



## Classification of Qualifications Policy

[Version 1.1]

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<b>Policy Author</b>	Anthony Satariano	<b>Designation</b>	Head QA	<b>Dept.</b>	QA Dept
<b>Policy Reviewer</b>	N/A	<b>Designation</b>	N/A	<b>Dept.</b>	N/A
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## 1 Principles

- 1.1 A course participant who has accumulated the required credits for the programmes as stipulated in able 1 below, and meets the regulatory requirements will be conferred the qualification (subject to no outstanding tuition fee debt).
- 1.2 A course participant following a course which does not lead to a qualification (such as a stand-alone module or short course) shall be conferred with an ‘Award’ together with a transcript of the number ECTS credits achieved.
- 1.3 A course participant must meet all requirements (i.e. passed all modules) at least 30 days prior to the award ceremony.

Type of Qualification	MQF Level	No. of ECTS
<b>Undergraduate</b>		
Certificate	5	30 - 59
Diploma	5	60 - 89
Higher Diploma	5	90 - 179
Bachelor Degree	6	180
<b>Postgraduate</b>		
Postgraduate Certificate	7	30 - 59
Postgraduate Diploma	7	60 - 89
Master Degree	7	90

*Table 1: Type of qualification, MQF Level and no. of ECTS required*

## 2 Undergraduate

### 2.1 Undergraduate Certificate

- 2.2.1 The Undergraduate Certificate is awarded on a pass/fail basis. The pass mark is generally 45%.
- 2.2.2 A minimum of 30 ECTS shall be achieved for the Undergraduate Certificate to be conferred.

## 2.2 Undergraduate Diploma

- 2.2.1 A minimum of 60 ECTS at MQF Level 5 must be achieved to confer the Undergraduate Diploma
- 2.2.2 **Distinction** - The Undergraduate Diploma with ‘Distinction’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is 80% or higher.
- 2.2.3 **Merit** - The Undergraduate Diploma with ‘Merit’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 70% and 79%.
- 2.2.4 **Pass** - The Undergraduate Diploma with ‘Pass’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 45% and 69%.
- 2.2.5 **Fail** – If the average mark of the modules achieved is 44% or lower, the Undergraduate Diploma is not awarded.

## 2.3 Higher Diploma

- 2.3.1 The Higher Diploma, shall be conferred once a minimum of 90 ECTS at MQF Level 5 are achieved.
- 2.3.2 **Distinction** - The Higher Diploma with ‘Distinction’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is 80% or higher.
- 2.3.3 **Merit** - The Higher Diploma with ‘Merit’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 70% and 79%.
- 2.3.4 **Pass** - The Higher Diploma with ‘Pass’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 45% and 69%.
- 2.3.5 **Fail** – If the average mark of the modules achieved within the Higher Diploma is 44% or lower, the undergraduate certificate is not conferred.

Classification	Average Mark
Distinction	80% - 100%
Merit	70% - 79%
Pass	45% - 69%
Fail	0 - 44%

**Table 2: Classification Scheme of the Undergraduate Diploma and Higher Diploma**

## 2.4 Bachelor’s Degree

2.4.1 The Bachelor’s Degree, shall be conferred when 180 ECTS at MQF level 6 are achieved.

2.4.2 **First Class Honours** - The average mark of the modules achieved must be 80% or higher.

2.4.3 **Upper Second Class Honours** - The average mark of the modules achieved must be between 70% and 79%.

2.4.4 **Lower Second Class Honours**- The average mark of the modules achieved must be between 55% and 69%.

2.4.5 **Third Class Honours** - The average mark of the modules achieved must be between 45% and 54%.

2.4.6 **Fail** - If the average mark of the modules achieved within the Bachelor’s Degree is 44% or lower, the Bachelor Degree is not conferred.

Classification	Average Mark
First Class	80% - 100%
Upper Second Class	70% - 79%
Lower Second Class	55% - 69%
Third Class	45% - 54%
Fail	0 - 44%

*Table 3: Classification Scheme of the Bachelor’s Degree*

## 3 Postgraduate

### 3.1 Postgraduate Certificate

3.1.1 The Postgraduate Certificate is awarded on a pass/fail basis. The pass mark is generally 45%.

3.1.2 The Postgraduate Certificate, shall be conferred once a minimum of 30 ECTS at MQF Level 7 are achieved.

### 3.2 Postgraduate Diploma

- 3.2.1 The Postgraduate Diploma, shall be conferred once a minimum of 60 ECTS at MQF Level 7 are achieved.
- 3.2.2 **Distinction** - The Postgraduate Diploma with ‘Distinction’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is 80% or higher.
- 3.2.3 **Merit** - The Postgraduate Diploma with ‘Merit’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 70% and 79%.
- 3.2.4 **Pass** - The Postgraduate Diploma with ‘Pass’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 45% and 69%.
- 3.2.5 **Fail** - If the average mark of the modules achieved is 44% or lower, the Postgraduate Diploma is not conferred.

### 3.3 Master’s Degree

- 3.3.1 The Master’s Degree, shall be conferred upon the achievement of 90 ECTS at MQF Level 7.
- 3.3.2 **Distinction** - The Master’s Degree with ‘Distinction’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is 80% or higher.
- 3.3.3 **Merit** - The Master’s Degree with ‘Merit’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 70% and 79%.
- 3.3.4 **Pass** - The Master’s Degree with ‘Pass’, shall be conferred when the average mark of the modules achieved is between 45% and 69%.
- 3.3.5 **Fail** - If the average mark of the modules achieved is 44% or lower, the Master’s Degree is not conferred.

Classification	Average Mark
Distinction	80% - 100%
Merit	70% - 79%
Pass	45% - 69%
Fail	0 - 44%

**Table 4: Classification Scheme of the Postgraduate Diploma and Master’s Degree**

#### 4 Certification

4.1 Upon successful completion of their studies, course participants will be awarded a certification indicating clearly, (amongst other criteria) the title of qualification together with the Europass Diploma Supplement.

#### 5 Version history

Originator	Version	Date	Changes Done
QA Dept.	1.0	16/12/2019	Initial Release
QA Dept.	1.1	25/01/2025	Updated in line with re-branding guidelines