

**DEGREE OF BACHELOR IN SOCIAL STUDIES**  
**PROGRESSION AND AWARD REGULATIONS**  
**ACADEMIC YEAR 2020/21**

As the B.S.S. is a professional degree, students are expected to adhere to normal professional ethics and standards of conduct. Students in each year group are given written notification of expectations in relation to professional ethics and conduct, including regular attendance at required academic modules and practice placements, and are required to observe these regulations throughout the degree course.

**Credit Value of Each Year**

The ECTS value of each year of the course is as follows: Junior Freshman 70 credits; Senior Freshman 80 credits; Junior Sophister 75 credits; Senior Sophister 75 credits.

**Exemptions from College Progression and Awards Regulations**

As the B.S.S degree is a professional degree accredited by the Health and Social Care Professionals Council (CORU) the School has received exemption from specific regulations on the new progression and awards regulations by the University Council. The exemptions are as follows:

University Progression Regulation	Exemption for B.S.S students
<p>Minimum credits to pass a year and progression thresholds.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Students should have a balanced credit load across the two Semesters, i.e 30 credits in semester 1 and 30 credits in semester 2.</li> <li>ii. The number of credits to pass a year should be 60.</li> <li>iii. Compensation: All modules and components within modules are "compensatable".</li> </ul>	<p>ii. For the purposes of continuing accreditation, the ECTS credit value of each year of the course will be: JF = 70 ECTS, SF = 80 ECTS, JS = 75 ECTS and SS = 75 ECTS. Total = 300 ECTS.</p> <p>iii Compensation            Accreditation mandates that the following modules are non-compensatable:            SSU11042 Junior Fresh Placement            SSU22112 Senior Fresh Placement            SSU33090 Social Work Practice            SSU33101 Junior Sophister Placement            SSU44111 Senior Sophister Placement            SSU44100 Social Work Practice</p>

## Marking Scale

The following institutional marking scale has been adopted by College for undergraduate degree courses including the B.S.S programme:

I	70 – 100 per cent
II.1	60 – 69 per cent
II.2	50 – 59 per cent
III	40 – 49 per cent
F1	30 – 39 per cent
F2	0 – 29 per cent

## Academic progress: B.S.S programme

In order to rise with their class, students must obtain credit for the academic year by satisfactory attendance at lectures and tutorials and by carrying out, submitting and sitting the required assessment components. In addition, students must pass the year by achieving, at a minimum, an overall credit-weighted average pass mark for the year (40 per cent) and either:

(a) accumulate 70 credits (Junior Fresh), 80 credits (Senior Fresh), 75 credits (Junior Sophister), 75 credits (Senior Sophister) by achieving at least the pass mark in all modules

or

(b) pass by compensation. All modules and components within modules are compensatable (except non compensatable modules SSU11042, SSU22112, SSU33090, SSU33101, SSU44100 and SSU44111 where compensation does not apply). A student may only accumulate a maximum of 10 credits at qualified pass where the mark lies between 35-39 per cent.

## Pass by Compensation

To pass a year by compensation, a Junior Fresh student must achieve a 40 percent pass mark in modules carrying a minimum of 60 credits (including non-compensatable module(s) and obtain a module mark of at least 35 per cent in all remaining module(s).

To pass a year by compensation, a Senior Fresh student must achieve a 40 percent pass mark in modules carrying a minimum of 70 credits (including non compensatable module(s) and obtain a module mark of at least 35 per cent in all remaining module(s).

To pass a year by compensation, a Junior Sophister student must achieve a 40 percent pass mark in modules carrying a minimum of 65 credits (including non compensatable module(s) and obtain a module mark of at least 35 per cent in all remaining module(s).

To pass a year by compensation, a Senior Sophister student must achieve a 40 percent pass mark in modules carrying a minimum of 65 credits (including non compensatable module(s) and obtain a module mark of at least 35 per cent in all remaining module(s).

## **Reassessment**

Progression is on an annual basis. Within a year students may carry failed modules from one semester to the next but not from one academic year to another; that is, they will not be able to rise to the next year of their programme until they have successfully completed the preceding year(s). Students who have not passed their year are required to present for reassessment when:

- (a) they fail a non compensatable module (i.e. achieving a mark below 40 per cent)
- (b) they obtain in excess of 10 credits at qualified pass (i.e. marks between 35-39 per cent)
- (c) they fail any module (i.e. achieving marks below 35 per cent)
- (d) they do not obtain an overall pass mark of 40 percent for the year;
- (e) any combination of (a) - (d) occurs.

If a student has achieved both fail and qualified pass grades at the first sitting or has exceeded the 10 credit limit allowed for compensation and is not permitted to rise with their year, they must present for reassessment in all failed components of all modules for which they obtained a fail and/or a qualified pass.

Different modalities of assessment to the first sitting are permitted in the reassessment session as determined by the programme.

The same compensation regulations as outlined above apply at the reassessment session.

Students who fail to satisfy the requirements of their year at the reassessment session are required to repeat the year in full (i.e. all modules and all assessment components).

Students are permitted to repeat any year of an undergraduate programme subject to not repeating the same year more than once and not repeating more than two academic years within a degree course, except by special permission of the University Council.

The maximum number of years to complete an undergraduate degree is six years for a standard four-year programme and seven years for a five-year programme.

## **Professional practice**

Each student must satisfactorily complete a minimum of two hundred and twenty days on supervised placements. Students who fail a placement in any year, and are fit to continue, may be permitted to repeat the placement and the related practice project. Only one attempt at a repeat placement is normally permitted. Repeat placements for Junior Fresh and Senior Fresh students normally take place during a repeat year and must be passed before students rise to the subsequent year. Junior Sophister and Senior Sophister placements may be repeated after semester two examinations. These requirements regarding professional practice form part of the Bachelor in Social Studies with honors. Students who do not reach the required standard in social work practice will not be eligible for the award of the B.S.S. degree with honors.

## **Degree Award Calculation**

### **Students entering before 2019 – 20**

The results of the Senior Sophister year constitutes Moderatorship, and contributes 100 per cent towards a students final award.

Students who are required to repeat one or more years, or go off-books for one or more years, may have their moderatorship results calculated as a weighted average of their overall results achieved in third year (contributing 30 per cent) and fourth year (contributing 70 per cent)

### **Students entering from 2019 – 20 onwards**

#### **Moderatorship Part I**

The results of the Junior Sophister year constitute Moderatorship, part I and contribute 30 per cent toward the final award.

#### **Moderatorship Part II**

The results of the Senior Sophister year constitute Moderatorship, part II and contribute 70 per cent toward the final award.

## **Award**

Degree of the Bachelor in Social Studies (Hons)

## **Publication of Results**

Results are published on the my.tcd.ie portal as soon as practicable following the B.S.S Court of Examiners meetings which are scheduled to be held on dates to be confirmed.

## **Re-Check / Re-Mark Of Examination Scripts And Other Assessed Work**

Once the results are published following the relevant B.S.S Court of Examiners, any student who is unhappy with their mark has the right to discuss their examination /assessment performance with the examiners to understand why a specific mark was awarded. Please note that these consultations are not an opportunity to negotiate a mark increase. Lecturers cannot change any marks once they have been approved by the B.S.S Court of Examiners.

Students are entitled to view your script when discussing your examination or assessment.

Having discussed marks and performance with examiners and B.S.S Course Coordinator, students may ask that their results be reconsidered if they have reason to believe that:

- a. The grade is incorrect because of an error in calculation of results,
- b. The examination paper contained questions on subjects which were not part of the course prescribed for the examination, or
- c. Bias was shown by the examiner in marking the script,

you should contact your College Tutor to discuss the situation. Your College Tutor can request a re-check (a) or a re-mark (b) or (c). Please note that ground b applies to the class as a whole, not to individual students.

***Note: While every attempt has been made to ensure that the information presented in this guide is accurate, the final word on all matters herein is the official College Calendar which takes precedence whenever a contradiction emerges.***

***<https://www.tcd.ie/calendar/undergraduate-studies/>***