

CREDIT LEVEL EXCEPTIONS POLICY UG

Introduction

1. A US/UK undergraduate degree consists of a minimum of 120 US / 480 UK credits. The four-year US Bachelor's degree contains one year of UK RQF Level 3 totalling 24 US / 96 UK credits. A minimum of 32 US / 128 UK credits is required at each the FHEQ levels 4-6, although some majors may require slightly more depending on the nature of the degree.

General Principles

2. On a case-by-case basis, the University approves limited amounts of additional credit from Levels 6 and 5 to be counted down to satisfy missing elective credits at lower FHEQ levels.
3. Credit Level count down approval is subject to:
 - a. All mandatory major requirements being fulfilled (including 32 US / 128 UK credits at Level 6);
 - b. All Liberal Arts Core courses being fulfilled.
 - c. All learning outcomes being met.
4. A maximum of 8 US / 32 UK credits may be counted down from Level 6 to either Level 5 or Level 4.
5. The grades of additional Level 6 courses counted down to Level 5 will be used in the Level 5 weighting of the UK GPA for the UK Degree Classification.
6. A maximum of 8 US / 32 UK credits may be counted down from Level 5 to Level 4.
7. Although a total of 16 US / 64 UK additional credits may be used by an individual student to satisfy missing credit at Levels 4 and 5 as outlined above, they must consist of a maximum of 8 US / 32 UK credits at Level 6 and a maximum of 8 US / 32 UK credits at Level 5.
8. More than 8 US / 32 UK additional credits accumulated at Level 5 or Level 6 will be surplus to student requirements in terms of credit level regulations (note that students pursuing a minor/minors, engaging in study abroad, or who have changed majors etc. may find themselves in the position of having additional credit at these levels).
9. There is no maximum on the amount of credits from Levels 6, 5 and 4 which may be counted down to UK RQF Level 3 as electives.

10. Counting down of credit from a higher level to a lower one can be used to substitute for major options only, not required major courses, subject to the normal approval processes by the Head of School or Department.
11. Counting down of credit from a higher level to a lower one can be used to substitute within the Liberal Arts Core, subject to the normal approval processes by the Head of the School of Liberal Arts.
12. No amount of credit at a lower level may be used to satisfy missing credit at a higher level.

VERSION MANAGEMENT

Responsible Department: Registry Services			
Approving body: Academic Board			
Version no.	Key Changes	Date of approval	Date of effect
001		24 July 2018	28 August 2018
002	Removed references to course load. Updated job titles.	August 2022	Sept 2022
003	Updated minimum required credits at each level (24/32/32/32). Updated maximum dip down allowance from 6 to 8 US credits at Level 5 and Level 6.	July 2025	01 Sept 2025
		Restricted access? <i>Tick as appropriate</i> <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	