

## EXIT AWARDS POLICY: POSTGRADUATE

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### Introduction

1. For those postgraduates who do not meet graduation requirements of the US and UK Masters awards (See Credit Requirements Policy: Postgraduate), Boards of Examiners may recommend the award of a single exit award or a permitted combination of US and UK exit awards possible at the postgraduate level.
2. Postgraduate Exit Awards at the University consist of:
  - a. The US Postgraduate Certificate
  - b. The UK Postgraduate Diploma
  - c. The UK Postgraduate Certificate
3. To avoid any confusion regarding nomenclature, the prefix “US” or “UK” must be attached to any postgraduate exit award.

### General Principles

4. Postgraduates qualifying for the US Postgraduate Certificate will also be eligible for the UK Postgraduate Diploma. The UK Postgraduate Certificate (which requires fewer credits than the US Postgraduate Certificate) may be awarded independently to eligible students.
5. If a postgraduate has been awarded an exit award but has not attempted the dissertation, they may apply for readmission to the University under normal readmission policies to complete the Masters degree.
6. Exit awards are conferrable in recognition of successful completion of postgraduate coursework; it is not possible, however, for students to register directly onto these awards.
7. Students in the UK on a student visa, who are granted an exit award, will not be eligible for the Graduate Route Visa post studies.

### US Postgraduate Certificate

8. The US Postgraduate Certificate is an exit award available to students registered on a dual UK/US Masters Degree who have successfully completed the following requirements:
  - a. 24 US / 120 UK Level 7 credits from the required taught components;
  - b. 12 US / 60 UK Level 7 credits of the total number of credits required for the US Postgraduate Certificate must be completed;
  - c. a minimum GPA of 2.0 in the courses being used for the exit award is required;

but who have NOT successfully completed the thesis for any of the following reasons:

- d. they have not submitted the thesis (either by choice, or they have failed to submit it without extenuating circumstances eligible for resubmission); or
  - e. they have received a failing grade on the thesis and have not informed Registry Services that they plan to retake the thesis in the next semester
9. Students eligible under a-e above may choose to transfer onto and be considered for the award of the US Postgraduate Certificate/UK Postgraduate Diploma (see below).

#### **UK Postgraduate Diploma (UK PGDip)**

10. The requirements of the UK Postgraduate Diploma are aligned with those of the US Postgraduate Certificate (as outlined above). Postgraduates who have completed the requirements for the US Postgraduate Certificate will also be awarded the UK Postgraduate Diploma.
11. For students transferring in more than 60 UK credits from another institution on a UK-only degree programme, they are not eligible for an exit award from the University and can only work towards the full UK-only Masters award.

#### **UK Postgraduate Certificate (UK PGCert)**

12. The UK Postgraduate Certificate may be awarded as an exit award for those students registered on a Master's degree who have successfully completed the following minimum requirements:
- a. 12 US / 60 UK Level 7 credits from taught requirements completed at the University and not via transfer credit;
  - b. 6 US/30 UK Level 7 credits of the total number of credits required for the UK PGCert must be completed at the University;
  - c. a minimum GPA of 2.0 in the courses being used for the exit award is required.
13. There is no US equivalent for the UK PGCert.

## VERSION MANAGEMENT

<b>Responsible Department: Registry Services</b>			
<b>Approving body: Academic Board</b>			
Version no.	Key Changes	Date of approval	Date of effect
001		24 July 2018	28 August 2018
002	Change coursework to taught for clarification		26 August 2019
003	Removed references to F grades.	01 September 2022	01 September 2022
004	Updated pass grade as per AB decision	June 2023	Sep 2023
005	Added exit award candidates not eligible for the Graduate Route Visa. Removed reference to thesis resubmissions. Added transfer credit requirements and ineligibility for exit awards.	July 2024	01 Sept 2024
		<b>Restricted access?</b> <i>Tick as appropriate</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	