

Appendix 1: Summary of changes for OU validated awards

Glossary:

Definition of award amended to read 'conferred to a student following the successful completion of an approved programme of study';

Definition of Compensation amended to read 'A means of allowing marginal failure in a limited number of modules on the basis of an overall performance which is sufficient to merit the award of the qualification concerned';

Degree apprenticeships section to include information on higher degree apprenticeships, as follows 'Higher and degree apprenticeships are available at levels 4 to 7. They combine work with study and may include a work-based, academic or combined qualification or a professional qualification relevant to the industry.

Higher apprenticeships go from level 4 to 7 and are equivalent to a foundation degree and above e.g. a professional qualification. Degree apprenticeships are available at levels 6 and 7 (full bachelor's and Master's');

Direct entry added and reads 'Exemption to stage of a programme without award of OU credit). Direct entry via stage exemption allows an applicant into Open University validated awards at level 5 or 6 of an undergraduate qualification on the basis of completion of an appropriate certificated qualification from a recognised UK HE programme of study';

The table in section 3 of the validated awards offered by The Open University, Professional Graduate Certificate of Education information amended to read 'A validated PGCE provision may have only 60 credits at FHEQ level 6, with 60 credits at a lower level. This meets the National Qualifications Framework for this type of qualification and validation is therefore permitted by the University for such qualifications';

17.5.1 and 17.5.2 reordered to read 'compensation, resit, and retake' opportunities to reflect the manner in which they may be applied;

17.5.1 references to repeat or repeated amended to retake or retaken;

17.5.3 (a) inserted the word 'credit';

18.1 inserted 'ordinary and';

20.2 inserted 'it is';

Section 22.3 amended to read 'A student may be awarded recognition for prior learning (certified, experiential or uncertified), towards the requirements of a named award up two-thirds* of the total credit requirements for that award';

**two-thirds of RPL is only permitted for full, three-year bachelor's degrees (360 credits) or full Masters degrees (a minimum of 180 credits) and not sub-awards, where the usual maximum is 50%.*

Section 22.4 amended to read 'Recognition for prior learning (certified, experiential or uncertified) is not permitted at level 6 of a Bachelor's Degree or for the thesis/dissertation module, where students are expected to complete 120 credits in order to gain the award';

Section 22.5 amended to read 'Recognition for prior learning (certified, experiential or uncertified) is not permitted for the thesis/dissertation module on a PG programme';

Section 22.6 renumbered.

Inserted section 22.7 - DIRECT ENTRY VIA STAGE EXEMPTION (exemption to stage of a programme without award of OU credit)

22.7.1 The RPL policy allows for candidates to enter stage 2 or stage 3 of an undergraduate qualification on the basis of completion of an appropriate certificated qualification from a recognised UK HE programme of study.

22.7.2 With stage exemption of this kind, it will be recorded on the student's transcript that stage exemption was awarded, but credit for the stage(s) from which the student was exempted would not be transferred to OU validated awards;

Section 24.8 removed;

Section 24.9 renumbered;