



Derogations for the Social Studies Programme 2020-21

1. Progression Regulations	
Progression regulations will be standardised as much as possible across undergraduate programmes. Some variation may be required to accommodate requirements from external professional and accrediting bodies.	No derogation necessary.
2. Annual Progression	
i. Progression should be on an annual basis.	No derogation necessary.
ii. Students should be allowed to carry failed modules from semester to semester, but not from year to year.	No derogation necessary.
iii. Students should receive provisional module results after Semester 1 for all modules completed and assessed during Michaelmas term. Courts of Examiners should convene after Semester 2 assessment and consider and confirm the results from both semesters.	No derogation necessary.
3. Progression Threshold	
i. The mark representing a pass should be standardised as far as possible across all programmes. All programmes should provide clear grade descriptors setting out what constitutes a pass.	No derogation necessary.
ii. The progression threshold in all standard four-year degree programmes will not be higher than the pass mark.	No derogation necessary.
4. Minimum credits to pass a year.	
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.	No derogation necessary.



ii. The number of credits to pass a year should be 60 [this is predicated on all undergraduate programmes comprising 60 ECTS per year].	Derogation granted - Professional accreditation requires students to complete 300 ECTS across the 4 year period. CORU requires that the increased ECTS credits are maintained into the future to retain accreditation and to ensure that the qualification continues to be recognised in Ireland and abroad. JF = 70 ECTS, SF = 80 ECTS, JS = 75 ECTS and SS = 75 ECTS.
iii. Compensation: All modules and components within modules are “compensatable”.	Derogation granted - Accreditation mandates the retention of a number of non-compensatable modules (e.g. professional practice placement modules in each year of the course - UBSW-SOCS-1F Social Studies). (See Appendix 1).
5. Degree Award Calculations	
The calculation of the degree award will be based on the final two years (JS+SS) on a 30/70 basis.	No derogation necessary.
6. Number of years to complete a degree.	
The maximum number of years to complete an undergraduate degree should be: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• 6 years for a standard four-year programme• 7 years for a five-year programme unless otherwise specified by accrediting bodies.	No derogation necessary.
7. Repetition of a year¹	
i. Students should be allowed to repeat all years.	No derogation necessary.
ii. Students should not repeat any academic year more than once within a degree programme and may not repeat more than two academic years within a degree programme [See Recommendation 6].	No derogation necessary.
iii. Repetition of a year is in full, i.e., all modules and all assessment components. There will be an option to repeat a year on an ‘off-books’ basis. ²	No derogation necessary.

¹ A student’s academic record on their transcript will show clearly the time lost through repetition of a year.

² Of the nine recommendations approved by Council, one (recommendation 7) was subsequently revised in May 2018 further to the Board decision of 28 March 2018 (BD/17-18/178), which agreed to return the University’s position in relation to supplemental exam fees and modular billing to the status quo. The implementation of



8. Reassessment³	
i. Supplementals should be available in all years.	No derogation necessary.
ii. The right to supplementals where a student has failed at the annual session should be automatic. ⁴	No derogation necessary.
iii. The same progression regulations, including compensation, should be applied at annual and supplemental sessions.	No derogation necessary.
iv. Re-scheduled exams within the session should be discontinued.	No derogation necessary.
v. Students (in all years) should only be required to re-sit examinations or re-submit coursework for failed modules or components thereof.	No derogation necessary.
vi. Different reassessment modalities should be allowed where appropriate.	No derogation necessary.
vii. Where supplemental assessments are taken, marks are awarded and agreed as usual. Capping will not be applied.	No derogation necessary.
9. Special Examinations	
Special Examinations should be discontinued.	No derogation necessary.

modular billing was deferred for at least one academic year, in order to facilitate a full and detailed analysis of all potential streams of revenue to fund it.

³ Students who are given permission to defer from the annual to the supplemental session (including on medical grounds) are recorded at the annual session as 'Defer'. As with Recommendation 7 (i), the student's academic record on their transcript will show clearly the stages at which the student has supplemented and/or repeated years.

⁴ Students who have passed at the annual session are not permitted to present at the supplemental session in order to improve their performance.



Appendix 1. Compensatable (C)/Non-compensatable Module Details

Module Code	Module Name	ECTS	Compensatable or Non-compensatable
Junior Freshman			
SSU11042	Junior Freshman Placement	10	NC
Senior Freshman			
SSU22112	Senior Freshman Placement	15	NC
Junior Sophister			
SSU33090	Social Work Practice	15	NC
SSU33101	Junior Sophister Placement	15	NC
Senior Sophister			
SSU44111	Senior Sophister Placement	20	NC
SSU44100	Social Work Practice	15	NC