

REGULATIONS AND OVERALL CREDIT FRAMEWORK FOR THE BACHELOR OF MUSIC (HONOURS) PROGRAMME

(including Diploma of Higher Education and Certificate of Higher Education early exit awards and Graduate Diploma in Vocal Performance)

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1. All students studying on the Bachelor of Music (Honours) and Graduate Diploma in Vocal Performance programmes are subject to these regulations. The Credit Accumulation Framework has been established to facilitate compatibility between the undergraduate work at the Royal College of Music and that in the rest of higher education in the UK. The national Credit Accumulation and Transfer System to which it conforms is widely recognised in Europe and beyond. This system conforms to the European Credit Transfer Scheme (ECTS) and credit values are shown for this throughout the handbook.
2. These regulations should be read in conjunction with the RCM Student Code & Procedures document (see the RCM website), which covers aspects such as student complaints, appeals, and procedures concerning student conduct, cheating, plagiarism and collusion.

3. In these regulations the following expressions shall have the meanings assigned as follows:
4. : A validated pattern of study leading to an award. A single programme may have more than one exiting award according to the pattern and/or volume of modules studied.
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specified. Passing the component(s) of assessment means that the number of credit points associated with the module will be awarded, contributing to the credits required for the final award.

13. **13** : The requirement for a student to be wholly or partly assessed on a further occasion normally without further tuition. This might involve undertaking a new examination, giving a fresh recital performance, and/or submitting new work. The method(s) of reassessment determined by the Board of Examiners should be the same, or equivalent to, the original assessment. The mark achieved in a reassessment is normally capped at the minimum pass mark. The opportunity for reassessment normally incurs a charge payable by the student.
14. **14** : In certain circumstances, the Board of Examiners will determine that a student needs to study a module again before being reassessed. This is described in these regulations as a retake. The mark achieved in a retake is usually capped. A flag will be placed against the mark on the student transcript to indicate that it is a reassessment. The opportunity to retake normally incurs a charge payable by the student.
15. : A Board of Examiners may permit a student's overall performance to compensate for marginal failure in a module or modules. Compensation does not turn a fail into a pass, rather it allows a student to progress, without having to be reassessed in the module(s) failed. A flag will be placed against the mark on the student transcript to indicate that it has been compensated.
16. The following awards, credit ratings and normal durations shall apply to the programme as part of the credit framework:



480 credits including 120 at Level 4 or above, 120 at Level 5 or above plus at least 180 at Level 6	240 ECTS credits	4 years full-time
240 credits including 120 at level 4 or above plus 120 at Level 5 or above	120 ECTS credits	

19. The overall credit framework for undergraduate programmes ascribes credit values to the BMus(Hons) and GradDip programmes and its modules. These are general credit values, reflecting the duration of study, the quantity and the quality of work contained within the awards.
20. Each of the four years of the programme within the framework shall be based on a teaching year which shall comprise three terms.
21. The assignment of levels, minimum number of required credits and normal duration of awards shall be as follows:

120 credits at minimum Level 4	60 ECTS credits	1 year full-time
120 credits at minimum Level 5	120 ECTS credits	2 years full-time
120 credits at Level 5 or 6	180 ECTS credits	3 years full-time
120 credits at Level 5 or 6 and including Principal Study credits at Graduation Level (Level 6)	240 ECTS credits	4 years full-time

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40. At the discretion of the Head of Undergraduate Programmes, a student with a valid reason for wishing to interrupt his or her studies may be permitted to do so. Interruption shall normally be for a period of one, two or three terms. A student wishing to interrupt for a longer period, or to extend an existing period of interruption, must normally obtain fresh permission before the end of their final term of approved interruption.
41. Interruption of studies will not normally be approved where it would extend beyond two authorised periods totalling five terms. A student requiring further time before resuming their studies will normally be required to apply formally for readmission at the point where they are ready to return to the College. A student readmitted in this way may still carry forward any credits earned prior to interruption.
42. Similarly, if the period of interruption required by a student means that they would be unable to complete their overall studies within the maximum period allowed for that programme they will normally be required to reapply formally for readmission at the point where they are ready to return.
43. During the period of interruption, a student shall normally cease to have access to College services and facilities enjoyed by current students.

All marks will be recorded to three decimal places; however, marks displayed on transcripts will be rounded to one decimal place using standard rounding convention. Standard rounding convention will be applied to determine grades (e.g. a mark of 49.5% or higher will be regarded as a Pass grade; 49.499% will be regarded as a Fail).

50. A student is required to achieve an overall passing mark/grade in the assessment specified for each module in their programme of studies in order to fulfil the requirements for the award. Unless the module description states otherwise, a subsidiary element of assessment within a module may be failed, provided that the overall mark/grade for the module is a pass. Any specified uncredited formative assessments must be completed in order to obtain Principal Study credits.
51. For the purposes of determining a BMus(Hons)

67. The Board of Examiners meets to consider all students on the programme and, by the exercise of its academic judgement, determine results consistent with the students' achievement in accordance with the scheme of assessment and these regulations. In particular, the Board will make decisions about the assessment, moderation, reassessment, compensation, progression, and final awards.
68. As indicated in 7.2, marks made available to students in advance of the meeting of the Board of Examiners remain provisional until determined by the Board, and may be subject to moderation.
69. To ensure the consistency, comparability and appropriateness of the marking and assessment procedures within the programme, all marks may be subject to moderation by the Board of Examiners. Where the Board deems that moderation is necessary, it shall normally moderate the marks for all students awarded by a particular examination


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70. Students who fail in their first attempt to satisfy the Board of Examiners in the assessment for a module may normally be reassessed once only, at the discretion of the Board of Examiners. A reassessment opportunity will not normally be withheld. A reassessment fee is charged. Normally, reassessment must be completed successfully prior to progression to any subsequent year of study. Reassessment in practical examinations will normally take place during the next practical examination period unless the Board of Examiners deems it necessary for special arrangements to be made. Students will be advised of the date/time of reassessments in written examinations and due dates for academic written work reassessments in writing by the Board of Examiners.
71. Where failure of a module is the result of failure in more than one element of assessment, the Board of Examiners will consider whether all the failed elements should be re-attempted or whether an alternative reassessment package (usually consisting of part of the total range of failed elements) should be set. Where all failed elements are re-attempted the student shall normally need to achieve sufficiently high marks in order to bring the module to an overall pass mark. Where an alternative reassessment package is set, the student shall normally need to pass each of these elements separately and the package will be allocated the total weighting of all the originally failed elements.
72. Students who fail Principal Study repertoire and/or technical examinations and/or mock auditions and/or Faculty Requirements will normally be expected to achieve a separate pass mark/grade in each element for this module, where required. Reassessment is required in the failed element(s) only.
73. If successful in a reassessment, the student shall be notified of their actual result but shall be awarded a capped pass mark of 40% - the minimum pass mark - for the module. If unsuccessful in a reassessment, the student shall retain the higher grade obtained at either of the two attempts.
74. The Board of Examiners may, at its discretion, require a student to retake a module (i.e. undertake further study) before reassessment takes place. In these circumstances, an additional fee will be charged for the further studies undertaken, including the reassessment taken at the end of them. The mark achieved in a reassessment following retake may be capped. Because a retake is a form of reassessment, there will not normally be an opportunity for a student who is

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circumstances have interfered with a student's studies but there is sufficient evidence that the student has the ability to achieve success in future studies.

76. In order to progress to the next year of the programme, BMus(Hons) students must successfully pass or be compensated with 120 credits in 120 credits. The programme handbook specifies any modules which are prerequisites for others, i.e. must be taken prior to study on other modules.
77. GradDip students may progress to one of the two Masters degrees (Master of Music or Master of Performance) without further audition, provided they successfully pass or be compensated with 120 credits, and achieve a mark of 65% or more in their final Principal study assessment. Students achieving 40-64% will be placed on a reserve list with progression at the discretion of the Head of Vocal & Opera and the RCM Admissions Committee. Students wishing to progress to the MMus will also need to submit a portfolio of work in order to be considered for progression.

92.  only the best 340 credits at Level 5 and above are used.
Most students will have earned 360 credits (more if they fast-tracked by taking L5 or L6 modules in Years 1 or 2).

To obtain a First, half of the credits at each step of the procedure need to be at First standard and the rest no lower than a 2:I.

To obtain a 2:I, half of the credits at each step of the procedure need to be at either a 2:I (or higher) standard and the rest no lower than a 2:II.

To obtain a 2:II, half of the credits at each step of the procedure need to be at either a 2:II (or higher) standard

Borderline students may have up to 20 credits deficit at either step. This deficit may be applied once only.

Where credits in lower classifications achieved in Year 2 only serve to limit the final degree classification, the Board of Examiners will consider the award of a higher classification than the procedure usually allows.



