



Programme Regulations

2023 2024

Human Rights 

Important information regarding the Programme Regulations

About this document

Last revised 18/05/2023

As a student registered with the Univers/2023



1 Structure of the programmes

Qualifications

1.1

The following named qualifications are awarded under the Human Rights programme:

Master of Arts (MA) in Human Rights

Postgraduate Diploma (PGDip) in Human Rights

Postgraduate Certificate (PGCert) in Human Rights

If you registered prior to 1 October 2018, you may choose to be awarded:

MA Understanding and Securing Human Rights

PGDip Understanding and Securing Human Rights

PGCert Understanding and Securing Human Rights

(Contact us using the 'ask a question' tab on the [Student Portal](#) homepage)

Qualification structures

1.2

The MA Human Rights

2.6

If you register for a core, elective or dissertation module, you must study it when you are eligible to take it in the first study session that it runs.

Maximum and minimum number of modules you can study in a study session

2.7

You do not have to register for any new modules in a particular session if you do not want to. However, note that w

3.1

We



You will lose marks if you do not keep to these rules. For example: all assessments are

Mitigating circumstances

For more information about mitigating circumstances, see Section 11 of the [General Regulations](#) and the examinations section of our website.

4.19

You must bring any mitigating circumstances to our attention as soon as you become aware that your performance may be adversely affected by serious circumstances beyond your control. This must not be any longer than three weeks after an examination and not after the deadline date for E-tivities, coursework or the dissertation.

4.20

Under these circumstances if you are unable to meet a deadline you may apply for an extension to the deadline and provide accompanying medical or other independent evidence.

5 Number of attempts permitted at assessments

Number of attempts permitted at an item of assessment

5.1

The maximum number of attempts permitted for an E-tivity, coursework item, written examination or dissertation item is two.

5.2

If you obtain a mark of 50% or more for any item of assessment or E-tivity from any module you may not retake that item.

5.3

If you do not submit an E-tivity, an item of coursework or an item of the dissertation it will count as an attempt, you will be given a mark of zero for the item and it will be classified as a fail.

5.4

If you achieve a mark of less than 50% in E-tivity 1 or 2 and intend to retake it, you may retake it within 14 days of the E-tivity result release date.

5.5

If you pass a module with an overall mark of 50% or above, you will not be permitted to make a second attempt at any element of assessment.

Written examination for UHM010 or UHM030

5.6

When you register for UHM010 or UHM030 you must take the examination element of these core modules either at the end of the study session that you take the module, or at the end of the subsequent session (this will still be considered a first attempt).

5.7

If you do not take the examination in either the first or second permitted examination session, your registration for the module will be cancelled. To restart UHM010 or UHM030, you must pay a new module fee. Any previous marks for E-tivities and the number of permitted deferrals for the module will carry forward. You may only restart these modules on one occasion.

If you fail a module at the first attempt

5.9

If you obtain an overall mark of less than 50% for a core, elective or dissertation module at the first attempt this will be classified as a fail and you will be required to make one further attempt at the item(s) of coursework in which you obtained a mark of less than 50%.

5.22

If you need to make a second attempt at any E-tivity for a core or elective module or the dissertation proposal

you will need to return the qualification if we allow you to progress (subject to meeting the criteria in regulation 7.10). At the end of your registration with us, you will receive only the highest qualification for which you have met the requirements.

Exit qualifications

8.15

The Board of Examiners has discretion to grant a PGCert or PGDip Human Rights as an exit qualification to a student of the MA or PGDip who does not successfully complete the qualification for which they registered but who does meet the criteria for a PGCert or PGDip given in the qualification requirements.

8.16

Exit qualifications will be classified according to the table in regulation 8.11.

If you have accepted an exit qualification

8.17

If you have accepted the award of the PGCert as an exit qualification we will not allow you to transfer your registration to the PGDip Human Rights or the MA Human Rights.

8.18

If you have accepted the award of the PGDip as an exit qualification we will not allow you to transfer your registration to the MA Human Rights.

If you have accepted an award

8.19

If you have been awarded the PGCert Human Rights and wish to progress to the PGDip or MA Human Rights, we will consider your request subject to the following conditions:

You were not awarded the PGCert as an exit qualification following your failure to progress or complete your studies.

No more than three years have passed between the award of the PGCert and your registration for the PGDip or MA.

You will be required to surrender the PGCert prior to the award of the PGDip or MA being made.

8.20

If you have been awarded the PGDip Human Rights and who wish to progress to the MA Human Rights, we will consider your request subject to the following conditions:

You were not awarded the PGDip as an exit qualification following your failure to progress or complete your studies.

No more than three years have passed between the award of the PGDip and your registration for the MA.

You will be required to surrender the PGDip prior to the award of the MA being made.

Individual modules taken on a standalone basis

8.21

All standalone individual module assessments are marked and graded according to the assessment criteria for the MA Human Rights.

Appendix A Structure of the qualifications

Elective modules will not be open to all students and not all elective modules will necessarily be available every year. There are two study sessions each year which run from February to June and from September to January. Core modules run in both sessions and elective modules (where applicable) run in one session or the other. The schedules of the qualifications, the module codes, the module titles and the schedule of session(s) in which modules run are as follows:

MA Human Rights

Assessment: one three-hour written examination (70%) and three E-tivities (30%).

Elective modules

Genocide, Gross Human Rights Violations and Reconciliation UHM110

This module utilises a broad range of approaches from the social sciences and humanities in order to develop a nuanced understanding of genocide and reconciliation processes. It aims to provide an insight into some of

Researching Human Rights: Social Science Research Methods UHM140

This module will introduce students to the theories and methods of qualitative social sciences research and how they can be applied to the study of human rights. It will assist students in developing skills for understanding and evaluating the process and outcomes of applied research. Students will reflect on the theoretical context, key concepts and tools of social sciences research in order to articulate a critical perspective on human rights. Students will learn how to identify a range of ethical issues and how to overcome them, understand how qualitative data is collected, analysed, interpreted, appreciate how quantitative and qualitative methods can be combined in interdisciplinary human rights research and articulate methodological steps for Human Rights Impact Assessments. This module is particularly

Assessment: one item of coursework (70%) and three E-tiv

Appendix C Assessment criteria

Assessment Criteria for coursework, dissertations, E-tivities and examinations

The following criteria will be used in determining marks for coursework, dissertations, E-tivities (excluding the participation-based E-tivity) and examinations. Final marks will be reduced if there are word-count and lateness penalties. All final marks are approved by the Board of Examiners.

Mark	Criteria
80-100 Distinction	<p>Very significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment.</p> <p>Very significant ability to evaluate literature and theory critically and make informed judgements.</p> <p>Very high levels of creativity, originality and independence of thought.</p> <p>Very significant ability to evaluate critically existing methodologies and suggest new approaches to current research or professional practice.</p> <p>Very significant ability to analyse data critically.</p> <p>Outstanding levels of accuracy, technical competence, organisation, expression.</p>
70-79 Distinction	<p>Significant ability to plan, organise and execute independently a research project or coursework assignment.</p> <p>Clear evidence of wide and relevant reading, referencing and an engagement with the conceptual issues.</p> <p>Capacity to develop a sophisticated and intelligent argument.</p> <p>Rigorous use and a sophisticated understanding of relevant source materials, balancing appropriately between factual detail and key theoretical issues. Materials are evaluated directly and their assumptions and arguments challenged and/or appraised.</p>

Mark	Criteria
	No evidence of critical thought or data analysis. Incoherent argument.

Assessment Criteria for the participation-based E-tivity

This E-tivity is worth 6% of each module, excluding the dissertation module. Marks are awarded on a pass or fail basis.

A student will be granted all of the allocated marks for the E-tivity if they actively participate in at least 7 of the 10 discussion forums of each module. If they fail to actively participate in the required number of discussion forums they will receive a grade of 0 (zero). 'Active participation' means:

Posting thoughtful, considered contributions that display engagement with the study materials (instruments, cases and/or commentary) that are relevant to the discussion topic and address the question(s) posed. Such contributions can also include:

Responding to questions that arise during the discussion forum.

Asking relevant questions during the discussion forum.

Providing personal viewpoints concerning issues arising in the discussion forum.

Reflecting on the discussion by providing summaries of the arguments so far.