

No Academic Disadvantage – 2020/21 Academic Year

FAQ for Students

This FAQ is designed to answer questions for students who (i) wish to re-sit a module examination or who (ii) have failed a module and are required to repeat it at a Supplemental Examination

Definitions:

- **What is a Repeat?**

A **Repeat** examination is taken by those students who have **failed a module** during the academic year. As usual, it is taken at the Supplemental Examination (**autumn**) session; students who fail are automatically registered for the Supplemental Examination and do not need to make a specific application. In the 2020/2021 academic year, marks achieved at the Supplemental Examination will not be capped, nor will there be a fee charged.

- **What is a Re-sit? (See further re-sit FAQs below)**

A **Re-sit** examination is taken by those students who have **passed a module** during the academic year and who wish to re-sit in an **attempt to achieve a higher mark**. It is taken at the Supplemental Examination (**autumn**) session and will (i) assess **all of the module Learning Outcomes**, (ii) fulfil **all academic requirements** of the module and (iii) constitute **100% of the module marks**. Marks achieved at a re-sit will not be capped, nor is there a fee. If a student's re-sit mark is lower than the original mark achieved, the **higher mark** from the two attempts will stand. Students wishing to take a re-sit will need to apply to do so at <https://www.ucc.ie/en/exams/mitigation>.

1. **I am worried that I will not be able to complete a piece of continuous assessment work (Essay, Project, In-class Exams etc.) on-time. What should I do?**

In the first instance, you should contact the Module Co-ordinator/relevant Academic Department Administrative Office to seek advice on whether your circumstances are eligible for an appropriate accommodation (such as an extension to your assessment submission deadline).

2. **My personal circumstances have been adversely impacted by the COVID-19 crisis and I won't be able to sit a Semester 1 online assessment/examination. What can I do?**

If your circumstances are detrimentally impacted by COVID 19 and cannot be resolved by the School's/Department's extenuating circumstances procedures, you can apply for a deferral to the Supplemental Examination (autumn) session or the next academic year (2021/2022) at <https://www.ucc.ie/en/exams/mitigation>

The deadline for deferral has been extended to the close of business on **19th January 2021**. Students are also able to apply for a deferral on grounds other than COVID-19.

3. How will a module re-sit be assessed?

This will typically be a comparable assessment(s) designed to assess all of the module Learning Outcomes and meet any additional requirements of the module, including those specified by external bodies such as accrediting or regulatory bodies.

Suitable re-sit assessment(s) will be specified by the relevant Head of Department/School in consultation with the Module Co-ordinator. The re-sit assessment is worth 100% of the available module marks.

4. What happens if I don't improve my module result after a re-sit?

If your module grade does not improve after a re-sit then the module result you achieved in your first attempt will be considered for calculation of your final mark and judgement.

5. Can I pick and choose which of the module assessment elements that I'd like to re-sit?

No. The module assessment re-sit is provided as an opportunity to improve your overall module grade and not individual pieces of assessment. If you choose the 're-sit' option for a module, you will be expected to complete all elements of the re-sit assessment that are designed for this module.

6. When will I be able to apply for a re-sit?

If you are unhappy with the result of a module that you have passed, then you can apply for a re-sit. Applications for module re-sits **must be submitted within 10 days of final results being released.**

Please note that for most programmes, the final approved examination results will be released after the summer examination sessions have concluded.

Result release dates can be found at: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/exams/results/>. Your personal results will be made available through *MyStudentAdmin*.

7. Can I re-sit a module that includes a significant element of placement or field work?

It may not be possible to offer a re-sit option in the current academic year (2020/2021) for modules that have a significant placement or field-work (typically greater than 50% of the module marks).

Students wishing to re-sit a placement or field work module may need to repeat the module in the next academic year, 2021/22, thereby adding an extra year to their studies. For further guidance, please consult with your Module Co-ordinator.

Some disciplines heavily rely on external partners for placement opportunities and owing to the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis, may not be able to offer a re-sit for an improvement of a module mark where a student has already passed the relevant module.

8. If I fail a module, what will happen?

If you fail a module at your first attempt, then you will be required to take the module supplemental assessment/examination as outlined in the 2020-21 Book of Modules (<https://www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/modules/>). You will be automatically registered for the Supplemental Examination and do not need to apply.

For this Academic Year, you can sit the Supplemental Examination/assessment without academic penalty which means your mark will not be capped at the module pass standard, nor will there be a fee.

Details of Supplemental Examination arrangements will be communicated in advance by the Module Co-ordinator.

9. What happens if my module does not have a Supplemental Examination?

The Book of Modules (<https://www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/modules/>) lists the requirements for Supplemental Examination for each module. Not all modules will have a Supplemental Examination. In this year, students wishing to defer their examination in a module where a Supplemental Examination is not available may need to defer to the next academic year (2021/2022) thereby adding an extra year to their studies. For further guidance, please consult with your Module Co-ordinator.

10. My module assessments were already submitted when the No Academic Disadvantage measures were reinstated by the University; can I still avail of these measures?

Yes. As outlined above, if you fail a module then you will be automatically progressed to the Supplemental Examination (autumn) and the mark you achieve will be uncapped. Similarly, if you pass the module but wish to re-sit the module assessment to obtain a better mark you can apply to do so. Details will be available at: <https://www.ucc.ie/en/exams/mitigation/> during the appropriate application periods (i.e. following release of spring and Semester 2 results).

11. Will these measures also be available for modules I take in Semester 2?

Yes. The *No Academic Disadvantage* Measures apply to modules taught across all Semesters in the 2020/21 Academic Year.

12. I am repeating a year. What are the implications for me?

The Marks and Standards for your programme will fully outline the conditions of your repeat year (see: <https://www.ucc.ie/admin/registrar/marksandstandards>). If the Marks and Standards indicate that marks you achieve in your repeat year are capped, they will remain capped for the 2020/21 academic year.

13. I have received a sanction arising from a breach of Examination Regulations (including Plagiarism). What are the implications for me?

If you have received a sanction arising from a breach of Examination Regulations that results in a *Fail* judgement for your module, you will be automatically progressed to the Supplemental Examination (autumn) session. The marks you achieve in the Supplemental Examination **will be capped**.