

Performance To Date (PTD) informed Procedures and Regulations (Covid-19 enforced)

Context

The University of Lincoln has cancelled some Semester B examinations (and other non-deliverable face-to-face assessment types) for Level 0/1 students on degree and sub-degree programmes in response to the Covid-19 (Coronavirus) pandemic. This decision was taken primarily because Level 0/1 marks are non-contributory. This document details the principles and regulation adjustments that are required to allow Boards of Examiners to make appropriate progression and resit decisions for all students at Level 0/1. All adjustments are in force for Level 0/1 study for the Academic Year 2019/20 only. We have taken this action after extensive discussion across disciplines and after thorough review in light of the current crisis and in the best interest of students.

General Principles of PTD at Module Level

Where the overall assessment strategy of a Level 0/1 module is constituted of a combination (in any number) of assignments (i.e. written essay-type questions or similar) that can be engaged with remotely together with examinations, the examination element will not take place and no replacement assignment will be implemented.

Performance in the module for progression purposes will be deemed to be the weighted mean mark of all completed assignments at the conclusion of the module.

The PTD informed Merit Mark will be used for Level progression calculations only.

Where PTD applies in a module, the student transcript at the module level will show Pass/Fail for that module.

Programmes with specific PSRB requirements that do not allow PTD

Where specific PSRB requirements are in place that do not permit PTD as a mechanism to infer learning outcome competence either of three possible options can be implemented:

1. The examination paper is converted into a Time Constrained Assignment (TCA) whereby the same exam paper is engaged with remotely in 'Open Book' conditions.
2. The examination paper is replaced with a formal assignment written specifically to assess the remaining module outcomes that have not already been assessed by other completed assessment components in the module.
3. In extreme cases where neither 1 or 2 above satisfies the accrediting body requirements the module will be suspended until such time as the examination can be safely conducted.

Progression between levels in cases where option 3 above applies will be entirely dependent upon the pre-requisite requirements of the programme. If pre-requisites permit it students will be progressed to the next level of study in the next academic year and engage in any outstanding examinations at the next available opportunity.

Modules solely assessed by a single terminal examination

There are a very small number of modules in this position, but for completeness the following options can be implemented at School level with appropriate authorisation from relevant College Directors of Quality and Standards:

1. In extreme cases where neither 1 or 2 above provides an acceptable alternate mechanism to test competence in the module learning outcomes the module will be suspended until such time as the examination can be safely conducted.
2. Programme Teams evaluate the overall construction of the programme to establish whether General Credit can be applied to the module, based on student learning and performance in other modules. This cannot be applied where the module in question fulfils pre-requisite knowledge for subsequent modules in the programme.

Progression Calculations

The standard University Progression requirement for Level 0/1 students will still be enforced. All previously returned assessment marks will remain unchanged and the PTD mechanisms for calculating Module Merit Marks will be used for any modules with outstanding examination assessments as detailed above.

Boards of Examiners will therefore be able to make decisions on student progression based upon a combination of Actual Module Marks and PTD Informed Module Merit Marks.

Resit Allowances

The current University regulations on resit allowances for Level 1 students will be waived. Students at Level 0/1 will be permitted to engage in resit work for all modules of study where either:

The module mark (whether actual or PTD Informed) is less than 30

OR

The module mark (whether actual or PTD Informed) is less than 40 and the overall level mean for all modules is less than 40

QLS Implementation

When recording PTD decisions on the University student management system (QLS), the following mechanism will apply for all Level 0/1 modules where the final examination component was not implemented:

The weighted assessment mark will be calculated for all completed assessments in the module.

This weighted assessment mark will be entered as a PTD Informed Mark into the examination component for the module. This ensures that the final module mark as calculated by QLS will (by definition) work out as the weighted assessment mean calculated above.

A flag "Covid-19 PTD Mark" flag will be entered at the assessment component level for the examination component.

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