous assessment** means assessment conducted continuously throughout the learning experience and includes formative and summative assessment opportunities. It is carried out at any of the predetermined points of the total learning experience. These consecutive assessment opportunities, which include a variety of assessment methods, have predetermined weightings and include the assessment of all the outcomes within the module. All assessments (including the final summative assessment) contribute to the final pass/fail mark of the student. The Learning Guide for each module contains outcomes and predetermined assessment weightings as approved by the Faculty Board.
- 2.2.7 (e) **Formative assessment** means assessments for learning, which are conducted throughout the student's learning journey to give early indications of what - and how effectively - students are learning, as well as

their strengths and weaknesses. Formative assessment, which may or may not carry a mark, is often used as a diagnostic tool, as it provides information to make real-time improvements in teaching methods, learning support materials and activities.

- 2.2.7 (f) **Summative assessment** is an assessment that contributes to the final mark of a module. Summative assessments are evaluations of learning and may include a variety of assessment methods as contained in the Learning Guide. The purpose of summative assessment is to evaluate the student's achievement of the outcomes, i.e. establish evidence of learning regardless of the mode of provisioning.
- 2.2.7 (g) **Special assessment opportunity** means a further assessment opportunity equivalent to the original assessment opportunity aimed at accommodating students who could not be assessed during the original assessment opportunity.
- 2.2.7 (h) **Supplementary assessment opportunity** means an assessment that supplements the original assessment granted to students. Admission to this assessment opportunity is based on the results of the original assessment opportunity, and final marks above 50% are typically capped at a pass mark of 50%.
- 2.2.8 **Certificate and/or Digital Certificate** means a document that is issued as evidence of compliance with the requirements of subsidised and non-subsidised whole or short learning programmes.
- 2.2.9 **Chief assessor** means the person responsible for teaching and assessing a module, usually the lecturer.
- 2.2.10 **Department/School** means a substructure that forms part of a faculty.
- 2.2.11 **Doctoral degree** is awarded for an original contribution to a field of study at a theoretical, conceptual, or analytical level, in addition to proficiency in research methods and exercise of independent and critical ability. There are two types of doctoral degrees:
- 2.2.11 (a) In a **research doctorate**, producing a thesis is a requirement for a doctoral degree. A doctorate is a 360-credit NQF Level 10 degree, which requires candidates to undertake research at the most advanced academic level. This research culminates in the submission, assessment, and acceptance of a thesis. Candidates may also present peer-reviewed academic articles and papers, and, in certain fields, creative work such as artefacts, compositions, public performances and public exhibitions, in partial fulfilment of the research requirements (as set out in the HEQSF). Coursework may be required as preparation or as a valuable addition to the research, but does not contribute to the credit value of the doctoral qualification. Coursework may, however, be required for the completion of a professional doctoral

degree, and will contribute towards the final completion of the degree(see below). The defining characteristic of this qualification is that the candidate is required to demonstrate high-level research capability and to make a significant and original academic contribution at the frontiers of a discipline or field. The work must be of a quality to satisfy peer review and merit publication. The degree may be earned through pure discipline-based, multidisciplinary, or applied research.

- 2.2.11 (b) A **professional doctorate**, as defined in the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) (GG 36 No. 38116, 17 October 2014), is a 360-credit NQF Level 10 degree, with a strong emphasis on professional practice, taught modules, and applied research. The research component contributes a minimum of 60% NQF level 10 credits, whilst the remaining NQF level 10 credits derive from coursework modules. Professional Doctorates may include appropriate work-integrated learning. As this is a professional degree, additional selection criteria may be required for admission, such as e.g. registration with a recognised professional body, and/or work experience in the field.
- 2.2.12 **External assessor** means an independent expert assessor (examiner), not affiliated in any other way or acting in any other capacity for or at the University.
- 2.2.13 **Faculty-specific assessment** means opportunities, such as continuous assessments, which are determined by academic departments and approved by the Faculty Board.
- 2.2.14 **Faculty** means the primary academic structure//entity for a planned cluster of academic learning and research programmes and qualifications, its substructures as approved by Council, and the employees who perform functions in the academic structure. Faculty includes the CBE and the JBS.
- 2.2.14 (a) **College** refers to the College of Business and Economics.
- 2.2.14 (b) **JBS** refers to the Johannesburg Business School.
- 2.2.15 **Faculty Board** means a body that governs a Faculty and regulates its activities.
- 2.2.15 (a) **Executive Dean** means a person appointed as head of a faculty or structure equivalent in status, as designated by the Council. In the Academic Regulations, any reference to the Executive Dean includes the Dean of JBS.
- 2.2.15 (b) **Head of Faculty Administration (HFA)** means the person appointed to oversee the academic administration of a faculty, and includes Head of College Administration (HCA) and Head of Faculty Administration at JBS.
- 2.2.15 (c) **Head** includes Head of Department (HOD), Head of School (HOS), and Director.

- 2.2.16 **Field of study** means a broad demarcation of study within which smaller foci of study may be identified.
- 2.2.17 **Global result** refers to a result awarded to students based on their overall academic progress.
- 2.2.18 **Higher degrees** mean studies, research or programmes at master's or doctoral level. Higher degrees are regulated by, amongst other things, these Academic Regulations, the Policy on Higher Degrees, and the Policy on Higher Degrees Administration.
- 2.2.19 An **interdisciplinary degree** means a degree in which the formal disciplinary foundation is not limited to one academic department but is spread across two or more home departments or faculties, and for which a cognate formal undergraduate degree may not be available.
- 2.2.20 **Collaborative Programme** refers to any jointly developed or delivered learning programmes offered in collaboration with another institution. These can be subsidised and non-subsidised whole programmes, as well as credit-bearing and non-credit-bearing SLPs.
- 2.2.20 (a) **Joint degree** means a jointly offered, single programme, offered by UJ in collaboration with other institution(s), resulting in one *or* two degree certificates (one from each institution) being jointly awarded.
- 2.2.20 (b) **Co-badged programme** means a collaborative programme in terms of which part of the curriculum is offered by the partner(s), and the degree certificate awarded by the host university where the degree is accredited.
- 2.2.21 **IPR Act** refers to the Intellectual Property Rights from Publicly Financed Research and Development Act 51 of 2008.
- 2.2.22 **Learning Guide** is the document that facilitates quality learning and teaching by providing information that will guide the student to successfully navigate the programme/module, including modes of assessment, timelines, outcomes, etc. The learning guide should contain an organisational component which provides information on the delivery and completion of the module and a section on the facilitation of learning, which guides students in self-directed learning. A learning guide is required for every module, and may be in the format of a hard copy or an electronic copy, but must be easily accessible by students. For full details of what should be included in a learning guide, refer to the Policy on Learning Resources.
- 2.2.23 **Mark** means the following in the defined contexts:
- 2.2.23 (a) **Final mark** means a mark calculated according to a prescribed ratio/proportion and/or weighting per programme of (1) the final period/semester/year mark and (2) the mark of the last summative assessment opportunity, determined by the Faculty Board.

- 2.2.23 (b) **Final period/semester/year mark** means the mark obtained from summative assessments, and where applicable and communicated as such in learning guides, formative assessments.
- 2.2.24 There are three forms of research possible that lead to a **Master's Degree**, as set out in the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF) (GG 36 No. 38116, 17 October 2014). In each case, the scope of the research should meet the minimum credit value required and the purpose of the research in the context of the qualification as a whole.
- 2.2.24 (a) **Coursework master's** comprises a minimum of 180 credits, which includes a research component of at least 60 credits (excluding research methodology) at NQF level 9, and should be commensurate with the requirements of the discipline and the purpose of the programme. Refer to Minor dissertation in AR 2.2.24 (e).
- 2.2.24 (b) **Research master's** must comprise at least 180 credits, all of which are undertaken in the completion of the research component and all of which should be at the exit NQF level 9. The HEQSF requires that a single advanced research component be undertaken, resulting in a dissertation and/or other appropriate form. Refer to Dissertation in AR 2.2.24 (d).
- 2.2.24 (c) A **professional master's** comprises a minimum of 180 credits, which includes a research component of at least 45 credits (excluding research methodology) at the exit NQF level 9. The research in a professional master's degree should develop knowledge relevant to specialised professional employment. The research component must be commensurate with the requirements of the discipline and the purpose of the programme.
- 2.2.24 (d) **Dissertation** means a written report, to be submitted as part of the fulfilment conditions for a master's qualification. The research requirement for a dissertation could take the form of a research report or a collection of articles or essays. In some cases, the output may be expanded, supplemented or supported through patents, designs, artefacts, computer code, or other material or intangible items produced in the course of the research, which Faculty Rules and Regulations may specify as an explicit requirement of the degree.
- 2.2.24 (e) **Minor dissertation** means a written report, which is appropriate in scope and length to the requirements of the degree and which communicates the research work produced. Its context and outcome provide evidence that the candidate is conversant with the method of research in partial compliance with the requirements for the prescribed outcomes of a coursework master's degree. A minor dissertation must carry a minimum of 60 credits (coursework master's) or 45 credits (professional master's).
- 2.2.25 **Moderator**, typically for coursework, means a competent internal or external assessor who is familiar with the module/programme content and who ensures

that the assessment standard and practice(s) in a module or academic programme meet national and institutional requirements.

2.2.25 (a) **Internal Moderator** means an academic employee(s) of the University who is nominated by the University to moderate the assessment of a specific module.

2.2.25 (b) **External Moderator** means an independent subject-field expert who is not an employee of the University and who is officially appointed by the University to moderate the assessment of a module. Refer to the Assessment Policy and the UJ Assessment Standard Operating Principles for Faculties for more information.

2.2.26 **Modes of delivery at UJ**

2.2.26 (a) **Contact learning** means learning that takes place when students and lecturers are required to be together in the same place at the same time (for example, in lectures, laboratories, tutorials, practical sessions, etc.). Contact learning may include blended components. Contact learning may be supported or supplemented by methods or technologies that do not require students and lecturers to be in the same place at the same time, such as online learning management systems.

2.2.26 (b) The following principles apply to contact teaching and learning:

2.2.26 (b) (i) At least 80% face-to-face, in-person and on-campus contact in first-year modules (NQF level 5).

2.2.26 (b) (ii) At least 60% face-to-face, in-person and on-campus contact in second-year modules (NQF level 6).

2.2.26 (b) (iii) At least 50% face-to-face, in-person and on-campus contact in third-year and fourth-year modules (NQF level 7).

2.2.26 (b) (iv) At least 50% face-to-face, in-person and on-campus contact in Advanced Diplomas, Postgraduate Diplomas, Honours modules (NQF level 8) and Master's coursework modules (NQF levels 8 or 9).

2.2.26 (c) **Distance learning** is not dependent on the student and the lecturer being in the same place, at the same time, for teaching and learning to take place. Distance learning takes numerous forms, from paper-based correspondence to fully online learning, teaching and assessment. Online Distance Education (ODE) can be synchronous (lecturer and students present in the same virtual room at a designated time) or asynchronous (meaning that students can access lecture material at any time). At UJ, all distance learning is fully online. ODE programmes must be equivalent to on-campus contact programmes in terms of admission criteria, credits, overall workload, and overall module outcomes (i.e. online modules are of

equivalent standard as contact modules). ODE programmes can be offered in a carousel model. See the UJ Policy on Online Distance Education.

- 2.2.26 (c) (i) **Carousel model** allows students multiple registration opportunities for modules during the academic year. The purpose is to allow students to register for a module in the carousel sequence depending on their needs and circumstances. This might result in accelerated completion or could allow a student additional time to complete a qualification.
- 2.2.27 **Module** is a learning component (building block) within a programme of study towards a qualification, and means the following in the defined context:
- 2.2.27 (a) **Compulsory module** is a module that students must register for as part of a particular programme and whose outcomes must be achieved successfully before a qualification can be awarded. Detailed information on compulsory modules is contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 2.2.27 (b) **Co-requisite module** means a module that a student must enrol in at the same time as, or in some cases before, enrolling in the desired module.
- 2.2.27 (c) **Couplet module** is a first-semester module followed by a second-semester module where the content of the second-semester module is dependent on the content of the first-semester module. Progressing to the second-semester module is subject to a minimum summative assessment mark as well as a minimum final mark of at least 40% obtained for the first-semester module.
- 2.2.27 (d) **Elective module** is any module that can be exchanged for another module as provided for in the programme. Detailed information on elective modules is contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 2.2.27 (e) **Prerequisite module** means a module that a student must pass before continuing with the more advanced module.
- 2.2.27 (f) **40% Prerequisite module** is a module where the student must obtain at least 40% to continue with the following module.
- 2.2.27 (g) **Semester module** is a module that extends over one semester (approximately 14 academic weeks) as reflected in the academic calendar approved by Senate.
- 2.2.27 (h) **Semester module spread over a year** is a module that has half the credits of a year module but is presented over the course of a year. A minimum half-year mark of 40% is required (in June) to continue with the module in the second semester.

- 2.2.27 (i) **Term module** is a module that extends over one term (approximately seven academic weeks) within a particular semester, as reflected in the academic calendar as approved by Senate.
- 2.2.27 (j) **Year module** is a module that extends over two semesters (approximately 28 academic weeks) as reflected in the academic calendar of a particular calendar year as approved by Senate.
- 2.2.27 (k) **Major module** means a defined set of modules in each year of study that is taken to third-year level (NQF level 7), all relating to a single discipline.
- 2.2.27 (l) **Exit-level module** refers to a module in a qualification that is at the same level as the qualification's NQF level (e.g. Business Management 3 is at NQF Level 7 in BCom Marketing Management, which is a qualification at NQF Level 7).
- 2.2.28 **Granting of a module credit** refers to a student not having to redo a module successfully completed when moving between programmes and/or faculties, provided that the module for which the student was registered is at the same NQF level and the equivalent NQF credits. A student, therefore, does not have to repeat the module within the new qualification but retains a credit for it.
- 2.2.29 **Granting of a module exemption** refers to when a student has completed a module at an external accredited institution, and the module is recognised by UJ as being equivalent to the module offered at UJ. The student is exempt from having to redo the module at UJ.
- 2.2.30 **National Qualifications Framework (NQF)** means the national structure within which all qualifications are registered by the South African Qualifications Authority (SAQA). The first NQF had 8 levels and was replaced by the 10-level NQF in 2008. The Higher Education Qualification Sub-framework (HEQSF) comprises levels 5 to 10 of the ten-level NQF. Refer to Table 1 for the NQF levels of qualifications on the 10-level NQF.

NQF levels applicable to qualifications prior to 2009

- NQF 5 – Undergraduate (e.g. certificate)
- NQF 6 – Undergraduate (e.g. diploma and first degree)
- NQF 7 – Honours degree / BTech
- NQF 8 – Master's and Doctoral degrees

Table 1: The following new and aligned NQF levels, as contained in the HEQSF, apply to qualifications from 2009 onwards.

NQF Level	Qualification type/name	Minimum total credits
10	Doctoral Degree Doctoral Degree (Professional)	360 (Min. credits at Level 10 → 360)
9	Master's Degree Master's Degree (Professional)	180 (Min. credits at Level 9 → 120)
8	Bachelor Honours Degree	120 (Min. credits at Level 8 → 120)
	Postgraduate Diploma	120 (Min. credits at Level 8 → 120)
	Professional Bachelor's Degree	480 (Min. credits at Level 8 → 120)
7	Bachelor's Degree	360 (Min. credits at Level 7 → 120)
	Advanced Diploma	120 (Min. credits at Level 7 → 120)
6	Diploma	360 (3 years) (Min. credits at Level 6 → 120) 240 (2 years) (Min. credits at Level 6 → 120)
	Advanced Certificate	120 (Min. credits at Level 6 → 120)
5	Higher Certificate	120 (Min. credits at Level 5 → 120)

Note: Unless mentioned otherwise, the NQF level in the remainder of the document refers to the new and aligned NQF levels.

- 2.2.31 **Online invigilation** is used to ensure the integrity of online assessments. Invigilation software is used to authenticate and verify student identity. Electronic invigilation ensures that the student completes an assessment without receiving additional, outside or unauthorised assistance.
- 2.2.32 **Outcomes** means demonstrating relevant abilities or competencies (including knowledge, skills, aptitudes and values).
- 2.2.33 **Pipeline qualification** means a qualification that is being phased out within a particular time frame. It affords the students currently in the qualification a reasonable opportunity to complete the qualification.

Note: A pipeline qualification is not available for registration for first-time entering students. The Registrar may consider and waive the 50% rule (where a minimum of 50% of the credits for that qualification must be completed whilst registered for the qualification) in exceptional circumstances for the completion of qualifications.

Note: The Registrar may also consider and waive the 7-year rule, which applies to the retention of credits for longer than 7 years when it comes to readmission, the recognition of prior learning, or credit transfer between qualifications.

- 2.2.34 **Postgraduate studies** mean studies following an undergraduate qualification and includes a postgraduate diploma (NQF Level 8); an honours (NQF Level 8); a master's (NQF Level 9); or a doctorate (NQF Level 10).
- 2.2.35 **Programme** means a purposeful and structured set of learning experiences designed to enable the student to achieve a defined set of outcomes.
- 2.2.35 (a) **Duration of a programme** means the minimum study period for which students must be registered for a particular programme in order to qualify for the qualification after they have successfully completed all the prescribed modules.
- 2.2.35 (b) **Programme group** means a number of programmes with the same focus or field of specialisation.
- 2.2.35 (c) **Programme title** means the name of a qualification with or without a qualifier, for example, Bachelor of Arts in Development Studies or BA (Development Studies), Bachelor of Engineering in Mechanical Engineering or BEng (Mechanical Engineering), and Bachelor of Law or LLB. Note that naming conventions are set by the HEQSF.
- 2.2.35 (d) **Purpose of a programme** means the value of a programme to students and society and reflects the outcomes.
- 2.2.36 **Types of Programmes** offered:
- 2.2.36 (a) **Learning programmes** which lead to a qualification comprise a set of credit-bearing modules at NQF levels as prescribed by the HEQSF and can be subsidised or non-subsidised. These programmes are externally approved, accredited by the HEQC, and registered on the HEQSF by SAQA. Successful completion leads to the award of a formal qualification as set out in the HEQSF.
- 2.2.36 (b) **Extended curriculum programme** means an undergraduate diploma or degree incorporating substantial foundational work/provision that is additional to the coursework prescribed for the regular programme. The foundational work/provision is equivalent to one or two semesters of full-time study, designed to articulate effectively with the regular elements of the programme, and planned, scheduled and regulated as an integral part of the programme.
- 2.2.36 (c) **Whole programme** means an approved, HEQC-accredited programme registered on the HEQSF by SAQA, comprising at least 120 or more NQF credits and extending over a period of one year or more, as set out in the HEQSF.

- 2.2.36 (d) **Short Learning Programme (SLP)** is an institution-approved learning programme, which can be either non-credit-bearing or credit-bearing towards an accredited UJ qualification. An SLP must comprise fewer than 120 credits, and must be less than one year in duration. SLPs are not registered on the NQF and do not lead to a qualification.
- 2.2.36 (d) (i) **Credit-bearing SLP** means the SLP is a module(s) in a HEQC-accredited qualification. On completion of the SLP, the student may apply for and obtain exemption/credit for the specific module in the accredited qualification, subject to the HEQSF credit accumulation and transfer rules and the University's rules and regulations pertaining to the expiry of modules.
- 2.2.36 (d) (ii) **Non-credit bearing SLP** means that the SLP is not linked to a module(s) in a HEQC-accredited qualification. As a result, a non-credit-bearing SLP may not have credits or an NQF level. The certificate issued upon completion will not reflect credits or NQF level.
- 2.2.36 (e) **Bridging programmes** are learning programmes approved by Senate for the purpose of admission to another, subsequent programme for which the candidate does not meet the admission requirements. Successful completion of a bridging programme, or completion at a specified level of competence, makes the candidate eligible for admission to another programme subject to UJ and Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 2.2.37 **Promotion** means the advancement of students who meet the minimum requirements of a particular study level from that particular study level to the next (for example, from the first-year level to the second-year level) as determined per programme by the academic department and the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 2.2.37 (a) **Promotion requirements** mean the grounds of a student's achievements in a particular study period.
- 2.2.38 **Qualification** means the formal recognition and certification of learning outcomes by an accredited provider as reflected in the HEQSF. Qualifications are conferred and awarded by the provider, and are subsidised or non-subsidised whole programmes. All qualifications have a nationally prescribed minimum completion time. Maximum completion times are determined by the University. At UJ, qualifications may be offered either part-time and/or full-time. Part-time study allows for a longer duration to complete the qualification.
- 2.2.39 **Qualifier or field of specialisation** means the manner in which a specific field is identified within a generic qualification, and which is linked by the word '*in*'. For example, a Bachelor of Science *in Chemistry*, or Bachelor of Arts *in Law*, in which BSc or BA represents the generic component and 'in Chemistry' or 'in Law' the qualifier or field of specialisation.

- 2.2.40 **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)** means the formal acknowledgement of learning acquired through formal, non-formal, and/or informal education, including work experience, in-service training, self-study or life experience such as voluntary or community work, as further detailed in the Policy on Recognition of Prior Learning
- 2.2.41 **Rules** refer to institutional rules, policies, disciplinary measures and discipline provisions, and codes of conduct issued by Council, Senate or any other body or functionary within the University authorised to do so by the Council.
- 2.2.42 **Rules of admission** refer to the minimum requirements for access to a module or programme.
- 2.2.43 **Rules of combination** mean the requirements for the combination or succession of modules in a programme (e.g. a student having to pass Chemistry 1A to gain access to Chemistry 1B).
- 2.2.44 **Study year** means the academic level of the year of study; for example, first year, second year, or third year of a particular programme.
- 2.2.45 **Supervisor** means an individual, internal or external to the institution, appropriately qualified and suitably experienced, appointed by the Institution to supervise a registered postgraduate student through the research process related to a thesis, dissertation, or other research project. Supervisors must be formally approved and appointed in accordance with university and faculty requirements. In the exceptional case where an external is appointed as a principal supervisor due to field-specific expertise lacking in UJ, a co-supervisor internal to UJ needs to be appointed to manage administrative aspects in adherence to UJ requirements.
- 2.2.46 **Co-supervisor** means an individual, internal or external to the institution, appropriately qualified and suitably experienced, appointed by the Institution to work concurrently with a principal supervisor to supervise a registered postgraduate student, through the research process related to a thesis, dissertation, or other research project. Co-supervisors must be formally approved and appointed in accordance with university and faculty requirements. In the case where co-supervision, involving two or more supervisors per postgraduate student, requires an external supervisor(s) due to field-relevant expertise, a supervisor internal to the UJ must be appointed to manage administrative aspects in adherence to UJ requirements.
- 2.2.47 There are different **models of supervision** available, the use of which is dependent on the discipline, the needs of the student/supervisor, or the nature of the study. The definitions below are not exhaustive, nor are they mutually exclusive and serve simply as a guide.

- 2.2.47 (a) **One-on-One (apprenticeship) model**, where an individual student and supervisor work together over several years while the student undertakes their study.
- 2.2.47 (b) **Cohort model**, where each year's intake in a department or faculty functions as a class and meets as a collective for seminars and student presentations throughout their studies.
- 2.2.47 (c) **Supervision panel or committee model**, where the student has a main supervisor with whom they engage regularly, and they also have a committee of additional supervisors (typically three or four) to whom they present their work on a regular basis.
- 2.2.47 (d) **Project team model**, a funded model which is often multidisciplinary. Postgraduate students apply to be part of a larger project led by a team of supervisors, and students present their work to the project team according to an agreed project reporting guideline.
- 2.2.47 (e) It is important to note that in the case of interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary or transdisciplinary research, one supervisor seldom has the breadth of expertise to provide adequate guidance. Supervision can be provided by a *team or panel* that can bring a range of expertise and viewpoints to support the student. Similarly, *interdisciplinary student peer groups* can provide breadth and diversity to inter- or transdisciplinary projects. All students, supervisors and co-supervisors of transdisciplinary studies, and the students, should ensure that they have a mutual understanding of their roles and responsibilities.
- 2.2.48 **Student** means a student registered for a qualification or programme, and includes, depending on the context, a former student, international student, or a student who is conditionally registered or pre-registered. For the purpose of this document, prospective students are referred to as applicants.
- 2.2.48 (a) **Full-time student** means a student for whom study is the main activity and who is allowed to register for the total specified credits for a year of study in accordance with the minimum study period for the qualification.
- 2.2.48 (b) **Part-time student** means a student who works for more than 20 hours per week and where study is not their main activity. For part-time students, the specified minimum credits for a year of study are spread over more than one year, and the student may register for fewer credits than the full-time minimum. As a result, the part-time student will complete the qualification in a longer period of time.
- 2.2.49 **Student Agreement** refers to the legally binding agreement entered into between the Student and the University (or where applicable, the Student's parent, guardian, or such other responsible person on behalf of the Student). The agreement establishes the contractual relationship between Student and the

University, and contains the general terms and conditions regulating their relationship, including all its terms, conditions, schedules, exhibits, appendices, and any amendments or modifications made in writing and signed by all parties, and which agreement specifically incorporates the provisions of these Academic Regulations by reference.

- 2.2.50 **Tutorials for contact students** means a tuition period given by a university in addition to normal teaching time and methods. It is the teaching of a relatively small group of students by university teaching staff or tutors in a specific module.
- 2.2.51 **Tutoring for distance education students** in an online environment is the process of facilitating, supporting and enabling student learning online, in a virtual or networked environment in which tutors and students are separated by time and space. Online tutors are typically not the online lecturers.
- 2.2.52 **University** means the University of Johannesburg (UJ). UJ is primarily a contact-based residential university and offers selected programmes in the online mode of provisioning (ODE).
- 2.2.53 **Work-integrated Education (WIE)** is the umbrella term for various learning modalities that facilitate an applied pedagogy through the meaningful integration of theory with practice. Such learning modalities include work-integrated learning, problem-based learning, project-based learning, simulations, teaching practice, service learning, and internships. These modalities of WIE facilitate learning in action in an authentic context, and depending on the design of the modality, such learning occurs under the supervision and/or mentorship of person/s representing the University, workplace, community or professional organisation. It addresses specific competencies and capabilities identified for acquiring a qualification that makes the learner employable and assists in developing related personal attributes. Workplace/service employees, community representatives and professional bodies may be involved in the assessment of the learning experience, together with University academic employees.
- 2.2.53 (a) **Work-integrated Learning (WIL)** means the component of a learning programme that focuses on the application of learning in an authentic learning work-based context under the supervision and/or mentorship of a person(s) representing the workplace and the University, as relevant. WIL addresses specific competencies identified for acquiring a qualification that makes the learner employable and assists in developing related personal attributes. Workplace/service employees and professional bodies are involved in assessing the learning experience, together with University academic employees.
- 2.2.53 (b) **Service Learning (SL)** means a form of teaching and learning that is directed at specific community needs and integrated into a credit-bearing academic programme and curriculum in which students participate in

contextualised, well-structured and organised service activities aimed at addressing identified service needs in a community and subsequently reflect on such experiences in order to gain a deeper understanding of the linkage between curriculum content and community dynamics as well as to achieve personal growth and a sense of social and civic responsibility. The experience is assessed under the supervision and/or mentorship of a person(s) representing the community. A collaborative partnership that enhances mutual reciprocal teaching and learning among all members of the partnership (lecturers and students, members of the communities or representatives of the service sector) is required. See also work-integrated learning.

3 LANGUAGE

- 3.1 The language of teaching, learning, assessment and academic administration is determined by the University's Language Policy as approved by Senate and Council.

4 ADMISSION

- 4.1 Application for admission to study at the University
- 4.1.1 Prospective students must apply to the University in terms of the applicable Rules of Admission, as amended from time to time. Final selections are made based on academic merit, against the Rules of Admission.
- 4.1.2 Prospective students must apply for admission to programmes not later than the determined programme-specific closing dates as stipulated on the official UJ website. Application dates may change, subject to the approval by the Registrar. Applications are free.
- 4.1.3 Applicants may only apply for two undergraduate study choices, two postgraduate study choices, and two non-subsidised programmes. These study choices may not be amended once they have been submitted. Undergraduate applicants *may* be offered an additional choice for the academic year applied for during the Late Enquiry process at the start of the academic year.
- 4.1.4 Admission is subject to selection in accordance with programme-specific admission rules and policies, requirements and selection criteria determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 4.1.5 The University has the right to revoke or amend the admission status of an applicant and cancel or refuse the registration of an applicant or student who

provided incorrect, misleading, or false information and/or documentation material for an application for admission or re-admission, or who omitted to provide information or documentation material to an application for admission or re-admission.

4.1.5 (a) It is compulsory for applicants from other universities to provide details of any and all previous higher education studies undertaken, whether in the current year or during previous years, as part of their application.

4.1.5 (b) UJ reserves the right to review and revoke the admission of an applicant where an applicant did not disclose details of previous studies undertaken.

Declaring previous studies is compulsory:

4.1.5 (b) (i) regardless of whether the application is in the same field or in a different field of study;

4.1.5 (b) (ii) regardless of whether studies were cancelled prior to completion; or

4.1.5 (b) (iii) regardless of whether an applicant wishes to apply for any credits or not.

4.1.6 No notice regarding an applicant's admission status is official and binding on the University unless it has been sent by email to an applicant from the University's server or uploaded by the University to the online Student Portal application status page, subject to AR 4.1.7.

4.1.7 The University of Johannesburg reserves the right to review and revoke the admission or registration status of an applicant where the University establishes that an administrative oversight has occurred. In such an

4.1.7 (a) instance, the University will rectify the error and communicate the change to the applicant.

4.1.7 (b) The student shall not be entitled to rely on estoppel (denial), representation or any other cause of action or defence where the University exercises its rights and options under AR 4.1.7.

4.1.8 Admission is also subject to:

4.1.8 (a) the University's Enrolment Management Plan, as approved by the DHET, Senate and Faculty Boards;

4.1.8 (b) enrolment limitations or other selection criteria for elective modules, as approved;

4.1.8 (c) professional regulatory requirements where programmes are regulated by external regulatory boards/councils;

4.1.8 (d) Senate-approved selection, placement and admission tests (if applicable);

4.1.8 (e) limitations on enrolment into fully online programmes as determined annually by faculties.

4.2 General minimum admission requirement principles for undergraduate programmes

Note: Refer to the UJ Prospectus/website for the requirements per programme/qualification/faculty.

4.2.1 **Admission requirements and compliance with the legal endorsement for undergraduate programmes for study at the University are as follows:**

4.2.1 (a) NSC with a higher certificate endorsement is the legal minimum requirement for admission to a higher certificate.

4.2.1 (b) NSC with a diploma endorsement is a legal minimum requirement for admission to an undergraduate diploma.

4.2.1 (c) NSC with a bachelor's degree endorsement is a legal minimum requirement for admission to an undergraduate bachelor's degree.

4.2.1 (d) SC(A) with relevant endorsement, with a pass of three subjects at 40% - one of which must be an official language at Home Language Level, or pass subjects at 30% - one of which must be an official language at First Additional or Home Language Level, or obtained a subminimum of 20% in the sixth subject.

4.2.1 (e) NASCA is awarded upon certification of 120 credits with at least four subjects passed, carrying 30 credits each.

4.2.1 (f) NCV will only be considered for admission into the degree and diploma programmes with the following specific requirements:

For admission to a bachelor's degree, the following minimum criteria apply:

4.2.1 (f) (i) a NCV (level 4) issued by the Council for General and Further Education and Training.

4.2.1 (f) (ii) achievement of at least 70% for 5 of the 7 subjects – fundamental and vocational categories.

4.2.1 (f) (iii) achievement of at least 70% in English as Language of Teaching and Learning/First Additional Language, and one additional language.

4.2.1 (f) (iv) achievement of at least 70% in Mathematics – taken as a fundamental subject.

4.2.1 (g) For admission to an Undergraduate Diploma, the following minimum criteria apply:

- 4.2.1 (g) (i) a NCV (level 4) issued by the Council for General and Further Education and Training.
- 4.2.1 (g) (ii) achievement of at least 60% for 5 of the 7 subjects – fundamental and vocational categories.
- 4.2.1 (g) (iii) achievement of at least 60% in English as Language of Teaching and Learning/First Additional Language, and one additional language.
- 4.2.1 (g) (iv) achievement of at least 60% in Mathematics or 70% in Mathematics Literacy – taken as a fundamental subject.
- 4.2.1 (h) An applicant who has successfully completed an appropriate/relevant Higher Certificate at an accredited Higher Education Institution (HEI) may articulate into an appropriate advanced certificate, diploma or degree qualification, subject to meeting the UJ's academic requirements.
- 4.2.1 (i) An applicant who has successfully completed an appropriate/relevant undergraduate diploma may articulate into an undergraduate bachelor's degree or advanced diploma, subject to meeting the UJ's academic requirements.
- 4.2.1 (j) Additional admission, progression and/or articulation requirements may be determined by the University.
- 4.2.1 (k) Applicants who have completed their NSC or SC must comply with the minimum APS for the qualifications they applied for.
- 4.2.1 (l) All applicants must comply with the language requirements, faculty and qualification or module requirements for admission to each programme as outlined by the relevant faculty.
- 4.2.1 (m) International applicants wishing to register for undergraduate or postgraduate qualifications will be required to demonstrate equivalence with the above admission requirements, with certification of equivalence by SAQA or USAf where required.
- 4.2.1 (n) All applicants intending to study in the online mode of delivery must:
 - 4.2.1 (n) (i) have access to a computer with a reliable and stable, high-speed Internet connection;
 - 4.2.1 (n) (ii) participate in teaching and learning activities through the LMS;
 - 4.2.1 (n) (iii) be able to use a webcam and/or a microphone;
 - 4.2.1 (n) (iv) review and comply with the complete list of technical requirements specific to the programme of study; and
 - 4.2.1 (n) (v) complete an online orientation course offered by the CAT, if required.

- 4.2.1 (o) Other additional admission requirements may include:
- 4.2.1 (o) (i) Admission or placement tests;
 - 4.2.1 (o) (ii) Interviews in person or online;
 - 4.2.1 (o) (iii) Portfolios of evidence;
 - 4.2.1 (o) (iv) Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process;
 - 4.2.1 (o) (v) SAQA or USAf certification of equivalents;
 - 4.2.1 (o) (vi) Language proficiency tests;
 - 4.2.1 (o) (vii) Conditional registration document requirements.
- 4.2.1 (p) Compliance with the University's requirements, or the national minimum requirements, does not guarantee admission, selection, or registration as the University is bound by its DHET-approved enrolment plan. Distance learning qualifications may also be subject to enrolment targets as determined annually by the University in consultation with faculties.
- 4.2.1 (q) Prospective applicants in Grade 12 or completing high school will be considered for provisional or conditional admission to study at the University based on their final Grade 11 (or equivalent) results, calculated using the APS (or equivalent) scores. Applicants provisionally or conditionally admitted based on their final Grade 11 (or equivalent), results will only receive a firm offer if their final NSC, NC(V), NASC, or equivalent results, meet the relevant admission requirements for the qualification as stipulated by the University subject to space and any additional selection criteria. The minimum admission requirements for higher education are set out in the Gazette No.1309 of 2018.
- 4.2.1 (r) Prospective applicants who comply with the minimum national requirements for admission to a programme, but who do not meet the additional University/faculty-specific minimum requirements (APS), may, upon good cause shown, be granted admission to such programme at the discretion of the relevant Executive Dean in consultation with the DVC Academic, the Registrar, and in line with the UJ Enrolment Plan. If prospective students do not meet faculty-specific admission requirements in respect of a module in such a programme that is taught in a faculty other than the faculty in which the programme is offered, the Executive Dean must consult with the Executive Dean of the faculty within which the module resides before admission to the programme is granted.
- 4.2.1 (s) Where applicants rewrite some of their NSC, NC(V) NASC or equivalent subjects to (1) obtain better results to gain access to a University programme and (2) not to delay the student's admission, the applicant irrevocably authorises the University to calculate the revised endorsement

due to changes to marks as a result of an official remark, rewrite or upgrade completed. The applicant acknowledges that the University's calculation is subject to the official revised result and the applicant waives any claim that the applicant may have against the University as a result of an error or omission in relation to the calculation made by the University. Applicants with international credentials rewriting their final high school subjects with the intention to study degree programmes must reapply to SAQA for the relevant equivalence certificate.

4.2.1 (t) School-leaving certificates not appearing in Table 2 are considered individually by the Student Enrolment Centre (SEC), Division for Global Engagement, faculties and departments.

Table 2: Admission Point Score (APS)

APS	NATIONAL			INTERNATIONAL											
	NSC (IEB/SACA)	SC HG (M-SCORE)	SC SG (M-SCORE)	HIGCSE/NSSC (HL)	IGCSE/NSSC (OL)	AS LEVELS	A LEVELS	IB (HL)	IB (SL)	WAEC	KCSE	Diplome/ Exam D' Etat	CHL/EM	Baccalaureate	AHSD
10							A/A*	7							
9							B	6							
8							C	5							
7	7 (80-100%)	A		1		A/A* (7)	D	4	7		A				A
6	6 (70-79%)	B	A	2		B (6)	E	3	6		B				B
5	5 (60-69%)	C	B	3	A/A* (9-7)	C (5)		2	5	A	C	80-100%	16-20	16-20	C
4	4 (50-59%)	D	C	4	B (6-5)	D (4)		1	4	B	D	70-79%	14-15	14-15	D
3	3 (40-49%)	E	D		C (4)	E (3)			3	C	E	50-69%	10-13	10-13	
2	2 (30-39%)	F	E		D/E (3)				2	D/E	F	30-49%	8-9	8-9	
1	1 (0-29%)	G	F		F/G (2-1)				1	F/G	G	0-29%	0-7	0-7	

Note: *The abbreviations are listed in the order in which they appear on the table and not alphabetically.

ABBREVIATIONS	FULL TERM
NSC	National Senior Certificate (completed Grade 12 in and after 2008)
SC HG	Senior Certificate Higher Grade (completed Grade 12 before 2008)
SC SG	Senior Certificate Standard Grade (completed Grade 12 before 2008)
IEB	Independent Examination Board
HIGCSE	Higher International General Certificate of Secondary Education

ABBREVIATIONS	FULL TERM
IGCSE	International General Certificate of Secondary Education
NSSC(HL)	Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate (Higher Level)
NSSC(OL)	Namibia Senior Secondary Certificate (Ordinary Level – Cambridge)
AS	Advanced Subsidiary Level (Cambridge)
A Level	Advanced Level (Cambridge)
IB(HL)	International Baccalaureate Schools (Higher Levels)
IB(SL)	International Baccalaureate Schools (Standard Levels)
WAEC	West African Examination Council
KCSE	Kenya Certificate of Secondary Education
Diplôme/Exam D'Etat	Diplôme d'Etat or d'Etudes Secondaire du Cycle
CHL/EM	Certificado de Habilitacoes Literarias (Mozambique)/Ensino Medio (Angola)
Baccalaureate	Gabonese School Leaving
AHSD	American High School Diploma

4.2.2 **Admission requirements for applicants with international school leaving credentials and applicants who completed the Senior Certificate (SC), subject to matriculation exemption rules**

4.2.2 (a) Admission Point Scores (APS) are awarded for the six best subjects, taking faculty and qualification-specific requirements into account (Refer to Table 2 above).

4.2.2 (b) Applicants who obtained the SC and who comply with the minimum APS according to Table 2 will be considered for admission to study at the University. A maximum of six subjects will be used to calculate the total APS; these six subjects will include the programme-specific requirements.

4.2.3 **Admission requirements for applicants who obtained the National Senior Certificate (NSC) in 2008 or later**

4.2.3 (a) Life Orientation or equivalent subjects are not counted in the calculation of the total APS, nor is it considered as an individual compulsory subject.

4.2.3 (b) In total, six subjects are used for the calculation of the total APS. The total APS of an applicant is the sum of the achievement ratings of the particular programme's compulsory subjects and the remaining NSC or final high school leaving subjects of that applicant.

4.2.3 (c) If applicants completed more than the minimum number of subjects (six) in their NSC or high school leaving certificate, the compulsory subjects and the best of the remaining subjects will be used to calculate the total APS.

4.2.4 **Admission requirements for applicants who obtained the NCV, SC(A) or the NASCA**

4.2.4 (a) Admission requirements for applicants with a NCV, a SC(A) and a NASCA are in accordance with relevant legislation and the Faculty Rules and Regulations related to the various academic programmes.

4.2.4 (b) Refer to the UJ Prospectus/website for the requirements per qualification and faculty.

4.2.4 (c) Refer to the Policy on Applications and Selections.

4.2.4 (d) Refer to AR 4.2.9 of the Academic Regulations for alternative admission requirements.

4.2.5 **Minimum admission requirements applicable to Higher Certificates**

4.2.5 (a) Additional faculty or programme-specific requirements may be a requirement, and are determined by the relevant Faculty Boards, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations. The minimum admission requirements for a Higher Certificate are:

4.2.5 (a) (i) Prospective students must have obtained a SC or NSC with Higher Certificate, Diploma or Bachelor's Degree endorsement;

or

4.2.5 (a) (ii) have obtained the NCV N3 with passes of at least 40% in at least four subjects;

4.2.5 (a) (iii) have passed one of the official languages on at least first-language level in the certification examination;

4.2.5 (a) (iv) have passed any instructional offering in an official language;

4.2.5 (a) (v) be able to prove their competence in English as stipulated in Faculty Rules and Regulations;

4.2.5 (a) (vi) have complied with the APS requirements;

4.2.5 (a) (vii) have complied with faculty and department-specific requirements as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations;

and

4.2.5 (a) (viii) have obtained one of the following credit combinations:

4.2.5(a) (viii) [i] three Grade 12 subjects on at least standard-grade level, plus one National Certificate N3 subject; or

- 4.2.5(a) (viii) [ii] two Grade 12 subjects on at least standard-grade level, plus two National Certificate N3 subjects; or
- 4.2.5(a) (viii) [iii] one Grade 12 subject on at least standard grade level, plus three National Certificate N3 subjects;
- 4.2.5 (a) (ix) have passed one of the official languages on at least first-language level in the certification examination;
- 4.2.5 (a) (x) be able to prove their competence in English as laid down in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations;
- 4.2.5 (a) (xi) have complied with the APS requirements; and
- 4.2.5 (a) (xii) have complied with faculty and department-specific requirements, as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

and

- 4.2.5(a) (xii) [i] have obtained the National N4 Certificate with passes of at least 50% in at least four appropriate subjects;
- 4.2.5(a) (xii) [ii] be able to prove their competence in English as stipulated in Faculty Rules and Regulations;
- 4.2.5(a) (xii) [iii] have complied with M-score requirements; and
- 4.2.5(a) (xii) [iv] have complied with faculty and department-specific requirements as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

4.2.6 **Minimum admission requirements applicable to Diplomas**

- 4.2.6 (a) The minimum admission requirements for a diploma are:
 - 4.2.6 (a) (i) SC or NSC with Diploma or Bachelor's degree endorsement;
 - 4.2.6 (a) (ii) Language requirements;
 - 4.2.6 (a) (iii) APS requirements;
 - 4.2.6 (a) (iv) Admission/placement tests (if applicable) as approved by Senate;
 - 4.2.6 (a) (v) Faculty and/or programme-specific requirements as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

4.2.7 **Minimum admission requirements applicable to Advanced Diplomas**

- 4.2.7 (a) Advanced Diploma applicants must have successfully completed a Diploma or Bachelor's degree in the same or relevant field of study as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 4.2.7 (b) Programme-specific admission requirements, such as a minimum achievement in the relevant major module(s) or other approved appropriate modules in the prerequisite qualification, are determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 4.2.7 (c) For Advanced Diplomas in the Faculty of Education, refer to the minimum requirements for Teacher Education Qualification as contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

4.2.8 **Minimum admission requirements applicable to Bachelor's Programmes**

- 4.2.8 (a) SC with complete or conditional exemption or a NSC with Bachelor's degree endorsement or international final high school results with the relevant matric exemptions;
- 4.2.8 (b) Admission/placement tests, (if applicable) as approved by Senate;
- 4.2.8 (c) APS requirements;
- 4.2.8 (d) Language requirements;
- 4.2.8 (e) Faculty-specific requirements as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

4.2.9 **Alternative admission requirements**

4.2.9 (a) **Senate Discretionary Conditional Admission**

- 4.2.9 (a) (i) Senate Discretionary Conditional Admission for candidates who have successfully completed the NSC or SC or NCV or (SC(A)) or NASCA or other international final high school certificates and who have applied for admission to an undergraduate programme at the University may be considered by Senate on recommendation of the relevant Executive Dean and in line with the UJ Enrolment Plan.

4.2.9 (b) **School of Tomorrow applicants**

- 4.2.9 (b) (i) The Executive Dean, together with the Registrar, may approve conditional admission of School of Tomorrow applicants via the Senate discretionary admission process subject to Faculty Rules and

Regulations, a PsyCaD assessment and obtaining at least a Higher Intermediate Level NBT result and in line with the UJ Enrolment Plan.

4.2.9 (b) (ii) The request for Senate Discretionary Admission should serve at the first Senate meeting following the conditional admission for final approval by Senate

4.2.9 (c) **Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)**

4.2.9 (c) (i) The University may, on the grounds of RPL and in alignment with SAQA, DHET and CHE policy, and subject to Senate-approved faculty-specific admission rules, admit students who do not comply with the minimum admission requirements and in line with the UJ Enrolment Plan.

4.2.9 (d) **Placement in bridging or alternative programmes**

4.2.9 (d) (i) Prospective students who do not meet the minimum admission requirements for a specific programme may be placed in a Senate-approved bridging programme, following a Senate-approved placement procedure and in line with the UJ Enrolment Plan.

4.2.10 **Qualification progression routes (Higher Certificates to Diplomas to Degrees)**

4.2.10 (a) An applicant who has obtained an accredited Higher Certificate registered on the HEQSF of the NQF, meets the minimum statutory admission requirement for entry into an undergraduate diploma or degree.

4.2.10 (b) An applicant who has obtained an accredited diploma registered on the HEQSF of the NQF, meets the minimum statutory admission requirement for entry into an advanced diploma or undergraduate degree.

4.2.10 (c) An applicant who does not have NSC endorsement for admission to diploma studies, or a certificate of exemption from the Matriculation Board, but has completed an accredited Higher Certificate, which is registered on the HEQSF of the NQF, is not required to obtain a certificate of exemption from the Matriculation Board.

Note: The attainment of the minimum requirements does not guarantee admission to any given programme. Applicants may still be required to comply with one or more additional requirements indicated below:

4.2.10 (c) (i) APS requirements;

4.2.10 (c) (ii) Language requirements;

4.2.10 (c) (iii) Admission/placement tests as approved by Senate (if applicable);

4.2.10 (c) (iv) Faculty-specific requirements as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

4.2.10 (d) **General Education Development (GED)**

4.2.10 (d) (i) UJ does not accept the GED test for entry into any of its curricular undergraduate qualifications. Applicants who completed the GED and would like to study towards an undergraduate curricular qualification are advised to register and complete a Grade 12 NSC / IEB / SACAI or an international equivalent thereof.

4.2.10 (e) **Mature Age Exemption**

4.2.10 (e) (i) Candidates who are 23 years and older and hold a SC or a NSC without the applicable endorsement for the degree programme they wish to apply for, may be considered, provided they obtained a Certificate of Conditional Exemption from USAf. Applicants applying for higher certificate and diploma programmes and who meet the requirements for age exemption may be considered by the Faculty without the Certificate of Conditional Exemption.

4.2.10 (e) (ii) Candidates, who are 45 years and older and who are not in possession of a SC or a NSC may be considered, provided that Senate is of the opinion that the candidate can complete the curriculum within the maximum period of time. The Certificate of Conditional Exemption from USAf will be provided to the candidate upon submission of a statement from the Senate.

4.2.10 (e) (iii) Candidates who are 45 years and older and who are applying for degree programmes will be required to complete the National Benchmark Test (quality assurance test). The candidates must comply with the following minimum scores:

4.2.10 (e) (iv) Applicants applying for qualifications requiring mathematics:

4.2.10(e) (iv) [i] Academic Literacy (AL) = 65%

4.2.10(e) (iv) [ii] Quantitative Literacy (QL) = 52%

4.2.10(e) (iv) [iii] Mathematics (MATH) = 48%

or

4.2.10 (e) (v) Applicants applying for qualifications not requiring mathematics:

4.2.10(e) (v) [i] Academic Literacy (AL) = 65%

4.2.10(e) (v) [ii] Quantitative Literacy (QL) = 52%

- 4.2.10 (e) (vi) All mature age applicants must still comply with:
- 4.2.10(e) (vi) [i] admission/placement tests (if applicable); and
- 4.2.10(e) (vi) [ii] faculty-specific requirements as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

4.2.11 **Admission of applicants with international credentials**

4.2.11 (a) Diploma Admissions

- 4.2.11 (a) (i) Admission will be granted to an applicant who has complied with the Faculty's admission requirements (as stipulated in the specific Faculty Rules and Regulations).

4.2.11 (b) Degree Admissions

- 4.2.11 (b) (i) Admission will be granted to an applicant who has complied with the Faculty's admission requirements (as stipulated in the specific Faculty Rules and Regulations) as well as the provisional letter or certificate of exemption for any type of Matric Exemption issued by the Matriculation Board of South Africa.

4.2.11 (c) Postgraduate Admissions

- 4.2.11 (c) (i) Admission will be granted to an applicant who has complied with the Faculty's admission requirements (as stipulated in the specific Faculty Rules and Regulations). Applicants will be required to provide a SAQA evaluation certificate as a registration requirement.

4.2.11 (d) English Proficiency Requirements for applicants with international credentials

- 4.2.11 (d) (i) An English language proficiency test will be required from undergraduate and postgraduate applicants where English was not used as a medium of instruction for previous studies. The University accepts the following English Proficiency Tests:

- 4.2.11(d) (i) [i] International Language Testing System (IELTS). The requirement for undergraduate applicants is an overall score of 6, and for postgraduate applicants an overall score of 7.

- 4.2.11(d) (i) [ii] Test of English as a Foreign Language (TOEFL). The requirement for undergraduate applicants is an average score of 80-104, and for postgraduate applicants an average score of 105-120.

4.2.11(d) (i) [iii] University of Johannesburg Language Programme (UJELP). The requirement for undergraduate applicants is an overall score of 6, and for postgraduate applicants an overall score of 7.

4.2.12 **Concurrent selections**

4.2.12 (a) An applicant is allowed to apply for two choices of which the selection takes place concurrently. An applicant, therefore, can be declined, admitted, provisionally selected or wait-listed for any combination of the two choices.

4.2.12 (b) An applicant to whom an admitted, provisionally selected or waiting list status has been awarded by the University for more than one programme may only register for one programme (if available) before the commencement of the academic year/intake for which they have applied. Once registered for a programme, admission to the remaining programme not registered for will automatically be cancelled, and students will not be allowed to change programmes to one of the previous concurrent admitted qualifications. All regulations regarding registration still apply, including forfeiting of spaces due to oversubscription or changes of registration dates (Refer to AR 5).

4.2.13 **Right of admission**

4.2.13 (a) The Vice-Chancellor and the Council of the University determine an applicant's admission to the University subject to the Enrolment Plan. An applicant who has applied for admission to a particular programme and satisfies the minimum rules and requirements of access and admission, but who has been refused admission, may request written reasons for such refusal from the relevant Executive Dean concerned or their delegated authority.

5 **REGISTRATION**

5.1 **General principles**

5.1.1 Students may not participate in any academic activities unless they are registered for the relevant module or programme for the relevant academic year (including conditionally registered; for postgraduate students, this includes pre-registration). Participation includes attending classes or any contact or distance education sessions in a module, receiving study material or supervision, having access to any electronic study material or sources or being assessed in a module.

5.1.2 Students register annually for an academic programme of the University as contained in the Academic Calendar (<https://www.uj.ac.za/about/academic-calendar-and-regulations/>) and on the relevant Faculty webpages

(<https://www.uj.ac.za/faculties/>). Information regarding registration can be accessed on the following URL (<https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/registration/>).

- 5.1.3 Once a student is admitted to a distance learning (fully online carousel model) programme, they register at no cost for that programme. The next step is to add modules according to the registration dates specified on the UJ website <https://online.uj.ac.za/>. All carousel module additions must be accompanied by full payment for the module. Students only add modules offered during the specific carousel intake. Students are required to renew their registration for fully online carousel programmes in accordance with the Academic Calendar for online carousel programmes.
- 5.1.4 For subsequent study periods (after the initial registration period), students will register for the qualification and add modules, in terms of the requirements of the programme being followed and the registration dates specified on the UJ website (see URLs above). Programme requirements may specify compulsory, elective and prerequisite modules that must be passed before being allowed to proceed to higher-level modules. The UJ website is the official communication for all UJ-related student matters.
- 5.1.5 Students register for a programme subject to the academic regulations that applied at the time of first registration for that particular programme, provided that:
- 5.1.5 (a) if the academic regulations are amended, students who commenced their studies under the previous academic regulations and who have not interrupted their studies and are compliant with all the other rules that were applicable at the time of their first registration, may complete their studies according to the previous regulations;
- 5.1.5 (b) if the new academic regulations are beneficial to them, students may complete their studies under these new regulations subject to the conditions in AR 5.1.5 (a).
- 5.1.5 (c) the Faculty Board may set special transitional arrangements, approved by Senate, in respect of programmes where a change has been approved, and determine a date on which new academic regulations will be phased in and previous regulations phased out.
- 5.1.5 (d) Where operational processes and procedures or other academic regulations and/or policies are amended, students must abide by these amended regulations/policies. Examples include, but are not limited to, policies that relate to student discipline.
- 5.1.6 The onus is on the student to ensure that they have registered for any failed or outstanding modules as well as service learning (if applicable) to comply with all the requirements of the relevant qualification.

- 5.1.7 Students (undergraduate and postgraduate) may apply for study abeyance (interruption of studies) under exceptional circumstances in line with the rules and regulations of the University. The application for study abeyance must include all relevant supporting documentation and be submitted to the Faculty for consideration by the Executive Dean or their delegated representative. The student is also required to inform any relevant funding bodies, such as sponsors, NSFAS, UJ Student Finance, etc., as the abeyance may have implications on the funding requirements/conditions.
- 5.1.8 Students who interrupt their studies are required to apply for special permission from the relevant Head of Faculty Administration (HFA) to return and continue with their studies. Continuation of studies may be subject to certain conditions.
- 5.1.8 (a) The student must register for any outstanding modules, including service learning, to fulfil the requirements of the relevant programme.
- 5.1.8 (b) The HFA, in consultation with the relevant delegated authority, may, in exceptional circumstances, allow students to continue their studies according to specific conditions where applicable.
- 5.1.9 Applicants who are admitted for a particular academic year must register for that year according to the registration dates as determined by the University.
- 5.1.10 The MEC may, by notice to the applicants and students, bring the closing date for registration for a programme forward to remain within the enrolment target for the programme.
- 5.1.11 An applicant or student who does not register for a programme before the enrolment target is reached forfeits the right to register for the programme for the particular academic year.
- 5.1.12 Fees are determined by the University and are payable as per the guidelines set out in the student fee booklet. Refer to the UJ Student Finance webpage: <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/student-finance/>.
- 5.1.13 After registration, contact students are obliged to pay the fees due on or before the dates stipulated by the University. Information relating to Student Finance can be accessed on the following URL: <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/student-finance/>.
- 5.1.14 Students who have outstanding debt are afforded an opportunity to apply for and sign an Acknowledgement of Debt within the registration period. This allows them the opportunity to complete their registration, based on the guidelines set out in the fee booklet (<https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/student-finance/>) where a student is required to pay 50% of historic debt as well as the upfront minimum registration payment and sign a debit order to settle the outstanding debt. This information can be accessed on the following URL: <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/student-finance/acknowledgement-of-debt-application/>.

- 5.1.15 Students who have cancelled their studies or who have registered and not taken up their studies remain liable for their fees.
- 5.1.16 Students are not allowed to register outside the prescribed and approved registration periods unless the Registrar formally extends the registration period. Once registrations have closed, approval for late registrations must be sought from the Registrar (for continuing students) and DVC Academic (for new students).
- 5.1.17 Tuition fees are payable in accordance with the UJ student fees.
- 5.1.18 Students must sign a formal agreement (the Student Agreement) with the University in electronic format when they register online. Students who do not register online must complete, sign and submit a hard copy of the agreement. In the case of all minors, their parents or guardians must counter-sign the Student Agreement (or must also sign an additional hard copy of the Student Agreement) and submit same to the University. The Student Agreement incorporates a personal information statement and contains an exemption from liability and indemnity.
- 5.1.19 Students must adhere to all the policies, rules, regulations and procedures of the University (<https://www.uj.ac.za/about/academic-calendar-and-regulations/>) and undertake to pay the prescribed fees by signing the official registration form and the formal agreement with the University.. Please note that the University of Johannesburg, as a public space, is an illegal substance/drug-free zone. Students are required to abide by the Policy on Responsible Student Usage of Alcohol and Prevention of Substance Abuse or any other relevant policies.
- 5.1.20 The registration of students is valid for the applicable registration period only, and lapses on expiry of this period.
- 5.1.21 Students or postdoctoral fellows may not register simultaneously for (a) two programmes at the University, or (b) for a programme or module at another university, concurrently with their registration at the University, without prior written consent of the Executive Dean of the relevant faculty, in consultation with the Registrar, and the relevant authority of the other university. The University has the right to cancel the registration of the programme or module if prior consent was not obtained from the relevant authorities at the University.
- 5.1.22 Except where a higher standard is applied to a specified programme, at least 50% of all the required modules (including all exit-level modules) that a student must successfully complete for an undergraduate qualification to be awarded or conferred must be completed at the University to obtain the qualification certification from the University of Johannesburg.
- 5.1.23 Only in exceptional cases may the Executive Dean or their delegated authority, in consultation with the Registrar, grant permission to complete an exit-level module at another higher education institution.

- 5.1.24 Senate may determine the minimum number of students who should register for a programme or a module for it to be offered on a particular campus and/or in a particular year.
- 5.1.25 A student may not register for more than the prescribed number of modules per academic year/semester as:
- 5.1.25 (a) approved by Faculty Board and Senate;
 - 5.1.25 (b) reflected in the Faculty Rules and Regulations and curriculum;
 - 5.1.25 (c) specified per year level.
- 5.1.26 The Executive Dean, or their delegated authority of the faculty, may approve the equivalent of two additional semester modules or one-year module per academic year (over and above the curriculum), where petitioned, and the student may only register for and pursue such courses upon receipt of express consent.
- 5.1.27 The Department of Higher Education and Training, upon recommendation from senates and councils, approves the enrolment plan of universities. Within UJ, the Institutional Enrolment Plan determines the maximum number of students who may register for a programme. Deviations from this plan (in terms of the number of students registered) must be approved by the DVC: Academic and will be considered in relation to the overall Enrolment Plan and targets, as well as ensuring quality teaching.
- 5.1.28 Registration takes place in accordance with the Programme Qualification Mix (PQM) as approved by DHET and related Higher Education Management Information System (HEMIS) business rules.
- 5.1.29 The University does not guarantee that students (including those with a disability/impairment) who register for a qualification and successfully complete that qualification will be registered with a professional board/council or be successful in obtaining employment.
- 5.1.30 Students who are admitted for a programme (whether online or in contact mode) but who failed to register for that programme within the calendar year admitted for will forfeit the right to automatically register for the following calendar year (students will need to re-apply for admittance). However, if the student was admitted for the fully online programme within the last four months of a calendar year, the admittance will be carried over to the following calendar year.
- 5.1.31 Registration and re-registration or renewal of registration for any programme is subject to satisfactory academic performance and other rules of the University. A student may be deregistered and refused permission to re-register on the grounds of unsatisfactory academic performance and behaviour, disqualifying the student from being issued with a Statement of Good Conduct by the University. The standards of academic performance required from students to permit them to re-register appear in the Academic Regulations and Faculty Rules

and Regulations. The University is not required to issue warnings to students to improve their academic performance before deregistering them or refusing them permission to re-register on the ground of poor unsatisfactory academic performance, but if such warnings are issued, students can thereafter be deregistered or refused permission to re-register if they fail to meet the conditions attached to the warning. Persons who are prevented from re-registering on the grounds of unsatisfactory academic performance, may appeal their academic exclusion in terms of the Academic Regulations, and may exercise that right only once for that qualification. The Registrar may, upon exceptional circumstances and in consultation with the relevant faculty, provide permission for a student to register for a final attempt – no further extensions will be considered.

- 5.1.32 Postgraduate students with qualifications acquired outside of the Republic of South Africa or from institutions not registered within the South African higher education system are required to provide a SAQA evaluation certificate of previous qualification (for registration) or proof of application for the SAQA evaluation of international qualifications (for conditional registration). Such a certificate must be provided within a reasonable timeframe, and no student will be allowed to carry a conditional registration across academic years.
- 5.1.33 Conditional registration grants a registering student certain rights and privileges on a temporary basis. The approval of conditional registration will be granted by the Executive Dean, subject to confirmation from the relevant HOD and academics that adequate support (in some cases, remote support) will be feasible.
- 5.1.34 Should an applicant fully meet the admission requirements within the time limits as set out in the conditions, the registration will be upheld. Should the conditions not be met, the conditional registration will be terminated. Residences will not reserve places in residence for conditionally registered students. Upon full registration, they may be considered for UJ residence, should there be spaces available. Should the registration conditions not be met, the University will cancel the student residence registration. The standard cancellation rules in respect of fees that would have applied to students who were unconditionally registered and had cancelled their studies on that day, will apply.
- 5.1.35 Non-Degree Purpose (NDP) registration requests must be supported by the relevant HOD and Executive Dean (or Vice-Dean if delegated) before being submitted by the HFA for final approval to the Registrar. Aspects that will be taken into consideration are:
- 5.1.35 (a) For a student who was admitted at UJ based on a Cambridge conditional exemption, with the requirement of passing a school subject at the university level to qualify for a complete exemption certificate;
- 5.1.35 (b) Whether the candidate completed the previous studies in minimum time;

- 5.1.35 (c) Whether the successful completion of the NDP module(s) will satisfy the admission requirements into the next qualification;
- 5.1.35 (d) Whether the required results in need of improvement are attainable (e.g. improvement from a 50% average in a previous qualification to more than 65% average);
- 5.1.35 (e) Exceptional academic results in previous studies;
- 5.1.35 (f) Full history of the candidate in terms of previous NDP applications and decisions made.
- 5.1.36 If approved by the Registrar, strict conditions will be communicated to the candidate (e.g. failure to meet the required results in the first semester will lead to deregistration for the second-semester modules).

5.2 Documents to be submitted before registration

- 5.2.1 Students who register for the first time at the University are required to submit copies of all outstanding required documentation via email to Perceptive Content ujappdocs@listsrv.uj.ac.za before the registration process can take place.
- 5.2.2 Senior students (returning and transferring) are required to submit documents to their relevant faculty as specified below:
 - 5.2.2 (a) If their personal information has changed since the previous registration;
 - 5.2.2 (b) If there are still outstanding documents listed;
 - 5.2.2 (c) If the student is a transfer student from another higher education institution.
- 5.2.3 Certified copies of certain documentation may be required upon registration as determined by the University.
- 5.2.4 Documents that may be requested include the following (depending on the qualification and mode of delivery):
- 5.2.5 **First-year students**
 - 5.2.5 (a) The following documentation may be requested by the relevant Faculty/Department as required:
 - 5.2.5 (a) (i) SA identity document, international identity document, passport or permanent residence permit, where applicable.
 - 5.2.5 (a) (ii) SC or NSC or other equivalent qualifications as stipulated in AR 4.2.
 - 5.2.5 (b) Transfer students from other higher education institutions

- 5.2.5 (b) (i) SA identity document, international identity document, passport or permanent residence permit, where applicable;
- 5.2.5 (b) (ii) SC or NSC or other equivalent qualifications as stipulated in AR 4.2;
- 5.2.5 (b) (iii) Copies of academic record(s)/transcript(s) from the previous higher education institution(s);
- 5.2.5 (b) (iv) Copies of certificate of conduct if not included on the academic record/transcript;
- 5.2.5 (b) (v) Additional faculty programme requirements determined by the relevant Faculty Boards.

5.2.6 **International students**

- 5.2.6 (a) Valid Passport, Asylum Seeker Permit, Refugee Permit, Refugee ID if available or South African ID, if available in the case of Permanent Residency.
- 5.2.6 (b) Valid Study Visa, Diplomatic Visa, General Work Visa, Critical Skills Visa, Intra-Company Transfer Work Visa, Business Visa, Relative Visa with endorsement to study as a secondary activity or relative visa to accompany a South African citizen or Permanent Resident Permit Holder without endorsement.
- 5.2.6 (c) Proof of a comprehensive Medical Aid cover renewed annually for the period of study with a medical scheme registered in terms of the Medical Schemes Act. The following category of permit holders are exempted from the requirement: Asylum Seekers, Refugees and Permanent Residents. Diplomatic permit holders will be allowed registration with the type of cover provided by the mission they represent within the Republic of South Africa.
- 5.2.6 (d) Postgraduate students with qualifications acquired outside of the Republic of South Africa or from institutions not registered within the South African higher education system are required to provide a SAQA evaluation certificate of previous qualification (for registration) or proof of application for the SAQA evaluation of international qualifications (for conditional registration).
- 5.2.7 Conditional registration may be allowed only for international students who are abroad, awaiting their study visa and have proof of application. International students are required to submit the following documents for conditional registration to intadmissions@uj.ac.za:

- 5.2.7 (a) Completed conditional registration form;
- 5.2.7 (b) Certified copy of passport;
- 5.2.7 (c) Visa application receipt and medical aid confirmation.
- 5.2.8 Out-of-seat registration may be requested by admitted postgraduate students in research-only programmes (i.e., master's by research and PhD), and students who are conducting research outside of South Africa.
- 5.2.9 In applying for an out-of-seat registration, the following documents must be submitted:
 - 5.2.9 (a) Completed out-of-seat form countersigned by the student and their supervisor; and
 - 5.2.9 (b) Certified copy of passport or any government-issued ID.

5.3 **English Proficiency Test for first-time registering undergraduate and postgraduate international students**

5.3.1 **Undergraduate students**

- 5.3.1 (a) An English language proficiency test will be required from undergraduate students where English was not used as a medium of instruction for previous studies. The University accepts the following English Proficiency Tests:
 - 5.3.1 (a) (i) ELTS with an overall score of 6.
 - 5.3.1 (a) (ii) TOEFL with a minimum score of 80 to a maximum of 104.
 - 5.3.1 (a) (iii) UJELP with an overall score of 6.
 - 5.3.1 (a) (iv) IELTS and TOEFL are the preferred external English proficiency test systems and students may alternatively opt for UJELP.

5.3.2 **Postgraduate students**

- 5.3.2 (a) (i) An English language proficiency test will be required from postgraduate students where English was not used as a medium of instruction for previous studies. The University accepts the following English Proficiency Tests:
 - 5.3.2 (a) (ii) IELTS with an overall score of 6.
 - 5.3.2 (a) (iii) TOEFL. With a minimum score of 85 to a maximum of 120.
 - 5.3.2 (a) (iv) UJELP with an overall score of 7.

5.3.3 **Unavailability of documents**

- 5.3.3 (a) In exceptional cases where the documentation is not available upon registration, conditional registration will be allowed only with the permission of the Registrar, in consultation with the Executive Dean or their delegated authority within the faculty and Global Engagement. In these instances, a final submission date for outstanding documents will be set. Failure to submit the required documentation by the specified due dates will result in cancellation of registration, unless permission is granted otherwise.

5.3.4 **Omission of material information and submission of incorrect documentation**

- 5.3.4 (a) The University has the right to cancel or refuse the registration of a student who provided incorrect information and/or documentation to an application for admission, or who omitted to provide material information or documentation.

5.4 **Change of personal information**

- 5.4.1 (a) Students must inform the University of any changes to their contact details and other personal details or update the details personally on the Student Portal immediately upon the student obtaining knowledge of such a change in personal information.
- 5.4.1 (b) Correspondence to students will be addressed to their email addresses and cell phone numbers supplied during registration, or as changed according to the previous regulation AR 5.4.1 (a).

5.5 **Student access cards**

- 5.5.1 Contact students registering for the first time will be issued student access cards after their registration process has been successfully completed. The cards will be activated for the duration of the registration period only. Thereafter, student cards will be reactivated each time a student re-registers.
- 5.5.2 Students must carry their student access cards with them when they are on University premises or accessing University facilities.
- 5.5.3 A valid student access card must be presented to gain admission to campuses, assessment venues, the library, sporting grounds and University locations. A lecturer may request that a student's access card be replaced when a student can no longer be identified or verified. Refer to the Policy on Issuing Access Credentials for the University.

5.6 **International students**

- 5.6.1 International students may register if they:

- 5.6.1 (a) meet the University's academic admission requirements;
- 5.6.1 (b) comply with international clearance requirements; and
- 5.6.1 (c) satisfy all other registration requirements, including all documentation required as per AR 5.2.6.

5.7 **Registration for the higher level of a module or qualification**

- 5.7.1 Students will be permitted to register for the higher level of a module or qualification only if they have passed the prerequisite modules or qualifications.

5.8 **Programme and module changes**

- 5.8.1 After the official registration period and within the appointed time, students may change their registration only with the permission of the HFA of the faculty.
- 5.8.2 Application for module or programme changes must be made according to the University and Faculty Rules. These changes are subject to approval in accordance with the Academic Regulations.

5.9 **Cancellation of studies**

- 5.9.1 Students cancelling their studies in a particular programme or module should notify the University by submitting the cancellation on the prescribed form and in accordance with the prescribed procedure before the date determined by the University. This form is submitted to the relevant faculty officer for processing.
- 5.9.2 Although the University will go to some lengths to identify students who have registered during the registration period but who have not been attending classes, the onus remains on students to notify the University that they wish to cancel their studies. Students who fail to notify the University officially before the prescribed cancellation dates will forfeit any claim to the reimbursement of money paid to the University.
- 5.9.3 Cancellation of semester or year module(s), including continuously evaluated year modules, should be done 21 calendar days before the commencement of the final assessment period. After this deadline, semester or year modules (including continuously evaluated modules) will be regarded as failed. Refer to AR 5.9.1 for the procedure.
- 5.9.4 Online distance students who cancel their registration before the end of the first week of the module (by midnight of the Sunday evening, South African time) are entitled to a credit of 90% of the module fee. Students who cancel their registration before the end of the second week of the module (by midnight of the Sunday evening, South African time) are entitled to a 50% credit of the module fee. Credit into the student's account will be given automatically. Where a student has settled their full student account and the credit results in an

amount due to the student, a refund will be paid on submission of an online application by the student. Students who fail to notify the University officially of the cancellation of a module after the end of the second week are not entitled to any reimbursement or credit of the module fee.

5.10 **Procedure pertaining to deceased students**

5.10.1 A policy exists on the management of deceased students and employees. The policy provides direction in terms of processes and procedures to be followed, including the roles and responsibilities of faculties, divisions and departments in the event of the death of a student or employee. Refer to the Policy on the Management of Deceased Students and Employees for more information.

5.11 **Work-integrated Education**

5.11.1 Where work-integrated education (WIE) forms an integral part of a programme that is included in the study period, the University supports students to obtain WIE placements, as relevant.

5.12 **Class attendance for contact programmes**

5.12.1 Students who are not registered are not allowed to attend classes or take part in any activities (including tutor classes or practicals) or assessments.

5.12.2 Students are responsible for attending the required teaching and learning interactions (such as classes, tutorials, practicals, etc.) unless they have a legitimate reason, and where appropriate, the necessary evidence thereof, for being absent.

5.12.3 Students might be required at any time to account for irregular class attendance by providing a legitimate and reasonable written explanation and/or relevant evidence to their lecturer.

5.12.4 In borderline academic result cases, information on class attendance can be taken into account by faculties in making decisions.

5.12.5 Students are expected to attend a minimum of 80% of compulsory tutorials. Failure to do so may result in exclusion from exams.

5.12.6 Students must adhere to the Faculty Rules and Regulations regarding the compulsory attendance of the academic programme

5.13 **Participation in online distance (ODE) programmes**

5.13.1 ODE students are required to participate according to the requirements set out in the module(s). Participation in ODE programmes is measured in the following ways:

- 5.13.1 (a) The frequency and duration that the student spends online;
 - 5.13.1 (b) The extent of participation in discussions;
 - 5.13.1 (c) The timely submission of tasks and assignments;
 - 5.13.1 (d) Data gathering allowing for advanced data analytics to foster improved teaching and learning.
- 5.13.2 Students are required to complete tasks as specified for the module(s) for which they are registered.
- 5.13.3 Unsatisfactory participation is taken into consideration when decisions are made regarding the academic exclusion of students.

6 GRANTING OF MODULE EXEMPTION(S) AND RECOGNITION REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1 Students may receive an exemption only once for an interchangeable module in any programme at the equivalent NQF level.
- 6.2 Granting of module exemption is dependent on the following criteria:
- 6.2.1 Level of module
 - 6.2.2 Relevance
 - 6.2.3 Qualification;
 - 6.2.4 Standards;
 - 6.2.5 Outcome;
 - 6.2.6 Duration;
 - 6.2.7 NQF Credits; and/or
 - 6.2.8 Year in which the module was completed.
- 6.3 Students retain exemption of a passed module for a period of seven years, provided there have been no substantial changes to the curriculum. This provision also applies when modules are presented for credit, renewal, or registration purposes. For exemption purposes, the NQF level of the module completed previously and presented for exemption must be at least the same as the NQF level of the module offered in the qualification for which the exemption is being requested. Exceptions from the cases mentioned above may only be permitted by the Executive Dean in consultation with the HOD and the Registrar.

- 6.4 Faculty-specific promotion requirements and deregistration rules are contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations, and are applied in addition to the other regulations in this section.
- 6.5 Students who have temporarily discontinued their studies and who have passed a module whose content has, in the meantime, undergone substantial changes may be refused admission to a module for which this module is a prerequisite. In these instances, students may be required to complete the revised module(s).
- 6.6 Students who have failed a module twice will not be allowed to continue their studies in the same module at the University, except with the permission of the Executive Dean or their delegated authority on recommendation of the relevant HOD after consultation with the lecturer, or on recommendation of the faculty's examination or assessment committee. When a module is failed, a student must repeat the module at the first opportunity when it is offered again.
- 6.7 To progress to the following year of study, students must have passed at least 60% of the modules required in the previous year of study. Students shall still be required to pass all modules required under their programme of study in any subsequent year, should they have failed the module in the preceding year.
- 6.8 Students who have not been promoted to the following year of study for any two years of study will not be permitted to continue with that programme and will be academically excluded, except with the special permission of the Executive Dean or their delegated authority. The Executive Dean or their delegated authority will stipulate conditions for students to continue with their studies.
- 6.9 If students have been granted special permission to continue with studies as determined in AR 6.6 and AR 6.8, the Executive Dean or their delegated authority may refuse continuation of studies if their progress in the first semester is unsatisfactory. Students may also be refused further admission if they continue to perform unsatisfactorily at the end of the relevant academic year, and may be academically excluded.
- 6.10 The formal time during which students were registered for a particular programme at another higher education institution, as well as their results at such institution, may be considered in applying AR 6.6, AR 6.8 and AR 6.9.
- 6.11 A HOD may, in consultation with the Executive Dean or their delegated authority, in accordance with a list of exemptions approved by the Executive Dean, grant exemption from and/or award a credit for a module where the outcomes of the module is at least an 80% match, to students on the grounds that they have passed a relevant module at another accredited higher education institution. Applications for exemptions must be submitted during the registration period. Exceptions to the above rule may only be granted by the Executive Dean in consultation with the HOD and, if required, also the Registrar.

- 6.12 Exemption from and/or awarding of credits for modules, as stipulated in AR 6.11, may not be granted for more than 50% of NQF credits required in an undergraduate programme, unless approved by the Registrar. A faculty may determine rules and regulations in this regard in agreement with the existing Faculty Rules and Regulations, and subject to approval by Senate, for UJ to award the diploma or confer the degree. The Executive Dean or their delegated authority concerned, in consultation with the Registrar, may give permission to the student (for legitimate reasons) to complete such exit-level module(s) at another HEI in South Africa, or abroad in accordance with the academic record/transcript concerned.
- 6.13 Only in exceptional circumstances may the Executive Dean or their delegated authority, in consultation with the Registrar, grant exemption from an exit-level or a semester core module that has been passed at another institution or in another programme.
- 6.14 As per the HEQSF, a maximum of 50% of the module credits of a *completed qualification* may be transferred to another qualification, provided that no more than 50% of the module credits required for the second qualification are credits in the completed qualification.

7 APPEALS AGAINST ACADEMIC EXCLUSION

- 7.1 Applicants who wish to appeal their academic exclusion must follow the prescribed procedure by submitting their application, motivation and supporting documents online via the UJ website (uLink) during the prescribed submission period according to faculty guidelines and in accordance with UJ policies. Failure to do so within the prescribed submission period may result in the opportunity lapsing.
- 7.2 In cases where students have been academically excluded and granted a supplementary assessment opportunity, the student will be required to write the supplementary examination and submit an application to appeal the academic exclusion as well. A student who wrote the supplementary examination should have no expectation that the academic exclusion will be lifted if the examination is passed.
- 7.3 Following receipt of a completed appeal application by the student:
- 7.3.1 The Faculty Appeals Committee will consider and decide on all appeals submitted by the applicant and shall either grant the application and allow the applicant re-admission or refuse the application and confirm that the applicant is academically excluded.
- 7.3.2 The decision taken by the Faculty Appeals Committee will be communicated to the applicant in writing.

- 7.3.3 The decision of the Faculty Appeals Committee is final subject to AR 7.3.6.
- 7.3.4 Students who omitted to provide information or documentation material to an appeal cannot provide it at a later stage if the appeal is unsuccessful.
- 7.3.5 Students who appeal their academic exclusion retain their academic history for all previous registration(s) at UJ.
- 7.3.6 In the event that it is found that a student has submitted information and/or documentation that is incorrect, or fraudulent information/documentation that is material to an appeal, the Faculty Appeals Committee shall be entitled to reconsider its decision.

8 DURATION OF PROGRAMMES

- 8.1 These are guiding principles regarding the duration of programmes, unless specified differently in the Faculty Rules and Regulations (which Faculty Rules and Regulations shall take precedence).
- 8.2 The minimum duration of a programme is in accordance with the HEQSF and HEMIS requirements.
- 8.3 The maximum duration of a full-time contact programme is as indicated in Table 3 in Column D.
- 8.4 The maximum duration of a part-time contact programme is as indicated in Table 3 in Column E.
- 8.5 The maximum duration of the ODE programmes offered by UJ is as stipulated in Column F. The maximum duration of an online programme allows for one additional year (12 months, where applicable) in comparison to the maximum period of the contact programme.
- 8.6 Apart from master's and doctoral programmes, the duration of contact programmes is inclusive of any interruption of studies unless approval is granted prior to the interruption by the faculty.
- 8.6.1 For all qualifications up to NQF Level 8, the maximum period is inclusive of interruption of studies.
- 8.6.2 For master's and doctoral qualifications, the maximum period excludes an interruption of studies. A request for an interruption of study will only be granted in exceptional circumstances (as detailed in these Academic Regulations and the appropriate Rules) and must be approved prior to interruption of studies as stipulated in the Higher Degrees Policy.

- 8.7 Students who fail to complete the programme within the maximum period will be allowed to continue with the programme only if granted special permission by the Executive Dean on recommendation of the relevant HOD or the faculty's Examination or Assessment Committee.
- 8.8 Maximum duration of study for distance education programmes (carousel model and non-carousel):
- 8.9 While the carousel model is designed to offer students the flexibility to pause their studies for one or more modules, it is important to note that each programme has a maximum duration of study. This maximum duration includes any periods of interrupted study, as outlined in Table 3: Duration of Programmes.
- 8.10 For the purposes of calculating the duration taken to complete an online distance (ODE) programme or a master's by research, the number of months will be utilised where applicable.
- 8.11 Table 3 stipulates the maximum periods of enrolment for full-time and part-time study. For ODE master's and doctoral programmes, the maximum periods are calculated in terms of the months a student is registered. The month in which a student registers or completes the studies will count as a full month. Should re-registration be required due to resubmission of a minor dissertation or dissertation or thesis, this extended period will be included in the calculation of the registration period.
- 8.12 Expected duration applies to full-time students who carry a full academic load and do not repeat modules.

Table 3. Duration of programmes

Qualification	Minimum Credits	Minimum Duration (years)	Expected Duration (years)	Maximum Duration allowed for Full-time (FT) qualification	Maximum Duration allowed for Part-time (PT) qualification	Maximum Duration for Distance (fully online) programmes
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Higher Certificate	120	1	1	2 years		
Advanced Certificate	120	1	1	2 years		
Diploma	240	2	2	3 years		48 months**
UG Diploma	360	3	3	5 years		72 months**
UG Diploma (Extended)	480	4	4	6 years		
Advanced Diploma	120	1	1	2 years		36 months**
UG Degree	360	3	3	5 years		72 months**
UG Degree (Extended)	480	4	4	6 years		

Qualification	Minimum Credits	Minimum Duration (years)	Expected Duration (years)	Maximum Duration allowed for Full-time (FT) qualification	Maximum Duration allowed for Part-time (PT) qualification	Maximum Duration for Distance (fully online) programmes
	A	B	C	D	E	F
UG Degree (Professional)	480	4	4	6 years		
PG Diploma	120	1	1	2 years		
Honours Degree	120	1	1	1 year	2 years	36 months**
Master's Degree (Coursework)	180	1	2	24 months	36 months	36 months
Master's Degree (Research)	180	1	2	24 months	36 months	
Master's Degree (Professional)	180	1	2	24 months	36 months	
Doctoral Degree	360	2	3	48 months	60 months	
Doctoral Degree (Professional)	360	2	3	48 months	60 months	60 months
Doctoral Degree (Higher)	360	2	3	48 months	60 months	

The minimum and maximum duration indicated in the table is the standard duration of programmes offered at UJ. Faculties may have specific durations for certain programmes listed in their Faculty Rules and Regulations.

**Please note that the number of months for fully online programmes will be used as an indicator to determine whether a student has obtained a qualification with distinction. For contact programmes refer to AR 9.6.3 regarding requirements for distinction.

8.13 Students must comply with the minimum duration of a particular programme, as indicated in Column B (i.e. the student must be registered for this period of time), even in the event where credit(s) have been granted towards the programme as stipulated in Table 3: Duration of Programmes (see above).

8.14 The UJ Academic Regulations allow exceptions to the maximum duration rule as stipulated in AR 8.7.

9 TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

9.1 General

9.1.1 Teaching, learning and assessments take place in accordance with the University's Teaching and Learning Policy, Assessment Policy, and the Policy on Online Distance Education.

- 9.1.2 Registered students have a right to tuition in accordance with the Senate-approved academic timetable or Senate-approved Policy on Online Distance Education. Students who are not registered are not allowed to attend classes or participate in any activities (including practicals or tutor classes).
- 9.1.3 The University does not permit student behaviour that disrupts formal teaching and learning activities.
- 9.1.4 Any form of academic misconduct or other disruptive or unacceptable conduct, in relation to any assessment event in any programme, will be dealt with in accordance with the University's Policy on Academic Misconduct, Student Regulations and Disciplinary Regulations, and all other disciplinary codes of the University, and where applicable, in terms of criminal law.
- 9.1.5 Programme-specific assessments and regulations are determined by the Faculty Board and Senate.

9.2 Assessment opportunities

- 9.2.1 Assessment takes place in accordance with the University's Policy on Assessment and the Policy on Online Distance Education.
- 9.2.2 Programme-specific assessment regulations are determined by the Faculty Board and approved by Senate.
- 9.2.3 Students should be given timely, meaningful and constructive feedback on assessments.
- 9.2.4 Module assessment criteria, rules, and regulations must be communicated to students in all learning guides.
- 9.2.5 The number of assessments and their relative weightings must be appropriate to the discipline, level of the module, programme level, and must be coherently designed to achieve the outcomes of a module/programme.
- 9.2.6 Every assessment opportunity carries a predetermined weight that takes the integration of the learning outcomes into account. A number of smaller summative assessments may count as one assessment opportunity in a module.
- 9.2.7 When a summative assessment opportunity is used as a last (comprehensive) assessment opportunity (excluding continuous assessment modules), a minimum final period/semester or year mark of 40% is required for admission to the summative assessment opportunity.
- 9.2.8 Unless specified differently in the Faculty Rules and Regulations, all fully online modules will be assessed by means of continuous assessment and incorporate multiple assessment opportunities through a range of assessment methods spread across the module. There should be alignment between module (and unit) outcomes and assessment criteria.

9.2.9 All online assessments should be hosted on the UJ LMS. The use of third-party software applications or portals for assessment should be pre-approved through standard UJ processes, to ensure the security of data as required by law and not generate additional costs beyond UJ student fees.

9.2.10 Integrity of online assessments is ensured through *inter alia*:

9.2.10.1 sound assessment design that will minimise and impede opportunities for academic dishonesty;

9.2.10.2 online identity authentication and verification; and/or

9.2.10.3 electronic invigilating or proctoring, ensuring that the student completing the assessment is not receiving additional, outside or unauthorised assistance.

9.2.11 For traditional examinations, faculties will indicate the calculation criteria for each module. It will either be a 50:50 or 40:60 weighting between the semester mark (SM) and examination mark (EM) to calculate the final mark (FM).

9.3 **Assessment results**

9.3.1 All assessment results must be captured on the official UJ system.

9.3.2 Higher assessment requirements other than those indicated below are determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate, and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

9.3.3 The judgment of the Departmental and/or Faculty Assessment Committee is final. The University publishes results, including final assessments and global results, on uLink only, and not on any other platforms. It is the responsibility of students to access and check their results on uLink. An official electronic academic record/transcript is available for registered students and graduates.

9.3.4 Students may request from the relevant faculty an official academic record related to the student; these records can also be electronically generated by students. The uLink record may be deactivated after a few months; therefore, students must access and check their final results on uLink within one month of each assessment period.

9.3.5 For a year module, a minimum half-year mark (also referred to as a progress mark) of 40% may be required (in June) in order to continue with the module in the second semester

9.3.6 When a traditional examination is used as a last assessment opportunity, the module (generally) is deemed a pass if the following marks have been obtained:

9.3.6 (a) a last summative assessment mark (examination mark) of at least 40%;
and

- 9.3.6 (b) a final mark of at least 50%. (This means that if a student obtains a final mark of 50% but has not met the 40% requirement for the examination mark, the student will qualify for a supplementary examination).
- 9.3.7 When a final assessment opportunity is used for continuous assessment, programme-specific requirements, as approved by the Faculty Board and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations, must be adhered to. The number, type, weight and date of assessments, replacement and/or supplementary assessments are pre-set and agreed to by the assessor and moderator before the beginning of the unit/module or programme. Summative assessments are not limited to written assessments and may include a variety of assessment methods and/or instruments or portfolios as indicated in the Faculty Learning Guides.
- 9.3.8 Students pass a continuous assessment module if they obtain a weighted final mark of at least 50% (or more if stipulated by a professional/regulatory body).
- 9.3.9 Students pass a module with distinction if they obtain a final mark of at least 75%.
- 9.3.10 A couplet module consists of two modules in the academic year concerned whereby the second module builds on the content of the first module. A final period/semester mark, examination mark and a final mark of at least 40% each in the first semester are required for admission to the second semester module. To pass the couplet, a combined final mark of at least 50% must be obtained in the same year.
- 9.3.11 If a couplet module is not passed on the combined final mark, the module(s) in which the final mark is less than 50% must be repeated.

9.4 **Appeals on module marks**

- 9.4.1 After the final mark for a module has been published (on uLink), students who wish to dispute their marks may apply to the lecturer for an explanation of the mark awarded in the cases where:
- 9.4.1 (a) the student has failed the module with a FM of at least 40%; or
- 9.4.1 (b) the last summative assessment (examination) mark is at least 15% lower than their module mark; or
- 9.4.1 (c) a module was passed without distinction, but either the module mark (i.e. semester or year mark) or the last summative assessment (examination) mark was a distinction mark.
- 9.4.2 A request or an explanation for the awarding of the FM in the final summative assessment opportunity as indicated in AR 9.4.1 must be made within ten days after classes have commenced for the second semester for first semester assessments. In the case of a second semester assessment opportunity, requests must be made at least three days prior to the commencement of the academic programme in the following year. No assessment material (for example, answer scripts or portfolios) or

copies of it may be provided to students after such explanatory discussion, if such material would not otherwise have been returned to the student.

9.4.3 If, after the explanation has been provided as described in AR 9.4.2, students are still dissatisfied with the mark awarded, they may appeal to the Executive Dean or their delegated authority, who may, at their own discretion, decide to appoint an external arbiter to reassess the final and/or last summative assessment. A fee, as determined by the University, is payable for the assessment by the arbiter.

9.4.4 The fee is refunded if the arbiter alters results from a fail to a pass or from a pass without distinction to a pass with distinction. In all other cases, the fee is forfeited to the University.

9.4.5 Students registered for ODE programmes who want to appeal their results must follow the prescribed administrative procedure by submitting their motivation according to faculty guidelines and procedures and in accordance with UJ policies.

9.5 **Special summative assessment and supplementary summative assessment opportunities**

9.5.1 Special summative assessment opportunities are considered by the faculty in which the programme/qualification resides, for students who, in the event of illness, for compassionate reasons, on religious grounds or for similar legitimate reasons, were prevented from attending a summative assessment opportunity. Students may be granted a special summative assessment opportunity if they apply for it within seven calendar days after the original date of the relevant summative assessment opportunity.

9.5.2 The Executive Dean or their delegated authority, in consultation with the relevant HOD, shall consider all applications for special summative opportunities, and decide whether to grant the special summative assessment opportunity.

9.5.3 The Faculty Board determines the procedure for and manner of such application in accordance with University procedure. The application procedure must be contained in the relevant programme-specific information or learning guide.

9.5.4 The Assessment Committee/Vice-Dean/HOD/HFA or delegated representative of a faculty in which the module resides will grant a student a supplementary last summative assessment opportunity if:

9.5.4 (a) the student failed a module but obtained a final mark of at least 40%; or

9.5.4. (b) the student failed a module but obtained a semester/year mark of at least 60%.

9.5.5 The Assessment Committee or the Executive Dean or their delegated authority of a faculty in which the qualification resides may grant a student a supplementary last summative assessment opportunity, if the student requires not more than the

equivalent of two semester modules or one year module for the completion of the relevant qualification, provided that the student:

- 9.5.5 (a) was registered for the relevant module in the current academic year; and
 - 9.5.5 (b) was admitted to, and participated in, the last assessment opportunity in the relevant module; and
 - 9.5.5 (c) has complied with all the experiential or practical requirements prescribed for the qualification (where applicable), excluding work-integrated modules.
- 9.5.6 The Executive Dean or their delegated authority of the faculty in which the qualification resides may, in exceptional circumstances and in consultation with the Executive Dean of the faculty in which the particular modules reside, waive one or more of the conditions specified in AR 9.5.5 (c).
- 9.5.7 In all other circumstances, students may not be granted another supplementary summative assessment opportunity if they have used and failed a previous one, except if the Executive Dean of the faculty in which the qualification resides has waived the requirement/condition.
- 9.5.8 Supplementary summative assessments for continuous assessment modules are scheduled as part of the assessment plan for a particular module. The following applies:
- 9.5.8 (a) To be granted a supplementary assessment opportunity for a particular component in the continuous assessment portfolio, a minimum of 40% must have been obtained for that particular component.
 - 9.5.8 (b) Supplementary assessments are according to each faculty's internal assessment policy.
 - 9.5.8 (c) A maximum of no more than a pass mark is awarded for the supplementary assessment of the particular component in the continuous assessment portfolio.
- 9.5.9 Special summative assessment and supplementary assessment opportunities should be equivalent to the original assessment with respect to the scope, standard and duration.
- 9.5.10 The weight of the summative assessment opportunity granted must retain its original weighting.
- 9.5.11 Students are personally responsible for ascertaining whether they qualify for a special assessment or a supplementary assessment opportunity and for acquainting themselves with the details of the timetable and the venue.

9.5.12 Students' entitlement to a special or supplementary summative assessment opportunity lapses if they fail to use the opportunity.

9.5.13 In the case of a supplementary of the last summative assessment, the final mark of the module is capped at the minimum pass mark of 50%. This rule does not apply to continuous assessment modules (Refer to AR 9.5.8).

9.5.14 No capping of a final mark is applicable in the case of a special summative assessment opportunity.

9.6 **Obtaining a qualification**

9.6.1 Students obtain a qualification if they have passed every prescribed module and have successfully completed work-integrated education/learning, where applicable. It is a student's responsibility to ensure that they comply with all the requirements for a qualification.

9.6.2 Students will not be allowed to obtain a qualification if they have pending disciplinary matters against them.

9.6.3 A qualification is awarded or conferred with distinction if the requirements stipulated in AR 9.6.5 to 9.6.8 are met as applicable to the particular qualification.

9.6.4 No rounding (up or down) should be done during the calculation process. The rounding of marks should only be done once all calculations are finalised in accordance with decisions made by the Faculty Assessment Committee or similar.

9.6.5 **Undergraduate qualifications (Contact) with distinction**

9.6.5. (a) The qualification must be completed within the regulation (expected) duration as indicated in Table 3, unless the Executive Dean has approved a longer duration of study for legitimate reasons, which is within their discretion.

9.6.5 (b) Students must achieve an average final mark of at least 75% as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

9.6.5 (c) A student must obtain a minimum mark of 65% in every prescribed module at NQF Level 6 for diplomas, or NQF Level 7 for degrees, or NQF Level 8 for professional bachelor's degrees. Exceptions may be considered by the Executive Dean where the qualification resides.

9.6.5 (d) A student must never have failed a module in the relevant qualification.

9.6.5 (e) Students must have been registered for the full curriculum as prescribed for each academic year on a full-time or part-time basis.

- 9.6.5 (f) If students have transferred from another higher education institution to UJ in a similar qualification, the same requirements as stated shall apply.
- 9.6.5 (g) If students change qualifications within UJ, only the modules related to the new qualification will be taken into consideration in calculating whether the qualification is obtained with distinction.
- 9.6.5 (h) In the case where there is WIE involved, the work-integrated module should not be used in the calculation if the module is not DHET subsidised.

9.6.6 Advanced Diplomas, Postgraduate Diplomas and Honours Degrees (Contact) with distinction

- 9.6.6 (a) The qualification must be completed within the regulation (expected) duration as indicated in Table 3, unless the Executive Dean has approved a longer duration of study for legitimate reasons, which is within their discretion.
- 9.6.6 (b) Students must achieve an average final mark for an advanced diploma, a postgraduate diploma or an honours degree of at least 75%. For the purposes of calculating the weighted average, the final marks for all the modules comprising the qualification must be in accordance with the NQF credit value allocated to the modules as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 9.6.6 (c) A student must obtain a minimum mark of 65% in every prescribed module at NQF Level 7 for advanced diplomas/BTechs, and at NQF Level 8 for postgraduate diplomas and honours degrees. Exceptions may be considered by the Executive Dean where the qualification resides.
- 9.6.6 (d) A student must never have failed a module in the relevant qualification.
- 9.6.6 (e) Students must have been registered for the full curriculum as prescribed for each academic year on a full-time or part-time basis.
- 9.6.6 (f) If students have transferred from another higher education institution to UJ in a similar qualification, the same requirements as stated shall apply.
- 9.6.6 (g) If students change qualifications at UJ, only the modules related to the new qualification will be taken into consideration in calculating whether the qualification is obtained with distinction.

9.6.7 Master's Degrees with distinction

- 9.6.7 (a) Students for a research master's qualification must achieve a final mark of at least 75% for the dissertation.
- 9.6.7 (b) Students for a coursework master's qualification must achieve a final average mark of at least 75%. This is calculated by weighting the average

final marks for all the coursework modules and the final mark for the minor dissertation, in accordance with the credit values allocated to all the coursework modules and the minor dissertation, respectively. For example, if the credit value of the minor dissertation represents 40% of the total credit value of the qualification, the average final mark for the qualification will be weighted in the proportion of 40% for the minor dissertation and 60% for all the coursework modules.

9.6.7 (c) If students have transferred from another higher education institution to UJ in a similar qualification, the same requirements as stated shall apply.

9.6.7 (d) If students change qualifications within UJ, only the modules related to the new qualification will be taken into consideration in calculating whether the qualification is obtained with distinction.

9.6.8 **Online Distance Education programmes with distinction**

9.6.8 (a) Undergraduate qualifications must be completed within the regulation (expected) duration as indicated in Table 3, in Column F.

9.6.8 (b) An advanced diploma, a postgraduate diploma or an honours degree must be completed within the maximum duration as indicated in Table 3, in Column F.

9.6.8 (c) The average final mark for the qualification will be calculated according to the type of qualification, such as undergraduate or postgraduate. For the purposes of calculating the weighted average, the final marks for all the modules comprising the qualification must be in accordance with the NQF credit value allocated to the modules as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations with the exception of undergraduate online distance education programmes.

9.6.8 (d) Apart from coursework master's, students must obtain a minimum mark of 65% in every prescribed module at the relevant NQF level for the specific qualification type.

9.6.8 (e) Apart from coursework master's, students must never have failed a module as a first attempt in the relevant qualifications.

9.6.8 (f) Students must have been registered for the full curriculum as prescribed for each academic year.

9.6.8 (g) If students have transferred from another higher education institution to UJ in a similar qualification, the same requirements as stated shall apply.

9.6.8 (h) If students change qualifications within UJ, only the modules related to the new qualification will be taken into consideration in calculating whether the qualification is obtained with distinction.

9.7 **Students with disabilities**

- 9.7.1 (a) Students wishing to apply for special assessment conditions based on the grounds of a disability must do so in accordance with the procedure prescribed in the University's Policy on People with Disabilities.
- 9.7.1 (b) Students should submit the application, together with reports supporting the request, from a Registered Health Professional to the Disability Unit at the beginning of every semester/year as applicable. The request should clearly specify the needs and concessions requested, including concession recommendations from a Registered Health Professional. These applications will be submitted to the UJ Concessions Committee. After consideration, the Disability Unit will refer the request, together with a recommendation to the respective student who will discuss it with their lecturer to support the concession.
- 9.7.1 (c) The confidential nature of information regarding a disability will always be honoured. The disability information of the student shall only be used by the University for a specific purpose and to the extent required for the student to undertake their studies. The information will only be revealed to any third party with students' written consent or, where applicable, that of their parents or guardians.

9.8 **Access control during assessments for contact students**

- 9.8.1 Students may not enter a summative assessment venue later than 30 minutes after the official starting time of the summative assessment opportunity unless they have a legitimate reason for their late arrival. Students who arrive late will not be given extra time to complete the assessment. They will only have the remaining time available and must stop writing when the official assessment time ends. Students are also not permitted to leave the assessment venue during the first 30 minutes of an assessment opportunity or during the last 15 minutes of the allocated assessment time.
- 9.8.2 Students must identify themselves as required for admission to an assessment venue by presenting either their student card, identity document or passport.
- 9.8.3 Students must adhere to all access rules as required for assessments that are conducted electronically through an online platform.
- 9.8.4 Access control and invigilation during online assessments
- 9.8.5 Access to online assessments will take place in accordance with the Policy on Online Distance Education and the Assessment Policy, which can be accessed at: <https://www.uj.ac.za/about/academic-calendar-and-regulations/>
- 9.8.6 It is a student's responsibility to familiarise themselves with the University's policies and requirements for online assessments.

- 9.8.7 Students must adhere to all access and invigilation rules as required for online assessments. Students agree to the terms and conditions of the Policy on Online Distance Education for, and the Assessment Policy at, registration.
- 9.8.8 It will be the student's responsibility to ensure that they have access to functioning equipment for doing assessments as required by the Policy on Online Distance Education and the Assessment Policy.
- 9.8.9 Students' online identities may be authenticated and verified each time before admission to online assessments. The University may also verify the students' online identity during and upon conclusion and submission of the assessment.
- 9.8.10 Should a student fail to adhere to, and comply with, the University's Policy on Online Distance Education and Policy on Assessment for purposes of online assessments, they may be subject to disciplinary proceedings according to the University's policies and Rules, which may include, but are not limited to, the student's disqualification of their online assessment.
- 9.8.11 To maintain assessment integrity, the University may use certain online invigilation methods for online assessments. The integrity of the assessments is monitored continuously before, during, and upon completion of the assessment. Students are required to confirm their identity, and they may be monitored electronically for the duration of the assessment.

9.9 **Transgressions during any assessment opportunity**

- 9.9.1 The University reserves the right to record assessment opportunities by way of digital footage for utilisation as evidence in disciplinary proceedings in relation to any transgressions during assessment opportunities.
- 9.9.2 Students commit a transgression when:
- 9.9.2 (a) They commit academic misconduct. Refer to AR 2.2.3.
- 9.9.2 (b) During a formal assessment opportunity, they are in possession of any book, cell phone or electronic device that has not been switched off, memorandum, notes in any form whatsoever, or any papers, documents or database equipment, except for access to such answer books or other books, papers or documents that the invigilator has supplied or access to such other sources that the invigilator authorised as per instructions of the examiner.
- 9.9.2 (c) They help or attempt to help other students or obtain help or attempt to obtain help from other students or obtain help or attempt to obtain help from any source of information, with the exception of explicitly approved sources as permitted by the assessor.

- 9.9.2 (d) They help other students to commit an offence (also considering that students are under an obligation to take all reasonable measures to ensure that other students do not have access to their work).
- 9.9.2 (e) They have unauthorised information stored on a pocket calculator, cell phone or any other device brought into the assessment venue, or whether they have any unauthorised notes in whatever format with or on them, irrespective of whether they have had the opportunity to access such information.
- 9.9.2 (f) They cause a disturbance in the proximity of or inside the assessment venue or conduct themselves in an improper or unbecoming manner.
- 9.9.2 (g) They disregard the instructions of invigilators or assessors.
- 9.9.2 (h) They pose as other students.
- 9.9.3 Persons who are not registered for a relevant module and are present in an assessment venue with the intention of taking part in the assessment opportunity are guilty of fraud and may face disciplinary procedures or legal/criminal action.
- 9.9.4 Executive Deans or their delegated authority can initiate disciplinary procedures in certain cases. They may implement disciplinary procedures with regard to alleged transgressions in class assessments, assignments, tasks and essays, as well as undisciplined behaviour towards academic or administrative staff.
- 9.10 Irregularities during participation in summative assessments, practical opportunities and online assessments**
- 9.10.1 Students who, in the opinion and/or observation of the invigilator, committed an irregularity during an assessment or practical opportunity will have their assessment script, product or any other material or equipment that, in the opinion and/or observation of the invigilator pertaining to the irregularity, confiscated immediately with the time recorded on it. Students will immediately be issued with a new assessment script, or any other relevant material or equipment and the time of issue will be written on the front cover of the script. No extra time is allowed to complete the assessment.
- 9.10.2 In the case of online assessments, the University reserves the right to record assessment opportunities by way of digital invigilation software for purposes of use thereof in disciplinary proceedings in relation to any transgressions during assessment opportunities. Possible student transgressions will be flagged by the online invigilation software or by a trained online invigilator. A video recording may be submitted and used as part of the evidence of an alleged transgression.
- 9.10.3 Students registered for contact and online distance (ODE) programmes who are accused of transgressing with reference to AR 9.9 and AR 9.10.1 must complete and sign the prescribed declaration form within seven days after notification of the assessment transgression. If a video recording is available, the student will have

access to the video and may be interviewed by a trained invigilator about the flagged transgression(s). It is the responsibility of the Chief Invigilator/Lecturer to submit the form, transgression report and supporting evidence, to the Executive Dean or their delegated authority for submission to Student Ethics and Judicial Services.

9.10.4 Students referred to in AR 9.9.2 must be requested to complete a Transgression Report.

9.10.5 In cases where an external invigilator acts in the capacity of a Chief Invigilator, it is the responsibility of the external invigilator to submit the Transgression Report with all relevant documents and applicable evidence to Student Ethics and Judicial Services (copies will be submitted to the HOD and a copy of the documentation pertaining to the matter will be stored at the Assessment Office).

9.10.6 The academic staff member responsible for the assessment or the relevant HOD and Executive Dean or their delegated authority must submit a memorandum that describes the case in detail.

9.10.7 The Executive Dean or their delegated authority compiles a report, which is submitted to the Senior Director: Student Affairs within ten working days of the transgression. This report will be submitted, together with the original project, the memorandum from the assessor and any other evidence relevant to the case.

9.10.8 If the suspected offence involves an electronic device, the invigilator will consult the assessor before responding to the offence as described in AR 9.10.1.

9.10.9 No credit or marks must be awarded for assessments in which a student is under investigation for suspected academic misconduct pending the conclusion of disciplinary proceedings.

9.11 **Irregularities during participation in electronic and online summative assessment opportunities**

9.11.1 Transgressions in this category include all forms of academic misconduct.

9.11.2 Search engines and anti-plagiarism software may be used in the detection of suspected transgressions in this category.

9.11.3 The academic staff member responsible for the assessment or evaluation will refer the case to the relevant HOD and Executive Dean or their delegated authority by means of a memorandum that describes the case in detail.

9.11.4 The Executive Dean or their delegated authority must compile a report, which is submitted to the Senior Director: Student Affairs, within ten working days of the transgression. This report will be submitted, together with the original project, the memorandum from the assessor and any other evidence relevant to the case.

9.11.5 No extra time is allowed to complete the assessment.

- 9.11.6 All student assessment attempts will be submitted to the Executive Dean of the faculty or their delegated authority.
- 9.11.7 While a case is pending, answers will not be marked, and no result in the relevant subject will be made available to the student.
- 9.11.8 The University reserves the right to record assessment opportunities by way of digital footage for purposes of use thereof in disciplinary proceedings in relation to any transgressions during assessment opportunities.

9.12 **Assessment of Work-integrated Education (WIE)**

9.12.1 Assessment in modules and programmes that require WIE:

- 9.12.1 (a) must meet the requirements of the relevant industry, place of work, statutory professional bodies and/or the needs of the community (where applicable);
- 9.12.1 (b) must include the abilities or competencies (assessment of knowledge, skills, values and attitudes) necessary to function in the particular workplace or context that is contained in the outcomes and assessment criteria;
- 9.12.1 (c) may include co-assessors who should be familiar with the module, programme outcomes, assessment criteria, assessment methods, recording procedures and additional learning support, etc.; and
- 9.12.1 (d) requires clear communication with students, workplace or community and co-assessors on assessment matters, including the contribution that the service or work-integrated learning component makes to students' progression each year.

9.12.2 Programme-specific requirements in this regard are addressed in the Faculty Assessment Policies and/or Work-Integrated Education Policy.

9.13 **Assessment for RPL**

9.13.1 Assessment for RPL is governed by the University's Policy on Recognition of Prior Learning in terms of the following principles:

- 9.13.1 (a) Current competence is more important than learning history. Relevant learning is valued, irrespective of where, when or how it occurred.
- 9.13.1 (b) Applicants must demonstrate competence (proven learning).
- 9.13.1 (c) The standards by which students are assessed for prior learning are determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

- 9.13.1 (d) Applicants considering applying for RPL must submit an official RPL application via the designated faculty officer before the closing date for applications. An application fee is charged for the assessment of the RPL portfolio.
- 9.13.1 (e) Each application of prior learning is individually assessed.
- 9.13.1 (f) RPL assessment is conducted by the lecturer responsible for that particular module or programme, or by the RPL Committee of the faculty if RPL affects the whole programme. Such assessments must be conducted in a timely manner, allowing sufficient time for University structures to consider the submissions.
- 9.13.1 (g) A variety of assessment methods is used, which could include a formal assessment opportunity similar to the summative assessment opportunity that is required of students in a particular module and/or programme.

9.14 **Publication of final assessment results**

- 9.14.1 The assessment results of students are released per module as provisional results as soon as they are captured and computed throughout the summative assessment period.
- 9.14.2 After the final mark has been calculated, an indication of admission to a special or supplementary summative assessment opportunity is made known to the students via electronic media on the UJ systems (including uLink).
- 9.14.3 Final results for an assessment are finalised and released in accordance with a date determined by Central Academic Administration.
- 9.14.4 It is the student's responsibility to check marks on uLink, ascertaining whether they qualify for a special assessment or a supplementary assessment opportunity and acquainting themselves with the details of the timetable and the venue.
- 9.14.5 The University strives to ensure the confidentiality of personal information in the publication of assessment results.

10 CERTIFICATION

- 10.1 Certification takes place in accordance with the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 (as amended), Academic Regulations and related policies. The requirements for the completion of qualifications are indicated in AR 6 and AR 9.6.
- 10.2 Certification is confirmed by the signatures of two senior officials of the University who are authorised to do so. The signatures may be in electronic form in terms of the Electronic Communications and Transactions Act, 2002.

- 10.3 All subsidised, and all non-subsidised programmes generating 240 NQF credits or more, are conferred or awarded at an official graduation ceremony of the University. Students who have complied with the requirements of a qualification receive a certificate at such a graduation ceremony. An exception to this rule is online qualifications below Master's level. These students will not be invited to a centrally coordinated graduation ceremony.
- 10.4 The certificate and/or digital certificate is the only officially recognised record issued by the University.
- 10.5 **Duplicate certificates**
- 10.5.1 The Registrar considers applications for duplicate certificates in accordance with the Policy on Academic Certification and Related Matters.
- 10.6 **Translation of certificates**
- 10.6.1 Should a translation of a certificate or a valid duplicate certificate obtained at one of our legacy institutions originally issued in Afrikaans be required in English, the original certificate or a valid duplicate must be made available to Central Academic Administration, and the prescribed fee must be paid to the University.
- 10.7 **Amendments of Student Biographical Information**
- 10.7.1 Changes to biographic details, including names or surnames, must be submitted to the Student Enrolment Centre (SEC): Biographical Division at least four weeks before the start of the graduation season/session. No changes will be accepted after this deadline, and the information on file at that time will be used for certificate issuance. It remains the responsibility of the student to ensure that their details are correct.
- 10.8 **Certificates issued with incorrect biographical information**
- 10.8.1 Should a certificate be issued either in person or in absentia to the graduate on the date of graduation with incorrect biographical information, the graduate will be required to update their biographical information at SEC and only then apply for a replacement certificate through the Digital Certificate platform at the required fee.

11 DISPUTE RESOLUTION

- 11.1 Complaints and grievances, except where otherwise provided, may be lodged in terms of these Academic Regulations and the Policy on Handling of Student Complaints. Complaints and grievances are handled, as far as possible, in accordance

with the relevant policies, provided that students follow the prescribed procedures and channels established by these policies, as well as any Faculty-specific Rules and Regulations.

- 11.2 Except where otherwise provided in any other University policy or the Faculty Rules and Regulations, any complaint(s) made by a student in respect of the submission of research or work (completed or incomplete), assessments, programmes, marks, academic judgment, coursework, or generally related to the curriculum or academic landscape of the student, shall be dealt with by the relevant HOD and Faculty involved, and where applicable, the Executive Dean of the applicable Faculty. Disputes related to the interpretation, application, or enforcement of the contractual relationship or Student Agreement, or otherwise not related to any matter connected with the academic landscape of the student, shall be dealt with in terms of the Student Agreement read with the applicable University Policies on discipline, misconduct and/or disputes.

12 ACADEMIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS AND HONOURS PROGRAMMES

12.1 Admissions

- 12.1.1 These admission requirements are in addition to all other admission requirements prescribed in any of the UJ's policies.
- 12.1.2 The minimum admission requirements to an honours programme or postgraduate diploma is a relevant bachelor's degree, advanced diploma, or an equivalent qualification at NQF Level 7 in the same or relevant field of study as determined by the relevant Faculty Board.
- 12.1.3 In addition to institutional requirements, programme-specific admission requirements are determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 12.1.4 Before admission to the programme, the Executive Dean or their delegated authority may, in consultation with the relevant HOD, determine further conditions to be satisfied by prospective students.
- 12.1.5 The HOD may, where applicable, initiate the University's Policy on RPL to award academic status equivalent to that of the prerequisite qualification to applicants in order to allow them access to the programme as determined by the relevant Faculty Board and approved by Senate. The relevant rules and regulations regarding RPL can be found in the Policy on Recognition of Prior Learning.
- 12.1.6 The University reserves the right not to admit applicants to a particular programme in accordance with programme-specific selection and other relevant

criteria. Applicants who have applied for admission and have been refused despite meeting the minimum admission criteria may request written reasons for such refusal from the HOD.

12.1.7 Meeting the faculty's minimum requirements for a particular programme does not guarantee admission. Applications are ranked based on the fulfilment of admission criteria for that programme. The Enrolment Plan informs the number of available spaces and is prescribed by DHET.

12.2 **Registration**

12.2.1 Applicants register for the programme subject to confirmation that they have met the minimum admission requirements and have been selected. Applicants may be subject to conditional requirements, which conditions must be satisfied in the requisite time or as set out in the conditional registration agreement.

12.2.2 Renewal or suspension of registration of students is based on the promotion requirements as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

12.3 **Assessment**

12.3.1 The assessment requirements are determined by the relevant Faculty Board and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations (Refer to the Assessment Policy).

13 **ACADEMIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO MASTER'S PROGRAMMES**

13.1 **Master's programmes**

13.1.1 The requirements for master's programmes are stipulated in the Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration. Faculties may have further requirements as considered by the SHDC, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

13.2 **Admission**

13.2.1 These admission requirements are in addition to all other admission requirements prescribed in any of the UJ's policies.

13.2.2 The minimum admission requirement for a master's programme is a qualification at NQF Level 8, an honours qualification, a four-year 480 NQF credit bachelor's qualification (with a minimum of 120 credits at NQF Level 8), or a postgraduate diploma, in the same or a relevant field of study or discipline.

The relevant field of study or discipline is determined by the relevant department, approved by the FHDC and is noted by the Faculty Board.

13.2.3 Additional admission and selection requirements may be determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

13.2.4 In the case of interdisciplinary master's programmes, additional admission requirements may be set by the two or more relevant interdisciplinary fields/departments/faculties, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

13.2.5 The HOD may, where applicable, initiate the University's Policy and Procedure on RPL to award academic status equivalent to that of an honours degree or a four-year 480 NQF credit bachelor's qualification at NQF Level 8 or postgraduate diploma to applicants, to allow them access to a master's programme as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations. The relevant rules and regulations regarding RPL can be found in the Policy on Recognition of Prior Learning.

13.2.6 The University reserves the right not to admit applicants to a particular master's programme in accordance with programme-specific selection criteria and other relevant criteria such as:

13.2.6 (a) the limitations of enrolments per programme;

13.2.6 (b) capping of admissions in terms of the University's approved enrolment plan or professional regulatory requirements; or

13.2.6 (c) the inability to identify an appropriate supervisor within the University.

13.2.7 Applicants whose application for admission has been refused despite meeting the minimum admission requirements may request written reasons for such refusal from the relevant HOD.

13.3 **Registration**

13.3.1 Registration is done in accordance with dates set by the University. Refer to the URL listed for Postgraduate registration dates:

13.13.1 (a) <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/registration/>

13.3.2 Renewal of registration for a minor dissertation or dissertation takes place during the first semester of the academic year, as contained in the University's Year Programme.

- 13.3.3 Failure to submit the research or minor research proposal within the time frame specified in the Higher Degrees Policy may result in cancellation of registration.
- 13.3.4 The Faculty (as delegated to the relevant structure) may grant a student permission to interrupt their studies for legitimate reasons, as reflected in the Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 13.3.5 Allowance is made for a possible pre-registration (excluding coursework master's) period during which a student will have access to the library, relevant courses, as well as contact with supervisor(s). This is done in accordance with the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 13.3.5 (a) The pre-registration period may extend from a minimum of three months to a maximum of six months (subject to the University's enrolment plan); extension to pre-registration periods may be granted by the Executive Dean or their delegated authorities in consultation with the Registrar. Pre-registration will be accommodated on the student administration system.
- 13.3.5 (b) Pre-registration is only available according to the published registration dates set for the programme. Students who fail to meet the pre-registration requirements will not be given a second chance. Students on pre-registration must apply for full admission to the programme.
- 13.3.5 (c) In order to qualify for formal registration, the student must have complied with all the conditions for progression set and recorded by the faculty, in time to apply and register for a formal programme in accordance with the times set by the University.
- 13.3.6 Students register for a master's programme full-time or part-time in accordance with the specific requirements of the programme as contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations as approved by Senate, and with due regard to the programme qualification mix as approved by the DHET. Transferring a master's dissertation study from another HEI to UJ is allowed. The circumstances may vary. Each case will be reviewed by the Executive Dean and Registrar to deliberate on prior to admitting/registering a student into the qualification. Specific conditions may be set for the completion time of the qualification and for the allocation of research output units should there be publications emanating from the study.
- 13.3.7 Each of the modes of delivery has consequences regarding the set maximum time. Switching between the modes is subject to permission by the faculty processes and procedures. A change in registration from full-time to part-time may only be done before the maximum time for full-time registration has been reached.
- 13.3.8 The minimum duration of a master's programme is one academic year. Registration less than the prescribed minimum study period may not be granted.

- 13.3.9 The maximum period of registration for a master's programme is two years full-time and three years part-time. Further registration may be granted by the relevant Executive Dean or their delegated authority in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 13.3.10 The approval of applicants' research proposals, supervisors, study fields and provisional and/or final titles of minor dissertations or dissertations takes place in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy, the Higher Degrees Administration and faculty-specific regulations as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 13.3.11 Any amendment to a project or research title is done in accordance with faculty-specific requirements. The amendment is approved by the relevant Faculty Board or Faculty Higher Degrees Committee (FHDC) and noted by the Senate Higher Degrees Committee (SHDC). A change in project title at any stage does not constitute valid grounds for the extension of registration, residency or formal duration of study.
- 13.3.12 The renewal of students' registration for a master's programme is subject to satisfactory progress in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration, faculty-specific requirements and, where applicable, professional regulatory requirements, with due regard also to the University's Enrolment Management Plan and subsequent throughput interventions.
- 13.3.13 If students' progress is unsatisfactory, the Faculty Board or FHDC may decide to terminate their registration for the master's programme.
- 13.3.14 Interruption (break in study, which does not count against a student when calculating the period within which the study must be completed) may be granted in exceptional circumstances, for a maximum of twelve months, and only once during the period of study. This matter would be at the discretion of the FHDC.

13.4 **Ethical considerations**

- 13.4.1 Research in master's programmes is conducted in accordance with ethical requirements as contained in the Code of Academic and Research Ethics and faculty-specific procedures as determined by the relevant Faculty Board or FHDC, and with due regard to statutory and professional regulatory requirements (including all permitting requirements) and general best-practice principles to protect human and animal dignity and welfare in research.

13.5 **Health and safety**

- 13.5.1 The supervisors of research projects are responsible for assessing whether or not such projects have health and safety implications in accordance with the University's Occupational Health and Safety Policy.

13.5.2 Students must comply with all health and safety procedures and requirements, and put into place and take any and all necessary steps to ensure the health and safety of themselves, as well as all other persons that may be involved in or affected by the student's research.

13.6 **Conversion/Transfer of a research master's degree to a doctoral degree**

13.6.1 In exceptional cases, where the scope and impact of a project originally registered for a research master's programme prove to expand considerably beyond the initial expectation and where the project is expected to make a novel contribution to the body of knowledge in the discipline, students – with the concurrence of the supervisor and all co-supervisors – may apply to have their registration converted/transferred to a doctoral level in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.

13.6.2 The request for a conversion from a master's study to a doctoral study can only be considered prior to the submission of the dissertation for examination.

13.6.3 A conversion/transfer may only be considered and requested by the relevant Faculty Board after nine months and before eighteen months from the first registration for the master's dissertation.

13.6.4 The supervisor(s) must provide a comprehensive motivation for such a conversion/transfer to the relevant Faculty Board for consideration. In support of the motivation, students draft a substantive research report that they present at a departmental seminar.

13.6.5 The criteria for master's level qualifications as set out in Faculty Rules and Regulations are fulfilled in both the written report and the oral presentation.

13.6.6 The argument for upgrade, as presented in the candidate's written report and the oral presentation, and the supervisor's motivation, is considered by the FHDC and two external expert evaluators (appointed by consensus among the supervisor(s), the HOD, the FHDC chair and the Executive Dean of the Faculty). This panel decides the merits of the application and refers the matter to the Faculty Board and the SHDC for recommendation and to the Senate for approval.

13.6.7 If approved and the student has been registered for the minimum study period specified for the master's programme, they will have to register for at least one additional academic year for the doctoral programme before the doctoral degree can be conferred.

13.6.8 A student whose registration is amended from a master's programme to a doctoral programme is not entitled to be conferred a master's qualification for the project under consideration, irrespective of whether the doctoral thesis is completed or failed, since this transfer is an extraordinary and irreversible intervention.

13.7 **Assessment of the research component of master's degrees**

- 13.7.1 The core output of a research master's programme is a dissertation in the form of a written document in an appropriate format (refer to the Higher Degrees Policy or other relevant appropriately approved documents). In the case of a research master's programme, the Faculty Rules and Regulations determine whether the successful completion of a research dissertation is the sole academic requirement for the qualification.
- 13.7.2 Appointment of external assessors for master's programmes takes place in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 13.7.3 The assessment of coursework modules takes place in accordance with faculty-specific regulations as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations. This includes the consideration and granting of supplementary summative assessment or special summative assessment opportunities for coursework modules. Refer to the Assessment Policy.
- 13.7.4 The master's student is responsible for the technical and linguistic editing (as per faculty procedures) of the minor dissertation or dissertation with the assistance of the supervisor prior to submission for final assessment.
- 13.7.5 The final minor dissertation, or dissertation is submitted for assessment (with reference to the presentation format, content and layout) in accordance with the faculty-specific regulations as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations. Refer to the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 13.7.6 A minor dissertation, or dissertation is submitted for final summative assessment subject to a declaration confirming that it is the student's own work signed by the student. If a dispute should arise about the readiness of a minor dissertation or a dissertation for final summative assessment, the Vice-Dean responsible for postgraduate studies of the faculty makes the decision in accordance with the Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 13.7.7 No minor dissertation or dissertation may be submitted for final assessment without the express permission of the supervisor(s). Where the supervisor(s) decide(s) to withhold permission, due processes must be followed.
- 13.7.8 No supervisor(s) shall unreasonably withhold permission for the submission of the minor dissertation, or dissertation for assessment.
- 13.7.9 Where a dispute arises between the supervisor(s) and student about the submission of the minor dissertation or dissertation for assessment, the student has the right to approach the HOD and Executive Dean with a written submission motivating why the minor dissertation or dissertation is considered ready to be

assessed. The Executive Dean will make a decision in consultation with the HOD and FHDC. The decision of the Executive Dean is reported to the SHDC.

- 13.7.10 The final submission of the minor dissertation or dissertation takes place in accordance with the final submission dates per semester (which is the last working day in May for the first semester and the last working day in October for the second semester) to ensure timely completion of the assessment process. If a master's student submits after the prescribed submission period, they may be required to renew their registration, with fees, with the University for the subsequent period in order to finalise the submission process.
- 13.7.11 The minor dissertation or dissertation is assessed in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy, the Higher Degrees Administration and faculty-specific criteria as determined by the Faculty Board and approved by Senate.
- 13.7.12 The recommendations of assessors are considered by the relevant faculty postgraduate assessment committee, and a result is recommended to the Faculty Board for approval and ultimately to Senate for noting in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 13.7.13 The final assessment outcome for a minor dissertation or dissertation is determined by the FHDC.
- 13.7.14 There are four possible responses from an assessor of a minor dissertation or dissertation, namely:
 - 13.7.14 (a) They may approve the minor dissertation, or dissertation with no corrections to be made and award a mark of 50% or more.
 - 13.7.14 (b) They may provisionally approve the minor dissertation, or dissertation with minor corrections to be done to the satisfaction of the supervisor and award a mark of 50% or more.
 - 13.7.14. (c) They may recommend substantial amendments to the minor dissertation, or dissertation without awarding a mark in the light of deficiencies identified in their narrative report and advise that the revised version be submitted to them for reassessment acknowledging the fact that their final mark will be capped at 50%.
 - 13.7.14.(d) They may reject the minor dissertation, or dissertation, awarding a mark reflecting a fail (less than 50%) in which case no reassessment by this assessor will take place.
- 13.7.15 The University is not bound by the recommendation of individual assessors as the final assessment result lies solely within the power of the University, which exercises an academic judgement when determining final results.

- 13.7.16 An additional oral summative assessment, based on the minor dissertation or dissertation, may be required in accordance with the Faculty Rules and Regulations. See also Higher Degrees Policy.
- 13.7.17 A research master's degree can be conferred only after the successful completion of every requirement of each component of the respective degree programme, including the submission and favourable evaluation of a research-based dissertation and the submission of one piece of work in a format suitable for a peer-reviewed publication.
- 13.7.18 A coursework master's degree can be conferred only after the successful completion of every requirement of each component of the respective degree programme, including the submission and favourable evaluation of a research-based minor dissertation, the obtaining of a pass mark for each of the prescribed coursework modules and the submission of one piece of work in a format suitable for a peer-reviewed publication. Faculty Rules and Regulations may stipulate conditions under which students may be exempted from the requirement for the submission of an article. These conditions are approved by the relevant Faculty Board and Senate.
- 13.7.19 A student is not deemed to have completed the requirements for conferment of the degree if the electronic version has not been submitted to the relevant faculty administration officer prior to the graduation ceremony and the closure of the graduation list for the forthcoming graduation ceremony.

13.8 Resolving conflicting results recommended by the assessors for a master's degree

- 13.8.1 The FHDC may, but is not obliged to, invoke one or more of the following procedures to resolve an impasse in the results of a master's study (in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration):
- 13.8.1 (a) Request additional information from the assessors and/or supervisor(s);
- 13.8.1 (b) Initiate a facilitation process to reach a unified recommendation between assessors as per the Higher Degrees Administration;
- 13.8.1.(c) Appoint an additional assessor to assess the minor dissertation or dissertation in the hope that the resulting report will resolve the impasse;
- 13.8.1.(d) Invite an external expert to advise the FHDC;
- 13.8.1.(e) Identify an independent arbitrator to consider all the documentation pertaining to the assessment process, including the individual assessors' reports and present a decision to the FHDC;
- 13.8.1.(f) Any other procedure it deems appropriate.

13.9 **Certification of compliance with the requirements of the qualification**

13.9.1 Certification of compliance will be conferred on the student after the requirements of the qualification are met, in accordance with the Certification Policy of the University; with due regard to the responsibility of the student, supervisors, relevant faculty administration officer, the Executive Dean of the Faculty and the Registrar.

13.10 **Dissemination and publication of the minor dissertation and dissertation**

13.10.1 An electronic copy must be submitted, in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and Higher Degrees Administration, to the relevant faculty administration officer.

13.10.2 All intellectual property rights (including all copyright) in a minor dissertation, or dissertation, as well as ownership of intellectual property arising from the research, vests in, and is the sole and exclusive property of, the University, whether or not the minor dissertation or dissertation is accepted or research completed, and students give their irrevocable consent when signing the Student Agreement at registration to the formal assignment and transfer of all intellectual property rights subsisting in any such work or research undertaken by them to the University.

13.10.3 The assignment and transfer of intellectual property rights of minor dissertation or dissertation is dealt with in terms of, amongst other things, the Student Agreement, read with the Policy on Intellectual Property.

13.10.4 In addition to the submission of the final minor dissertation or dissertation, and except where faculty regulations exempt them, master's students are required to submit to their supervisors at least one piece of work suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed publication, by the time the faculty-specific research assessment committee meets to consider the assessors' reports.

13.10.5 Master's students must comply with all University policies and guidelines on the drafting and submission of peer-reviewed publications. Students shall have a duty to appraise themselves of any and all applicable policies, procedures, laws and other requirements that may be applicable to them, including but not limited to the University's Policy on Authorship, its various policies on academic conduct and integrity, as well as the Research Output Policy as published by the DHET.

13.10.6 Co-authorship between students and supervisors of the piece of work suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed publication based on master's research publication is in accordance with the Policy on Authorship.

13.10.7 Students are not deemed to have completed the requirements for graduation until the corrected piece of work suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed publication has been submitted to and is accepted by the supervisor(s).

13.10.8 The preparation of the piece of work suitable for submission to a peer-reviewed journal is undertaken by students and supervisors in close collaboration, and

supervisors are responsible for assisting students and providing training on how to prepare work for publication.

- 13.10.9 If a minor dissertation or dissertation, or an adaptation of it or any resulting piece of work is published, it must be stated that it is based on research done at the University of Johannesburg for a particular study.
- 13.10.10 Students are encouraged to publish articles based on their master's research before the minor dissertation or dissertation has formally been accepted but must first obtain written permission from their supervisors (where the supervisors are not co-authors on the submission(s)).
- 13.10.11 If students do not publish their work, the supervisors may take the initiative to publish it in accordance with the Policy on Authorship.
- 13.10.12 The SHDC, on the recommendation of the relevant Executive Dean or the Executive Director: Research and Innovation and/or FHDC (or an applicant duly mandated in this regard), may grant a confidentiality classification of two years to the completed minor dissertation or dissertation, as stipulated in the University's Policy on Intellectual Property, resulting in a delay in the public display of the minor dissertation, or dissertation.

13.11 **Dispute resolution**

- 13.11.1 If an unresolved dispute should arise between two or more of the supervisors or between a supervisor and the student in respect of any form, the student's minor dissertation or dissertation that falls within the student's curriculum or programme, whether complete or incomplete, the relevant HOD will in the first instance take steps to resolve the matter.
- 13.11.2 If the above dispute is still unresolved, it must be referred to the relevant Executive Dean who may refer the matter to the SHDC for final consideration and processes to resolve the matter.

13.12 **Intellectual property**

- 13.12.1 Supervisors are responsible for monitoring all master's projects for potential inventions or other commercially viable intellectual property implications and disclosing such inventions or implications in a timely manner to the Executive Director: Research Development and Support.
- 13.12.2 Students who develop inventions or other forms of commercially valuable intellectual property must disclose such inventions to the supervisors in a timely manner in accordance with the University's Policy on Intellectual Property.
- 13.12.3 Any research and development done by students as part of their studies will be subject to the IPR Act (Refer to AR 2.2.21).

- 13.12.4 Where disclosures have been made about intellectual property emerging from a master's research project, the Executive Director: Research Development and Support, or an applicant duly mandated in this regard, must certify that any intellectual property matters pertaining to the project have been dealt with in terms of relevant University policy as a condition of graduation.
- 13.12.5 The assignment and transfer of intellectual property rights of a master's student is dealt with in terms of, amongst other things, the Student Agreement, read with the Policy on Intellectual Property.

14 ACADEMIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO DOCTORAL DEGREES

14.1 Doctoral programme

- 14.1.1 The requirements for doctoral programmes are stipulated in the Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration. Faculties may have further requirements as considered by the SHDC, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

14.2 Admission

- 14.2.1 These admission requirements are in addition to all other admission requirements prescribed in any of the UJ's policies.
- 14.2.2 For admission to a doctoral programme, applicants must have successfully completed a relevant master's programme in the same or relevant field of study or discipline as determined by the relevant department, approved by the FHDC, noted by Faculty Board and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 14.2.3 The extent to which applicants meet admission requirements is assessed by the relevant HOD, in consultation with the prospective supervisor(s), in accordance with the admission requirements for the particular doctoral programme determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations. The HOD, in consultation with the relevant Vice-Dean responsible for postgraduate studies, may set additional admission requirements, as approved by the relevant FHDC, for a particular student.
- 14.2.4 In the case of interdisciplinary doctoral programmes, additional admission requirements may be set by the two or more relevant interdisciplinary fields, departments or faculties, approved by Senate and contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 14.2.5 The relevant HOD (where applicable) may initiate the University's Policy on RPL to award academic status equivalent to that of a master's degree to enable applicants to gain access to a doctoral programme. Each individual case is considered by the

relevant Faculty structure and submitted to the Faculty Board for approval. The relevant rules and regulations regarding RPL can be found in the Policy on Recognition of Prior Learning.

14.2.6 The University reserves the right not to admit applicants to a particular doctoral programme in accordance with programme-specific selection criteria and other relevant criteria such as:

14.2.6 (a) the limitations of enrolments as per the University enrolment plan;

14.2.6 (b) the inability to identify an appropriate supervisor or a lack of adequate supervision capacity within the University;

14.2.6 (c) compliance with minimum admission requirements does not constitute the automatic right to admission to the programme.

14.2.7 The success of an international application depends on both the confirmation of academic acceptance and the obtaining of the necessary statutory documentation and state approval.

14.2.8 Applicants who have applied for admission and have been refused despite meeting the minimum admission requirements may request written reasons for such refusal from the relevant HOD and if required the Vice-Dean responsible for postgraduate studies.

14.3 **Registration**

14.3.1 Applicants register for the relevant doctoral programme in accordance with the registration dates set by the University, faculty-specific procedure and in terms of the requirements of the Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration. Refer to the URL listed for Postgraduate registration dates:

14.3.1 (a) <https://www.uj.ac.za/admission-aid/registration/>

14.3.2 Renewal of registration takes place during the first semester of the academic year, as contained in the University's Academic Calendar.

14.3.3 Failure to submit the research proposal within the specified time frame may result in cancellation of registration.

14.3.4 The faculty (or delegated relevant structure) may grant a student permission to interrupt their studies for legitimate reasons, as reflected in the Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.

14.3.5 Allowance is made for a possible pre-registration period during which a student will have access to the library, relevant courses as well as contact with supervisor(s). This is done in accordance with the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations.

- 14.3.5 (a) The pre-registration period spans six months; extension to pre-registration periods may be granted by the Executive Dean or their delegated authorities in consultation with the Registrar. Pre-registration will be accommodated on the student administration system.
- 14.3.5 (b) Pre-registration is only available according to the published registration dates set for the programme. Students who fail to meet the pre-registration requirements will not be given a second chance.
- 14.3.5 (c) In order to qualify for formal registration, the student must have complied with all the conditions for progression set and recorded by the faculty, in time to apply and register for a formal programme in accordance with the times set by the University.
- 14.3.6 Students register for the doctoral programme full-time or part-time in accordance with the specific requirements of the programme as contained in the relevant Faculty Rules and Regulations, as approved by Senate, and with due regard to the approval of the DHET, as accredited by the CHE (HEQC) and registered by SAQA. Transferring a doctoral study from another HEI to UJ is allowed. The circumstances may vary. Each case will be reviewed by the Executive Dean and Registrar to deliberate on prior to admitting/registering a student into the qualification. Specific conditions may be set for the completion time of the qualification and for the allocation of research output units should there be publications emanating from the study.
- 14.3.7 The minimum duration of a doctoral programme is two academic years (part time or full time). Residency less than the prescribed minimum period is not granted.
- 14.3.8 The maximum period of registration for a doctoral programme is four years full time or five years part time. Further registration may be granted by the relevant Executive Dean (or designated Vice-Dean) in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration.
- 14.3.9 The approval of students' research proposals, supervisors, study fields and provisional or final titles of theses is in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy, Higher Degrees Administration, and faculty-specific regulations determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate as recommended by the SHDC, and where applicable, professional regulatory requirements.
- 14.3.10 Any amendment to the title of a thesis must be in accordance with faculty-specific requirements, and such an amendment must be approved by the relevant Faculty Board or FHDC with delegated authority and noted by the SHDC. A change in project title at any stage does not constitute valid grounds for the extension of registration or residency/formal duration of study.
- 14.3.11 Scholarship development at doctoral level consists of at least the following formative and integrated assessment opportunities, as determined by the Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations:

- 14.3.11(a) Regular discourse engagement with the supervisor(s), as contained in the faculty-specific guidelines for doctoral programmes.
- 14.3.11(b) Two doctoral seminars during the course of the programme: one to present and defend the research proposal and one to present the results of the research project and simultaneously to justify the originality of the thesis.
- 14.3.12 The renewal of students' registration for a doctoral programme is subject to their satisfactory progress in accordance with the Higher Degrees Policy, Higher Degrees Administration, faculty-specific requirements and, where applicable, professional regulatory requirements.
- 14.3.13 In the event of students' progress being unsatisfactory, the relevant Faculty Board recommends to the SHDC that their registration for the doctoral programme be terminated. The decision of the SHDC is final.
- 14.3.14 Interruption (a study break that does not count against a student when calculating the period within which the study must be completed) may be granted in exceptional circumstances, for a maximum of twelve months, and only once during the period of study. This matter would be at the discretion of the FHDC.

14.4 **Ethical considerations**

- 14.4.1 Research in doctoral programmes is conducted in accordance with ethical requirements as contained in the University's Code of Academic and Research Ethics and faculty-specific procedures as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, with due regard to statutory and professional regulatory requirements (including any permitting requirements) and general best-practice principles to protect human and animal dignity and welfare in research.

14.5 **Health and safety**

- 14.5.1 The supervisors of a research project are responsible for assessing whether or not a research project has health and safety implications in accordance with the University's Health and Safety Policy.
- 14.5.2 A student must comply with all health and safety procedures and requirements, and put into place and take any and all necessary steps to ensure the health and safety of themselves, as well as all other persons that may be involved in or affected by the student's research.

14.6 **Assessment**

- 14.6.1 The core output of a doctoral programme is a thesis in the form of a written document in an appropriate format. The thesis may consist of a collection of articles and essays as governed by the UJ Guidelines on Theses or Dissertations in Article or Essay Format.

- 14.6.2 A compulsory oral defence forms part of the academic requirements for a doctoral qualification (by thesis/collection of essays or articles). The implementation of the oral defence would apply to doctoral candidates/students who graduate from 2024 (according to HEMIS submissions). This requirement for an oral defence will not apply to the professional doctoral degree.
- 14.6.3 The submission of two pieces of work suitable for publication in a peer-reviewed publication, based on the thesis, is a prerequisite for the conferment of the doctoral degree. Faculties may have more stringent requirements relating to the acceptance of publications, as decided by the FHDC and Faculty Board, and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations as approved by Senate.
- 14.6.4 A professional doctorate is assessed on the outcome of the research component as well as the required coursework in accordance with the Faculty Regulations as approved by Senate.
- 14.6.5 Doctoral degree students are responsible for the technical and linguistic editing (as per faculty procedures) of the thesis with the assistance of the supervisor, prior to submission for final summative assessment.
- 14.6.6 Submission of the final thesis for assessment purposes, with reference to the presentation format, content and layout, is in accordance with the faculty-specific regulations as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, SHDC, approved by Senate and contained in the Higher Degrees Administration and the Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 14.6.7 The final submission of the thesis takes place in accordance with the final submission dates per semester (which is the last working day in May for the first semester, and the last working day in October for the second semester) to ensure timely completion of the assessment process.
- 14.6.8 Late submission by the doctoral student may require the student to renew their registration with the University in order to proceed with and complete the process of submission. The University may charge fees for the extended registration.
- 14.6.9 A thesis is submitted for final summative assessment, subject to the written permission of the supervisor(s) and a completed UJ declaration form for doctoral studies. The permission of the supervisor(s) or the Executive Dean to submit a thesis for final summative assessment does not guarantee a successful outcome of the assessment procedure.
- 14.6.10 Where a dispute arises between the supervisor(s) and student about the submission of the thesis for assessment, the student has the right to approach the HOD and Vice-Dean responsible for postgraduate studies with a written submission motivating why the thesis is considered ready to be assessed. The Executive Dean will make a decision in consultation with the HOD and FHDC. The decision of the Executive Dean is reported to the SHDC.

- 14.6.11 The assessment of the thesis is in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy, Higher Degrees Administration and the faculty-specific criteria as determined by the Faculty Board and approved by Senate.
- 14.6.12 There are four possible responses from an assessor of a thesis, namely:
- 14.6.12. (a) Approval of the thesis and that the doctoral degree be conferred, with or without minor editorial corrections.
- 14.6.12. (b) Provisional approval of the thesis, subject to the candidate effecting non-substantive corrections and improvements as identified in the assessor's report, to the satisfaction of the supervisor.
- 14.6.12. (c) Non-approval by the assessor due to substantial deficiencies in the thesis as identified in the assessor's report. Thereafter -
- 14.6.12. (c)(i) A recommendation that the substantial amendments to the thesis are to be effected to the satisfaction of the SHDC (the FHDC process may involve the advice from an internal/external independent expert); or
- 14.6.12. (c)(ii) The thesis is to be resubmitted to the assessor for reassessment.
- 14.6.12. (d) Reject the thesis, in which case no reassessment is recommended or considered.
- 14.6.13 The University is not bound by the recommendation of individual assessors as the final assessment result lies solely within the power of the University, which exercises an academic judgement when determining final results.
- 14.6.14 The FHDC may (but is not obliged to) invoke one or more of the following procedures to resolve an impasse in the results of a doctoral study (in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and Higher Degrees Administration):
- 14.6.14 (a) Request additional information from the assessors and/or supervisor(s);
- 14.6.14 (b) Appoint an additional assessor to assess the thesis in the hope that the resulting report will resolve the impasse;
- 14.6.14 (c) Invite an external expert to advise the FHDC;
- 14.6.14 (d) Identify an independent arbitrator to consider all the documentation pertaining to the assessment process, including the individual assessors' reports and present a decision to the FHDC;
- 14.6.14 (e) Initiate a facilitation process to reach a unified recommendation between assessors in accordance with the Higher Degrees Administration;
- 14.6.14 (f) Any other procedure it deems appropriate.

14.6.15 Students are not deemed to have completed the requirements for conferment of the degree if two pieces of work in a format suitable for peer-reviewed publication (faculties may have more stringent requirements relating to publications; see AR 14.6.3) are not submitted prior to the closure of the graduation list for the forthcoming graduation ceremony.

14.6.16 Students are not deemed to have completed the requirements for conferment of the degree if an electronic copy has not been submitted to the relevant faculty administration officer prior to the graduation ceremony.

14.7 **Certification of compliance with the requirements of the qualification**

14.7.1 Certification of compliance with the requirements of the qualification is in accordance with the Certification Policy of the University, with due regard to the responsibility of the students, supervisors, relevant faculty administration officer, the Executive Dean of the Faculty and the Registrar.

14.8 **Dissemination and publication of the thesis**

14.8.1 An electronic copy must be submitted, in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and Higher Degrees Administration, to the relevant Faculty administration officer.

14.8.2 Students are encouraged to publish articles concerning their doctoral research before the thesis has formally been accepted, but must first obtain written permission from their supervisor(s) if the supervisors are not co-authors of the publications.

14.8.3 All intellectual property rights (including all copyright) created in or derived from a thesis, as well as ownership of any and all intellectual property rights arising from the research, vests in, and is the sole and exclusive property of, the University regardless of whether or not the thesis is accepted, or the research is completed. Students give their irrevocable consent when signing the Student Agreement to the formal assignment of any and all applicable intellectual property rights subsisting in any such work or research undertaken by them to the University.

14.8.4 The assignment and transfer of intellectual property rights of a thesis is dealt with in terms of, amongst other things, the Student Agreement, read with the Policy on Intellectual Property.

14.8.5 In addition to the final submission of the thesis, and except where faculty regulations exempt them or set a higher number, doctoral students are required to submit to their supervisors at least two pieces of work in a format suitable for a peer-reviewed publication. Faculty regulations may stipulate additional evidence (e.g. proof of acceptance of the manuscript for publication). The requirement of such additional evidence is approved by the relevant Faculty Board and Senate.

- 14.8.6 Doctoral students must comply with all University policies and guidelines on the drafting and submission of peer-reviewed publications. Students shall have a duty to appraise themselves of any and all applicable policies, procedures, laws and other requirements that may be applicable to them, including but not limited to the University's Policy on Authorship, its various policies on academic conduct and integrity, as well as the Research Output Policy as published by the DHET.
- 14.8.7 Co-authorship between students and supervisors of an article based on a doctoral research publication is in accordance with the Authorship Policy.
- 14.8.8 Students will not be deemed to have completed the requirements for graduation until such time as the aforementioned manuscript of the research article has been submitted to the supervisors, unless the student has been exempted from this requirement by the Faculty Rules and Regulations.
- 14.8.9 The preparation of the manuscript of the research article is undertaken by students and the supervisors and students in close collaboration with one another, and supervisors are responsible for assisting students.
- 14.8.10 If a thesis or an adaptation of it or any resulting research publication is published, it must be stated that it is based on research done at UJ for a particular study.
- 14.8.11 If students do not publish their work, supervisors may take the initiative to publish it in accordance with the University's Authorship Policy.
- 14.8.12 The SHDC, on the recommendation of the Executive Director: Research Development and Support, may grant a confidentiality classification of a maximum of two years to the completed thesis, as stipulated in the University's Policy on Intellectual Property, meaning a delay in the public display of the thesis. A student may similarly be required to keep confidential the existence and content of a thesis they have authored/co-authored, where directed to do so by the SHDC or Executive Dean of the applicable Faculty.
- 14.8.13 Any research and development done by students as part of their studies will be subject to the IPR Act (Refer to AR 2.2.21).

14.9 **Dispute resolution**

- 14.9.1 If an unresolved dispute should arise between the supervisors or between a supervisor and the student in respect of any form of academic research, work or studies that falls within the student's curriculum or programme, whether complete or incomplete, the HOD, in the first instance, takes steps to resolve the matter.
- 14.9.2 If the above dispute remains unresolved, it must be referred to the relevant Executive Dean (or designated Vice-Dean), who may refer the matter to the SHDC for final consideration and processes to resolve the matter.

14.10 Appeals procedure

14.10.1 Where assessors' reports vary considerably about the merit of a particular thesis, thereby giving rise to an impasse in finalising the assessment result, a faculty may (but is not obliged to) invoke one or more of the following procedures to resolve the impasse (in accordance with the University's Higher Degrees Policy and the Higher Degrees Administration):

- 14.10.1 (a) Request additional information from the assessors and/or supervisors;
- 14.10.1 (b) Invite an external expert to advise the FHDC;
- 14.10.1 (c) Appoint an additional assessor to assess the thesis in the hope that the resulting report will resolve the impasse;
- 14.10.1 (d) Identify an independent arbiter to consider the individual assessors' reports and present a decision to the faculty-specific assessment committee;
- 14.10.1 (e) Any other procedure that the faculty deems appropriate.

14.11 Finalisation of results

14.11.1 The SHDC finalises the assessment results of doctoral studies.

14.12 Intellectual property

14.12.1 The supervisors are responsible for monitoring all doctoral projects for potential inventions or other commercially valuable intellectual property implications and disclosing such inventions or implications in a timely manner to the Executive Director: Research Development and Support.

14.12.2 Students who develop inventions or other forms of commercially valuable intellectual property must disclose such inventions to the supervisors in a timely manner in accordance with the University's Policy on Intellectual Property.

14.12.3 Where disclosures have been made about intellectual property emerging from a research project, the Executive Director: Research Development and Support, or an applicant duly mandated in this regard, must certify that any intellectual property matters pertaining to the project have been dealt with in terms of relevant University policy as a condition for graduation.

14.12.4 The assignment and transfer of intellectual property rights of a doctoral student is dealt with in terms of, amongst other things, the Student Agreement, read with the Policy on Intellectual Property.

15 SPECIFIC ACADEMIC REGULATIONS APPLICABLE TO NON-SUBSIDISED WHOLE PROGRAMMES AND SHORT LEARNING PROGRAMMES

15.1 Application and approval

15.1.1 There are specific provisions relating to the offering of non-subsidised whole programmes and short learning programmes. Non-subsidised whole programmes and short learning programmes are institutionally approved by either Senex or Senate, subject to the relevant CHE Communiqué. For non-subsidised whole programmes, CHE accreditation and SAQA registration are a regulatory requirement.

15.1.2 The University may only offer non-subsidised whole programmes and short learning programmes on NQF Level 5 and higher. Exceptions to this rule will apply only under exceptional circumstances on NQF Level 4 (in discussion with the Registrar and Executive Dean) and must be approved by Senate or a relevant sub-committee.

15.1.3 All non-subsidised programmes are offered subject to adequate:

15.1.3 (a) academic capacity within the academic department and financial viability;

15.1.3 (b) academic quality control by the respective academic department and Faculty Board;

15.1.3 (c) lecturing venue capacity, for contact mode, on the campus where the proposed academic programme is offered; and

15.1.3 (d) approval by the Faculty Board on recommendation by the Programme Working Group, via Senex for Senate approval.

15.1.4 The process of an application for, and the offering of, a non-subsidised programme is in accordance with:

15.1.4 (a) the procedure (completion of the approved prescribed form(s)) that has been approved by Senex and Senate; and

15.1.4 (b) the Policy on the Regulation of Secondary Income-Generating Activities that Supplement an Employee's Income and the Academic Programme Policy.

15.1.5 A non-subsidised whole programme may only be offered in exceptional cases as approved by Senate, subject to CHE accreditation and SAQA registration.

15.2 Accountability

15.2.1 The HFA is accountable for the academic administration of all non-subsidised programmes offered by a faculty.

15.2.2 The designated Vice-Dean is accountable for the quality of the academic offering and academic administration of all non-subsidised programmes.

15.3 **Admission**

15.3.1 For admission to non-subsidised whole programmes, applicants must have successfully applied to the relevant faculty according to the Senate-approved admission requirements unique to each approved programme.

15.3.2 Students who successfully complete programmes are not entitled to automatic access to any other programme offered by the University. Admission decisions for students are dealt with in accordance with programme requirements and selection criteria as determined by the relevant Faculty Board, approved by Senate and contained in the Faculty Rules and Regulations.

15.4 **Registration**

15.4.1 Students register for a non-subsidised programme in accordance with faculty-specific procedures.

15.4.2 The information is captured on the University's student data system.

15.5 **Assessment**

15.5.1 All credit-bearing programmes are assessed in accordance with the University's Assessment Policy and Procedures. Assessment results must be captured on the University's student data system.

15.6 **Graduation and certification**

15.6.1 Certification of compliance with the requirements of the non-subsidised programme is in accordance with the University's Academic Certification Policy.

15.6.2 Only students who have fully met the requirements of the non-subsidised programme may be issued a certificate.

15.6.3 Non-subsidised whole programmes with a credit value of 240 NQF credits or more are conferred at the University's graduation ceremonies in accordance with UJ Graduation Policies and Procedures.

15.6.4 Students who complete non-subsidised whole programmes generating fewer than 240 NQF credits may be invited to a faculty certificate ceremony at the discretion of the faculty concerned.

16 COPYRIGHT

- 16.1 Generally, all intellectual property is dealt with in terms of the Student Agreement and the Policy on Intellectual Property. This includes, but is not limited to, any and all copyright created, generated or otherwise produced by a student, or where a student assisted in the creation of any copyright whilst a student at the University.
- 16.2 Copyright of all programmes vests and is the sole and exclusive property of the University. This includes, but is not limited to, the programme design, curriculum, study material and the assessment material of each programme.

17 WITHDRAWAL AND REVOCATION OF ADMISSION AND REGISTRATION, FOR DEGREE, DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE OR OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- 17.1 The University has the right to revoke or amend the admission status of an applicant and cancel or refuse the registration of an applicant or student who provided incorrect, false, misleading or fraudulent information and documentation, which information and/or documentation is material to the student's application for admission or re-admission, or who omitted to provide information or documentation material to an application for admission or re-admission.
- 17.2 The University has the right to revoke or amend the admission status of an applicant and cancel or refuse the registration of an applicant or student who failed to declare, or who omitted to declare previous studies at an institution of higher learning, whether in the same field as applied for at the University of Johannesburg or in a different field.
- 17.3 The University of Johannesburg reserves the right to review the admission or registration where the University establishes that there is an administrative oversight. In such an instance, the University will rectify the error and communicate the change.
- 17.4 No acceptance of, representation of other form of communication to the student (whether oral or express) shall in any way prevent the University from undertaking any of its rights or remedies under these Academic Regulations (including but not limited to reviewing the student's admission or registration status), and the student shall not be permitted (and thereby waives its right to) rely on estoppel as a defence in any such circumstances.

18 WITHDRAWAL AND REVOCATION OF DEGREE, DIPLOMA, CERTIFICATE OR OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

- 18.1 Subject to the provisions of AR 18.3 to 18.5, the Senate of the University may withdraw and revoke any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification that was awarded:
- 18.1.1 as a result of a fraudulent or dishonest act in connection with the obtaining of such degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification;
 - 18.1.2 generally, on the basis that a justifiable, reasonable and lawful reason to do so exists.
- 18.2 In consideration of whether a degree, diploma, certification or other qualification should be withdrawn, the University shall consult these Academic Regulations, the Policy on Academic Misconduct, and the Student Agreement, but shall be entitled to consult any and all other University Policies and documents, external documents, or any other such evidence or supporting documents as may be required by the University in performing its investigation, constructing and consolidating its reasons, and making its determinations.
- 18.3 The withdrawal and revocation of a qualification on the grounds listed in AR 18.1 is initiated by an ad hoc subcommittee of the Senate Teaching and Learning Committee (STLC) in the case of undergraduate qualifications and of the Senate Higher Degrees Committee (SHDC) in the case of postgraduate qualifications.
- 18.4 Prior to the ad hoc subcommittee formulating a recommendation to Senate regarding the withdrawal and revocation of the qualification concerned, the Registrar or an official delegated by the Registrar to do so, must on behalf of Senate:
- 18.4.1 Notify the recipient of the qualification concerned that a revocation // withdrawal is being considered;
 - 18.4.2 Provide the recipient with relevant information justifying the intended action; and
 - 18.4.3 Provide the recipient with an opportunity to obtain legal or other assistance and to present his or her case in writing to the ad hoc subcommittee.
 - 18.4.4 The ad hoc subcommittee must inform the recipient of their right to review and appeal the decision, as well as the right to request reasons.
- 18.5 The ad hoc subcommittee, in formulating its recommendations to Senate, must record in sufficient detail the submissions and representations of the recipient. Senate must consider the submissions and representations of the recipient. Senate, in deciding on whether or not to withdraw and revoke the conferment of the qualification, must consider the submissions and representations of the recipient.

- 18.6 In the event that the withdrawal and the revocation relate to circumstances contemplated in AR 18.1.2, the University must report the matter for criminal investigation.
- 18.7 In the event that any degree, diploma, certificate or other qualification that was awarded, is withdrawn or revoked, the relevant Quality Council responsible for the qualification or part-qualification and SAQA must be informed by the University to amend the National Learner Record Database, if necessary. The certificate must also be returned to the University for cancellation.

19 STATEMENT OF CONDUCT

- 19.1 Each academic record of a student will reflect a statement of conduct according to one of the following statement categories:
- 19.1.1 It is hereby confirmed that the student exhibited good conduct for the duration of their studies.
- 19.1.2 The student is currently subject to disciplinary proceedings. In the absence of an outcome to the disciplinary proceedings, the University is unable to confirm that the student exhibited good conduct for the duration of their studies.
- 19.1.3 The student was subject to disciplinary proceedings during their studies. The outcome of the disciplinary proceedings is such that the University cannot confirm that the student exhibited good conduct for the duration of their studies.
- 19.1.4 The student was subject to disciplinary proceedings. The outcome of the disciplinary proceedings, the nature of their transgression and the student's subsequent good conduct are such that the University confirms that the student exhibited satisfactory conduct for the duration of their studies.
- 19.2 The University of Johannesburg does not have an expungement policy. Conduct statements recorded on official academic records form part of the permanent student record and are not subject to alteration or removal. This provision upholds the integrity, accuracy, and accountability of the University's official records management processes.
- 19.3 Under exceptional circumstances, the Registrar may consider requests for amendments to conduct statements recorded on official academic records. Such requests will only be considered in rare and compelling cases. Any such consideration will be guided by principles of fairness, integrity, and the preservation of the accuracy of the University's records, and is subject to the Registrar's discretion.

20 LIST OF RELEVANT ACTS/POLICIES/DOCUMENTS

The following list of regulations and procedures is not exhaustive of all policies and procedures that may be applicable to students or other applicable persons. Every person must regularly familiarise themselves with any amendments, additions to or repeals of any UJ policies, which are applicable and enforceable against them on the date of publication.

<https://www.uj.ac.za/about/academic-calendar-and-regulations/>

Academic Certification and Related Matters

Academic Misconduct

Academic Programme

Admission and Placement of Students in University Residences

Applications and Selections

Assessment

Assessment Standard Operating Principles for Faculties

Authorship

Bullying, Harassment, Sexual Harassment and Rape

Code for Academic and Research Ethics

Fraud Prevention

General Standard to Serve on UJ Structures or Participate in UJ Activities

Graduation Ceremonies

Guidelines on Theses or Dissertations in article or essay format

Handling of Student Complaints

Higher Degrees Administration

Higher Degrees

Higher Education Act 101 of 1997

Institutional Statute of the University of Johannesburg 2019

Intellectual Property

Issuing Access Credentials for the University and Amendments

Joint and Collaborative Programmes with Partner Higher Education Institutions

Language
Learning Resources
Management of Deceased Students and Employees
Management of Pregnant Students
Online Distance Education
PAIA Manual
Persons with Disabilities
Promotion of Access to Information Act 2 of 2000
Protection of Personal Information Act 4 of 2013
Recognition of Prior Learning
Registration
Regulations for Student Discipline
Research Data Management
Research Strategy
Student Complaint Lodging Flow Chart
Student-Supervisor Relationship
Teaching and Learning
Teaching and Module Evaluation
Tutoring and Tutors
UJ Privacy Notice
Work-Integrated Education