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**Assessment Equivalence Policy**

# This policy establishes both parity between, and clarity of progression for, different modes of assessment within the University. Where it is deemed necessary to diverge from the parameters set out in this policy, a full written justification must be provided in the appropriate validation document.

**For comparative purposes, all equivalences are given for a 20 credit module.** Normally one or two assessment components will be used in measuring the achievement of Learning Outcomes for a 20 credit module (no more than four assessment components should be used in any individual module of any credit weighting). An individual assessment component, such as a portfolio, might comprise smaller assessment elements; however, in some cases, especially where such elements are distinct and substantially weighted, it might be more appropriate to designate them as individual assessment components so as not to disadvantage students.

Across the UK Higher Education sector it is common for 20 credits at any level to be assessed through a word length of approximately 5000 words or equivalent assessment; however, to allow for progression within a programme the following word lengths are given for guidance:

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mode of assessment** | **Unit of Assessment** | **Weight** | **Level 3/4** | **Level 5/6** | **Level 7** |
| **Standard** | **Max** | **Standard** | **Max** | **Standard** | **Max** |
| Written assessment\* | Word Length | 100% | 3000 | 4000 | 4000 | 5000 | 5000 | 6000 |
| 50% | 1500 | 2000 | 2000 | 2500 | 2500 | 3000 |

\* Written assessment includes the following: Written Assignment/Essay, Research Project/Dissertation, Process Workbooks/Journals, Written Report, Lab Book, Academic Review, Blog/Wiki, Placement Report.

**For guidance only, the following modes of assessment listed are broadly equivalent to the word length volume required for written assessments in a 20 credit module of the weighting given below (NB. this is not intended to be an exhaustive list of modes of assessment).**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mode of assessment** | **Unit of Assessment** | **Weight** | **Level 3/4** | **Level 5/6** | **Level 7** |
|  |  |  | Standard | Max | Standard | Max | Standard | Max |
| Examination (Seen/unseen) | Duration (hours) | 50% | 1 | 2 | 2 | 3 | 2 | 3 |
| Portfolio\* | Elements | 50% | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Blogs | Minimum no. of entries | 50% | 2 | 3 | 3 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Seminar Presentation (individual) | Duration (minutes) | 50% | 10 | 15 | 15 | 20 | 15 | 20 |
| 25% | 5 | 8 | 8 | 10 | 8 | 10 |
| Seminar Presentation(group) | Duration per person (minutes) | 50% | 5 | 10 | 10 | 15 | 10 | 15 |
| 25% | 3 | 5 | 5 | 8 | 5 | 8 |
| Video (Individual) | Duration (minutes) | 50% | 3 | 5 | 5 | 10 | 10 | 15 |
| 25% | 2 | 3 | 3 | 5 | 5 | 8 |
| Video (Group) | Duration per person (minutes) | 50% | 2 | 4 | 4 | 8 | 8 | 10 |
| 25% | 1 | 2 | 2 | 4 | 4 | 5 |
| Practical Performance Project | Duration per person (minutes) | 50% | 3 | 5 | Extended Performance project dependent on context |
| Academic Interview | Duration (minutes) | 50% | 15 | 20 | 20 | 25 | 25 | 30 |

**\***Portfolio**:** elements might refer to various activities, abstracts, poems, literature reviews, sketch book, pieces of art, number of project briefs, stages in the creation of a single artefact or activity.