A1.1 Principles

i. An award is the qualification gained on successful completion of an approved programme of study. The higher education credit framework for England shows the credits associated with qualifications at the different levels of the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.

ii. The University offers the awards listed in section A1.1.2 below. Awards may be added to the University’s portfolio, with the consent of Academic Board, through the process of approval set out in the Programme Approval and Design section of the Quality and Standards Handbook.

iii. The University’s awards must meet sector expectations with respect to standards of achievement, as articulated in the UK Quality Code for Higher Education published by the Quality Assurance Agency. Programmes of study leading to the University’s award must also fulfil the University’s general educational aims, as articulated in its academic strategies.

iv. The University offers awards in partnership with professional bodies. A list of professional bodies associated with specific programmes and awards can be found in the University’s Quality and Standards Handbook.

v. The University has the legal capacity to offer dual and joint awards in partnership with other awarding bodies, under specific validation arrangements.

vi. The University is responsible for the academic standard of all awards made in its name, wherever they are delivered.

A1.1.2 Academic Awards

i. Set out below is a full and definitive list of awards offered by the University, with their accepted abbreviations (see also A1.1.8 for a list of honorary awards):

**Higher doctorates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Letters</td>
<td>DLitt</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Science</td>
<td>DSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Technology</td>
<td>DTech</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Postgraduate research degrees**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Philosophy</td>
<td>PhD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Philosophy</td>
<td>MPhil</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts by Research</td>
<td>MA by Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science by Research</td>
<td>MSc by Research</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Law by Research</td>
<td>LLM by Research</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Professional doctorates**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree</th>
<th>Abbreviation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Education</td>
<td>EdD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctor of Coaching and Mentoring</td>
<td>DCM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
### Postgraduate and post experience taught awards

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Award Name</th>
<th>Code</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master of Architecture</td>
<td>MArch</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Architectural Design</td>
<td>MArchD</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Arts</td>
<td>MA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Business Administration</td>
<td>MBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Law</td>
<td>LLM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Planning</td>
<td>MPlan</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Research</td>
<td>MRes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Science</td>
<td>MSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Teaching and Learning</td>
<td>MTL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma</td>
<td>PGDip</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Diploma of Research</td>
<td>DipRes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Certificate</td>
<td>PGCert</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Postgraduate Certificate in Education</td>
<td>PGCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professional Graduate Certificate in Education</td>
<td>PGCE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Certificate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduate Diploma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma in Management Studies</td>
<td>DMS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma in Professional Studies</td>
<td>DPS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate in Management Management</td>
<td>CM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>European Master</td>
<td>EM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Undergraduate awards

#### Bachelor's Degree with Honours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of Study</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts</td>
<td>BA (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Business Administration</td>
<td>BBA (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Education</td>
<td>BE (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering</td>
<td>BEng (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Laws</td>
<td>LLB (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Laws (Legal Practice)</td>
<td>LP (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medical Science</td>
<td>BSc (Hons)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Science</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Bachelor's Degree without Honours:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Field of Study</th>
<th>Award</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts</td>
<td>BA BBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Business Administration</td>
<td>BBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Education</td>
<td>BE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Engineering</td>
<td>BEng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Laws</td>
<td>LLB</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Medical Science</td>
<td>BSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Osteopathy</td>
<td>BOst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Osteopathy*</td>
<td>MOst</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Engineering*</td>
<td>MEng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Master of Mathematics*</td>
<td>MMath</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma in Advanced Study</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Degree in Arts</td>
<td>FdA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Degree in Science</td>
<td>FdSc</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Foundation Degree in Engineering</td>
<td>FdEng</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma of Higher Education</td>
<td>DipHE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Certificate of Higher Education</td>
<td>CertHE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advanced Diploma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Certificate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University Diploma</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
* These Integrated Masters awards are level 7 (postgraduate) awards in the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications for England, Wales and Northern Ireland, but are listed here in the category of undergraduate awards to emphasise their link with the relevant Bachelors degrees, e.g. BObst and BEng.

**Student-designed awards**
The Open Award framework is designed to facilitate the recognition of prior learning and enable students to negotiate a programme of study leading to an award at undergraduate or postgraduate level. The Open Award scheme regulations can be found in section B3.

**Further education awards**
Foundation Diploma*
*The Foundation Diploma in Art and Design is awarded under licence with Edexcel.

**Short courses at all levels**
Certificate of Credit*
*A Certificate of Credit will be awarded to students successfully completing a short course, defined as a programme of study consisting of less than 60 credits.

**A1.1.3 Meeting award requirements**

i. A student may only be a candidate for an award if they have followed a programme of study approved to lead to that award, and has satisfied the appropriate Examination Committee that s/he has reached the standards required for the award.

ii. Students receive certification on completion of the full award for which they are registered. Where a student terminates their studies or transfers to a different programme before they have completed, s/he may request certification for the highest exit award for which they have fulfilled the requirements, as identified in the approved Programme Specification. Where a student has not already been made an award on exit, any award must be made within a maximum period of two years from the date on which the student ceased studying with the University.

iii. A candidate who has failed to satisfy the examiners in the first attempt at an assessment for an award but has in the examiners' judgement satisfied the requirements for a lower award as specified in the Programme Specification may, at the examiners' discretion, be offered a choice of either accepting the lower award immediately or resitting for the higher award. If the student resits and fails, s/he may claim the lower award previously offered.

**A1.1.4 Intermediate exit awards and the University transcript**

i. The University will award credit for successfully completed modules, and programmes should therefore allow for intermediate exit awards to be available to students who have fulfilled the requirements for a lower award but who are unable to progress to, or have failed to fulfil the requirements for, the final award for which they are registered. Students who do not meet the credit requirements to qualify for an award will be provided with a University transcript, specifying the modules taken and credits awarded.

ii. Programmes should also, where possible, allow for direct entry with credit to later stages of the programme of study, in order to facilitate the recognition of prior learning at the appropriate level.

**A1.1.5 Accumulation of awards**

i. As noted in A1.1.4 above, the University allows students to claim an intermediate or lower award than that for which they were registered, subject to fulfilling the relevant award requirements. Intermediate exit awards may be claimed in circumstances when progression to the higher award is not possible due to academic failure, or the student formally withdraws from the University for other reasons. It is not permitted, however, to accumulate intermediate awards in circumstances when a student is satisfactorily progressing towards a higher award and intends to claim the higher award upon satisfactory completion.

ii. Notwithstanding the guidance in i. above, any student who obtains an intermediate or lower award and leaves the University who then successfully reapplies for entry to the same or a different programme, gaining entry either at the start of the programme or with advanced standing to a later point, will not be
required to have their initial intermediate or lower award rescinded in order to progress with their new studies at the University.

A1.1.6 Classification of awards
i. Rules for the classification of awards are given in the specific regulations for different categories of awards (refer to the specific award scheme regulations in section B). An Examination Committee may make an award with distinction or commendation or with an Honours classification where course regulations make such provision and where the student has satisfied the requirements of the course regulations for such an award.

ii. The standard classification system for Bachelors degrees with Honours is:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall average mark</th>
<th>Degree classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70% and above</td>
<td>First Class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>Upper Second Class (2:1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50-59%</td>
<td>Lower Second Class (2:2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>40-49%</td>
<td>Third Class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

iii. Other taught awards, at undergraduate or postgraduate levels, may also be classified, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Overall average mark</th>
<th>Award classification</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>70% and above*</td>
<td>Distinction*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>60-69%</td>
<td>Merit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass mark - 59%</td>
<td>Pass</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

* additional requirements for the classification of an award with Merit or Distinction may apply, according to the specific programme or award scheme regulations

iv. Variations from, or additions to, these rules are detailed in the programme regulations, which are stated in Programme Specifications and Programme Handbooks. Variations from the regulations must be approved by the Academic Enhancement & Standards Committee and reported to Academic Board. The procedure for applying for a variation from the regulations is stated in the Quality & Standards Handbook.

v. Where credit entry is permitted to a programme of study, the Programme Specification must give details of how award classifications will be calculated for students who gained admission to a later stage of the programme on the basis of prior learning undertaken outside the University.

A1.1.7 Standards and definitions of the University's awards

i. Admissions standards
Applicants must show that they are able to benefit from a programme of study leading to a University award, by demonstrating that they possess the appropriate knowledge and skills to enter the programme. Entry requirements for different programmes vary, according to the academic and, in many cases, professional demands placed on students, and they are stated in the approved Programme Specification for each programme of study.

Refer also to the regulations on the admission of students (in sections A2 and E1).

ii. Award standards
Descriptions of the academic awards offered by the University are given below. Minimum credit and level requirements for each award can be found in the regulations on the University’s credit framework (A1.2).

University Certificate
The University Certificate is defined as a level 4 qualification, comprising a total of 60 credits. The normal duration of study is one year full-time or two years part-time.
University Diploma
The University Diploma is defined as a level 5 qualification consisting of a total of 60 credits. The normal duration of study is one year full-time or two years part-time.

Advanced Diploma
The Advanced Diploma is a level 6 qualification comprising a total of 60 credits. The normal length of the programme is two years of part-time study.

Certificate of Higher Education
The Certificate of Higher Education is a level 4 qualification, consisting of a total of 120 credits. It is an award in its own right, but is generally available as an exit award from Foundation and Bachelors degree programmes. The normal length of a programme of study leading to the award of a Certificate of Higher Education is one year of full-time study, or equivalent.

Diploma of Higher Education
The Diploma of Higher Education is a level 5 qualification. It is normally designed to progress from level 4 to level 5, accruing 120 credits at each level to an overall minimum total of 240 credits. The Certificate of Higher Education is available as an exit award on achievement of the general credit requirements at level 4; and the Diploma of Higher Education is itself available as an exit award from Foundation and Bachelors degree programmes. The normal length of a programme of study leading to the award of a Diploma of Higher Education is two years of full-time study, or equivalent.

Foundation Degree [FdA, FdSc, FdEng]
The Foundation Degree is a level 5 qualification which conforms to the foundation degree characteristics published by the Quality Assurance Agency for HE. Foundation degree programmes are normally designed to progress from level 4 to level 5, accruing 120 credits at each level to an overall minimum total of 240 credits. The normal duration of study is two years full-time, or three years part-time. Foundation degrees normally include a major element of work-based learning within a specified sector; and they are discrete awards that, on completion, may permit entry into level 6 of a specified Bachelors degree programme.

Foundation degree qualifications may be designated as:

- Foundation Degree in Arts (FdA) - traditionally used in art and design, the arts and humanities, combined studies in the arts and social studies, and in areas of social or business studies where it is appropriate.
- Foundation Degree in Science (FdSc) - traditionally used where studies are substantially based on technology, science or mathematics and their applications.
- Foundation Degree in Engineering (FdEng) - reserved for programmes that provide a technologically broad education with an emphasis on engineering applications, primarily those courses that lead to registration with the relevant professional body.

The Certificate of Higher Education is available as an exit award on achievement of the general credit requirements at level 4.

Diploma in Advanced Study
The Diploma in Advanced Study is a one year programme of study within the Undergraduate Modular Programme, consisting of 120 credits, of which at least 90 credits must be at level 5 or 6. This qualification is usually awarded to overseas students who successfully complete one year’s full-time study at Oxford Brookes through the Study Abroad or Exchange programmes.

Bachelors Degree with Honours
The Bachelors degree with Honours is a level 6 qualification. These programmes are normally designed to progress from level 4 to level 6, accruing 120 credits at each level, to an overall minimum total of 360 credits. Exit awards of Certificate of Higher Education and Diploma of Higher Education are available on achievement of the general credit requirements at levels 4 and 5 respectively. The normal duration of a programme leading to the award of a Bachelors Degree with Honours is three years full-time study, or equivalent.
A mandatory or optional work placement may be included as part of, or in addition to, the three stages of study.

Bachelors degree programmes (with or without Honours) will lead to the award of a BA or BSc, or to a more closely defined award restricted to certain subjects and types of programmes, as follows:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA) is traditionally used in art and design, the arts and humanities, combined studies in the arts and social studies, and in areas of social or business studies where it is appropriate.
- Bachelor of Business Administration (BBA) is reserved for programmes which provide a broad education in business and management, and whose graduates will be living and working in countries where BBA is the usual designation of a business and management award.
- Bachelor of Science (BSc) is traditionally used where studies are substantially based on technology, science or mathematics and their applications.
- Bachelor of Education (BEd) is reserved for programmes leading to Qualified Teacher Status. Programmes will include a substantial element of teaching practice and normally take four years of full-time study, or equivalent, to complete.
- Bachelor of Laws (LLB) is reserved for courses of specialised study in law. Programmes of study in which legal and other studies are combined will lead to the award of BA or, where appropriate, BSc.
- Bachelor of Laws (Legal Practice) (LLB-LP) is reserved for a programme which comprises the Graduate Diploma of Law (GDL) and the Legal Practice Course (LPC). The LLB-LP is defined as an undergraduate level qualification. However, the minimum combined overall credits are 180 level 6 credits in fulfilment of the Graduate Diploma of Law and 180 level 7 credits in fulfilment of the Legal Practice Course. The normal duration of study is 2 years full time or four years part time.
- Bachelor of Engineering (BEng) is reserved for programmes that provide a technologically broad education with an emphasis on engineering applications, primarily those courses that lead to registration with the relevant professional body.
- Bachelor of Osteopathy (BOst) is reserved for programmes of study in Osteopathy which are recognised by the General Osteopathic Council (GOsC) as meeting the requirements of the GoSC Standard of Proficiency (Standard 2000) and Code of Practice (2005), and the Osteopathy subject benchmark statement (QAA, 2007). Successful completion of the award leads to registration with the GOsC.

**Bachelors Degrees**

The Bachelors Degree without Honours is a level 6 qualification. These programmes are normally designed to progress from level 4 to level 6, accruing 120 credits at levels 4 and 5, and 60 credits at level 6, to an overall minimum total of 300 credits. Exit awards of Certificate of Higher Education and Diploma of Higher Education are available on achievement of the general credit requirements at levels 4 and 5 respectively. A mandatory or optional work placement may be included as part of, or in addition to, the three stages of study.

**Integrated Masters Degrees [MEng, MOst, MMath]**

Integrated Masters degree programmes are level 7 qualifications, in which study at Bachelors level is integrated with study at Masters level. They are normally designed to progress from level 4 to level 7, accruing 120 credits at each level, to an overall minimum total of 480 credits. Exit awards of Certificate of Higher Education, Diploma of Higher Education and Bachelors Degree (with or without Honours) are available on achievement of the general credit requirements at levels 4, 5 and 6 respectively. The normal duration of study is four years full-time. Successful completion may lead to recognition by a relevant professional body.

- The award of Master of Engineering (MEng) is reserved for programmes of study in engineering which extend beyond the level and length of programmes leading to the Bachelor of Engineering Degree with Honours.
- The award of Master of Osteopathy (MOst) is reserved for programmes of study in Osteopathy which extend beyond the level and length of the programmes leading to the Bachelor of Osteopathy Degree with Honours.
- The award of Master of Mathematics (MMath) is reserved for programmes of study in Mathematics...
which extend beyond the level and length of the programmes leading to the Bachelor of Science Degree with Honours.

**Graduate Certificate**
The standard of the Graduate Certificate is that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to a first degree who has successfully completed a programme of study at level 6 suitable to the fulfilment of the University's general educational aims. The normal length of the programme will be one year. The minimum overall credits are 40 at level 6 – however, since the standard credit volume of modules at level six is 15 credits, the minimum credit requirement in practice will be 45 credits.

**Graduate Diploma**
The standard of the Graduate Diploma is that expected of a student with prior knowledge and skills equivalent to a first degree who has successfully completed a programme of study at level 6 suitable to the fulfilment of the University's general educational aims. The normal length of the programme will be one year. The minimum overall credits are 80 at level 6 – however, since the standard credit volume of modules at level six is 15 credits, the minimum credit requirement in practice will be 90 credits.

**Postgraduate Certificate**
The Postgraduate Certificate is a level 7 qualification consisting of a total of 60 credits. The Postgraduate Certificate is an award in its own right, and is also available as an exit award from Postgraduate Diploma and Masters programmes on achievement of the credit requirements. The duration and mode of study may vary and will be stated in the Programme Specification.

**PGCE**
The PGCE is a recognised qualification undertaken by graduates in order to prepare them for a career in teaching. It combines professional training, leading to Qualified Teacher Status, with a course of academic study leading to an academic qualification. The normal duration of study is one year, full-time. The PGCE may be awarded at either level 6 or level 7, and the University offers PGCE qualifications at both levels, as follows:

- **Professional Graduate Certificate in Education**
  The Professional Graduate Certificate in Education is defined as a level 6 qualification, consisting of at least 60* credits, of which a minimum of 40 credits must be at level 6.

- **Postgraduate Certificate in Education**
  The Postgraduate Certificate in Education is defined as a level 7 qualification, consisting of at least 60* credits, of which a minimum of 40 credits must be at level 7.

* The minimum credit volumes stated above apply to programmes of study leading to an academic award, where the professional training leading to a recommendation for the award of QTS is delivered separately. PGCE programmes in which the professional training is integrated with the theory across the modules making up the award, and is therefore also assessed for academic credit, will exceed the minimum credit volumes stated.

**Postgraduate Diploma**
The Postgraduate Diploma is defined as a level 7 qualification, consisting of an overall total of 120 credits. Exit awards of the Postgraduate Certificate are available on achievement of the credit requirements; and the Postgraduate Diploma is itself available as an exit award from Masters Degree programmes. The duration and mode of study may vary and will be stated in the Programme Specification.

The award of DipRes is reserved for courses which provide a substantial element of postgraduate training in methods and practice of research and appropriate transferable skills not normally offered within standard taught postgraduate diploma courses.

**Masters Degrees**
Masters degrees are level 7 qualifications, normally consisting of 180 credits and studied over one year full-time, or equivalent. However, credit requirements (see A1.2.3 in Credit Framework section of the Regulations), duration and mode of study may vary, and are stated in the approved Programme Awards of the University
Specifications for individual awards. In addition to the UK Quality Code for HE, the QAA publication ‘Masters degree characteristics’ (March 2010) is a key reference point for the design of Masters degrees.

Masters degree programmes will lead to the award of a MA or MSc, or to a more closely defined award restricted to certain subjects and types of programmes, as follows:

Master of Arts and Master of Science
- The title Master of Arts (MA) is generally used in art and design, the arts and humanities and in other areas of study where a more specialised title is not appropriate.
- The title Master of Science (MSc) is generally used where studies are substantially based on science or mathematics and their applications. Programmes of study leading to the MA or MSc will normally have a title which gives a more specific indication of the subject/s studied.

Master of Business Administration
The title MBA is reserved for programmes of study which focus on the general principles and functions of management and the development of management skills. Students entering MBA programmes must have appropriate practical experience and should normally be at least 23 years old on admission.

Master of Laws
The title LLM is reserved for courses of specialised study in law. Programmes in which legal and other studies are combined will lead to the MA or, where appropriate, MSc.

Master of Research
The title MRes is reserved for courses which provide a substantial element of postgraduate training in methods and practice of research and appropriate transferable skills not normally offered within standard taught Masters courses.

Master of Planning
The title MPlan is reserved for courses of specialised study in planning.

European Master
The EM is a two year (full-time) programme of study. The minimum overall credits required are 240 across level 7, equating to 120 European Credit Transfer System (ECTS) points. Undergraduate level credit may not contribute to the European Master award.

Master of Architecture/Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture
The title MArch is reserved for specialist design-based programmes of study in Architecture, for graduates holding a recognised degree in Architecture who have completed their professional education, or those with a degree in a related discipline who do not wish to seek professional recognition. The normal length of the programme is two years of full-time study or equivalent. The Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture (PGDipArch) is available as an exit award from the MArch. The Postgraduate Diploma in Architecture is awarded on completion of all elements of the MArch except the research methods and dissertation modules.

Master of Architectural Design [introduced in 2011-12]
The Master of Architectural Design (MArchD) provides holders of a RIBA/ARB Part 1 validated Honours degree with a postgraduate study route through which to gain exemption from the RIBA/ARB Part 2 examination. The MArchD is a two year, full-time programme of study consisting of 240 credits at level 7, and the award is reserved for programmes of study focusing on specialist design aspects of the discipline through the inclusion of two substantive projects totalling 160 credits.

Research and Higher awards
Master of Philosophy
The standard of the MPhil is that expected of a graduate with good Honours who has satisfactorily completed a research training and has investigated and evaluated or critically studied an appropriate topic over not less than eighteen months of full-time study and has presented a satisfactory thesis.

Doctor of Philosophy
The standard of the PhD is that expected of a graduate with good Honours who has satisfactorily
completed a research training and has investigated and evaluated or critically studied an appropriate topic over not less than thirty-three months of full-time study resulting in a significant contribution to knowledge, and has presented a satisfactory thesis.

**Professional Doctorates (eg EdD, DCAM)**
The standard of the Professional Doctorate is that expected of a graduate with Honours who has satisfactorily completed an approved programme of study, comprising both taught and research components, the results of which are judged to constitute an original contribution to learning and/or the development of professional practice and to give evidence of systematic study and ability to relate the results of such study to the general body of knowledge in the subject and/or professional practice. The minimum period of study shall normally be three years of full-time study or the equivalent. The title of a Professional Doctorate shall be 'Doctor in [subject area] and shall normally be abbreviated to 'D' followed or preceded by an approved abbreviation of the appropriate subject area.

Professional Doctorates, along with PhDs, are defined as level 8 qualifications, but may contain a significant percentage of credit at level 7. The minimum overall credits are 540 across levels 6,7 and 8 with a minimum of 360 credits at level 8 and a maximum of 30 credits at level 6.

**Higher doctorates (Doctor of Letters, Doctor of Science, Doctor of Technology)**
The standard of the award of DLitt, DSc or DTech is that expected of an applicant who is a holder of at least seven years' standing of a first degree or a holder of at least four years' standing of a higher degree, who is a leading authority in the field of study concerned and has made an original and significant contribution to the advancement or application of knowledge in that field. The University's arrangements for the award of higher doctorates are detailed in section B8 of the Specific Regulations.

### A1.1.8 Honorary Awards

Honorary awards are conferred in recognition of achievement by individuals of significant distinction. These awards are not, and should not be compared to, academic qualifications as listed in the section above. The following honorary awards may be offered by the University:

**i. Honorary Doctorates**
- Doctor of Arts: HonDArt
- Doctor of Business Administration: HonDBA
- Doctor of Design: HonDDes
- Doctor of Education: HonDEd
- Doctor of Engineering: HonDEng
- Doctor of Laws: HonLLD
- Doctor of Letters: HonDLitt
- Doctor of Music: HonDMus
- Doctor of Science: HonDSc
- Doctor of Technology: HonDTech
- Doctor of the University: HonDUniv

**ii. Honorary Masters**
- Master of Arts: HonMA
- Master of Business Administration: HonMBA
- Master of Design: HonMDes
- Master of Education: HonMEd
- Master of Engineering: HonMEng
- Master of Laws: HonLLM
- Master of Letters: HonMLitt
- Master of Music: HonMMus
- Master of Science: HonMSc
- Master of Technology: HonMTech
Master of the University  HonMUniv

iii.  **Honorary Bachelors**

- Bachelor of Arts  HonBA
- Bachelor of Education  HonBEd
- Bachelor of Engineering  HonBEng
- Bachelor of Laws  HonLLB
- Bachelor of Medical Science  HonBMedSci
- Bachelor of Osteopathy  HonBOst
- Bachelor of Science  HonBSc

- Bachelor of the University  HonBUniv

The procedure for the award of honorary degrees is given in *section B9 of the Specific Regulations*.

**A1.1.9 Aegrotat Awards**

i.  An aegrotat award for incomplete study is an unclassified award that may be conferred in exceptional circumstances, such as in cases where a student’s ability to complete an award is permanently compromised by severe illness.

ii.  The aegrotat award is rarely made in contemporary higher education, partly because it has been superseded by the introduction of regulations for the consideration of mitigating circumstances. However, unlike an award made to a student who has been affected by mitigating circumstances, the aegrotat award is unclassified.

iii.  All taught awards are available as aegrotat awards except the Bachelor’s degree with Honours. However, the conferment of an aegrotat award may be prohibited by professional body requirements - the awards that may not be given as aegrotat awards are specified in *section B10 of the Regulations*. Examination Committees may exercise their discretion to recommend conferment of an aegrotat award where the appropriate criteria have been met.

iv.  As an aegrotat award is a final exit award. It must be considered to be the conclusion of a student’s study on a particular course and the implications of this must be agreed with the student prior to consideration of the award by an Examination Committee. Before a recommendation for an aegrotat award is submitted, the student must have indicated that they are willing to accept the award and they understand that this involves waiving the right to be reassessed.

**A1.1.10 Posthumous Awards**

i.  Any award of the University may be conferred posthumously where the death of a student occurs prior to their completion of the requirements for their award. A posthumous award may be accepted on the student’s behalf by a parent, spouse or other appropriate individual. The award conferred in such circumstances will normally be the next exit award for which the student would have been eligible, based on the stage of the programme of study they had commenced. An ordinary Bachelor’s degree is not normally considered an exit award for these purposes and is not normally, therefore, awarded posthumously. All posthumous awards are unclassified.

ii.  If the death of a student occurs after they have completed all the requirements for an award the award will not be considered posthumous and will, therefore, be classified. An award made in such circumstances may still be accepted on the student’s behalf by a parent, spouse, or other appropriate individual.

**A1.1.11 Ratification, Conferment and Presentation of Awards**

i.  University awards and credit are ratified by the Academic Board, through:

- Examination Committees appointed to consider students on specified programmes of study and...
make recommendations for academic awards;

- The Honorary Conferments Sub-committee, which considers recommendations for honorary awards.

ii. The Professorial Promotions Sub-Committee makes recommendations for the award of University titles such as professorships and readerships.

A1.1.12 Graduation Ceremonies

i. All students who are enrolled with the University during their programme of study – including those who have studied off-campus at an approved partner organisation – and have met the requirements of the award for which they have registered are entitled to attend one of the University’s graduation ceremonies.

ii. Graduation ceremonies may be organised off-site for specific groups of students, by arrangement with the partner organisation, and attendance is by invitation only.

iii. Students who are enrolled with a third party that has been approved by the University to deliver a programme of study leading to an Oxford Brookes award will be invited to attend a graduation ceremony by the partner organisation with which they are enrolled.

iv. Further information about the arrangements and requirements for graduation ceremonies can be found on the Graduation Team’s website.

A1.1.13 Regulations for Academic Dress

Academic dress is provided by Ede and Ravenscroft for both graduates and staff members taking part in Oxford Brookes University graduation ceremonies. All graduates of Oxford Brookes University are required to ensure that they wear the correct gown, hat and hood when in full academic dress.

The copyright to Oxford Brookes University academic dress is held by Ede and Ravenscroft. Gowns, hats or hoods may not be replicated without the express authorisation of Ede and Ravenscroft.

Graduates and staff are required to dress in a manner appropriate to a smart occasion in addition to wearing their gown, hood and mortar board. Graduates are encouraged to wear a dark suit, or jacket and trousers/skirt, white shirt/blouse (with button to enable hood to be secured), dark socks/tights and dark footwear. Traditional dress is welcomed.

Jeans, shorts, t-shirts, flip-flops and sports attire (including football and rugby shirts, sweatshirts, hoodies and trainers/plimsolls) are not permitted. Please note that headwear other than academic, cultural or religious is not permitted.

We reserve the right to exclude any graduates from their ceremony who are considered to be dressed inappropriately.

It is not compulsory for graduates attending an Oxford Brookes University graduation ceremony at our main campus to wear academic dress, however those that wish to do so are required to make their own hire/purchase arrangements directly with Ede and Ravenscroft.

Staff members attending an Oxford Brookes University graduation ceremony at our main campus are required to advise their Faculty’s graduation coordinator and complete the relevant attendance and gown hire forms. The Academic Office will process all academic dress hire on behalf of staff members taking part in platform parties. Staff members taking part in platform parties are required to wear full academic dress including gown, hood and hat.

Staff organising off-site graduation ceremonies are required to advise the Academic Office and will be advised to contact Ede and Ravenscroft to make arrangements for academic dress hire/purchase.

Higher Doctors (including Honorary Graduates)

Full Dress Robes
A maroon cloth robe of the London doctors’ shape with facings and long hanging sleeves of University blue embossed silk. The facings also have a 1¼” cream ribbon on the outer edge. The cord and button on each sleeve is cream.

**Hood**
As for the PhD hood but bound with 1½” cream ribbon.

**Hat**
A black velvet bonnet with a maroon cord and tassels.

**Doctors (PhD/Professional Doctorates)**

**Full Dress Robes**
A maroon cloth robe of the Oxford doctors’ shape with facings and sleeves of University blue embossed silk. The facings also have 1” cream ribbon on the outer edge.

**Hood**
A maroon cloth hood of the full shape, fully lined with University blue embossed silk and bound on all edges with 1” of cream silk.

**Hat**
A black velvet bonnet with dark blue cord and tassels.

**Masters of Philosophy**

**Gown**
As for the Masters’ gown, i.e. a black gown in the masters pattern with long hanging gloved sleeves with straight cut ends and facings of dark blue silk.

**Hood**
As for PhD, a maroon cloth hood of the full shape, fully lined with University blue embossed silk and bound on all edges with 1” of cream silk.

**Hat**
A black cloth mortarboard.

**Masters Degrees**

**Gown**
A black gown in the traditional masters pattern with long hanging gloved sleeves with straight cut ends and facings of dark blue silk.

**Hood**
A black silk hood of the full shape fully lined with the University blue silk and bound ¾” in cream ribbon. The neckband is black, lined with blue and bound ¾” top and bottom with cream.

**Hat**
A black cloth mortarboard.

**Postgraduate Diploma/Postgraduate Certificate/PGCE/CIPD**

**Gown**
A black graduate gown of the Oxford BA pattern.

**Hood**
A black silk hood of the full shape, fully lined with cream silk and bound ¾” with blue ribbon. The neckband is bound top and bottom with cream ribbon.

**Hat**
A black cloth mortarboard.

**Bachelors Degrees**

**Gown**
A black graduate gown of the Oxford BA pattern.

*University Regulations/A Core Regulations/A1 Regulations for approved programmes of study/A1.1 Awards of the University*
Hood
A black silk hood of the full shape, partly lined with dark blue and with the cowl bound ½" in cream ribbon. The top of the neckband is also bound in cream.

Hat
A black cloth mortarboard.

Foundation Degrees
Gown
A black graduate gown of the Oxford BA pattern

Hood
A black simple shaped hood partly lined with cream silk tipped with dark blue with the cowl bound ¾" with cream ribbon.

Hat
A black cloth mortarboard.

Certificates/Diplomas
Gown
A black graduate gown of the Oxford BA pattern.

Hood
A black simple shaped hood partly lined with cream silk tipped with dark blue.

Hat
A black cloth mortarboard.

Undergraduates
No academic dress is worn.

Ushers
Gown
Basic Bachelors’ Gown with maroon facings.

Hood
No hood is worn.

Hat
A black cloth mortarboard.

A1.1.14 University Prizes
The current list of prizes is held by the Academic Office.

Approved:
Academic Enhancement & Standards Committee, 27 June 2012
Academic Board, 18 July 2012

Updates:

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<td>A1.1.13 Updates to Meeting award requirements</td>
<td>Academic Enhancement &amp; Standards Committee, 19 September 2012</td>
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<td>A1.1.2 Addition of Bachelor of Business Administration [BBA and BBA (Hons)] to award portfolio</td>
<td>Academic Board, 13 February 2013</td>
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<td>A1.1.7 Updates to minimum credit requirements for Graduate Certificate, Graduate Diploma and PGCE awards</td>
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<td>A1.1.2 Reclassification of the Master of Research (MRes) and Postgraduate Diploma of Research (DipRes) as postgraduate taught awards</td>
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<td>A1.1.10 Revisions to the regulations for the award of posthumous degrees</td>
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<td>A1.1.2 and A1.1.7 Addition of two new awards: Foundation Degree in Engineering (FdEng) and Master of Mathematics (MMath)</td>
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