

Student Guidance – Assessment Load and Resits

November 2022

Contents

Student Guidance – Assessment Load and Resits	1
The importance of planning and balancing your assessment load	3
Resits and the potential implications	3
What is a resit?	3
What is a retake?	3
Implications.....	4
Academic support for resits.....	5
Additional Study Support and Resources	7

The importance of planning and balancing your assessment load

The benefits to submitting your assignment for the first deadline can be significant.

Module assessment deadlines are usually during or just after the run of the module and have been designed to take place at the ideal time for your learning.

You are encouraged to submit to the first deadline as it gives you the opportunity to:

- apply knowledge when it is fresh
- spread your assessment across the year
- receive feedback on drafts and ideas
- act on feedback from staff during the module
- receive module specific support from your module and teaching team while undertaking the assignment
- utilise an uncapped re-sit later in the year if you fail the first try.

There may be times when you are experiencing difficult personal circumstances or have multiple deadlines within a short time. We strongly recommend speaking to a [Student Support Advisor](#) about your options and support available to you.

It might be tempting to rely on uncapped resits to delay some of your assessment, but this comes with risks and potential unintended consequences at a later stage. Speaking to an adviser first will ensure you make sure you make the correct choice to minimise disruption to your studies both in the short and long term.

Find out more about the [risks and consequences of uncapped resits below and online.](#)

Resits and the potential implications

What is a resit?

If you do not pass a module at the first sit, you will normally get an automatic resit. In the resit, you will be assessed in the component(s) you did not pass at the first sit.

What is a retake?

A retake is when you study a whole module for a second time because you have taken it previously but have not passed it yet. As you will be retaking the module in a different academic year, the assessment is likely to be different. You will not be able to retake a module if you've already passed it.

Implications

Resits are primarily opportunities for students who have failed the original assessment or who were unavailable at the first sit, e.g. due to illness.

You should be aware that if you are resitting an assignment, the academic support and access to specialist facilities are likely to be limited during the resit period.

There are several risks involved in not submitting to the initial deadline or having to re-sit later in the year. These risks may increase with the number of resit assignments you may need to undertake, including:

- **Relearning module information** – The module may have run many months before, so you may need to relearn module information without the support of module leader and peers
- **Unplanned resits** – If you fail any other assignments during the year you may end up with multiple re-sit assignments at once
- **Components and Elements** - If you submit some of the elements of assessment within a component, but not all, you might unintentionally pass the component overall and will not be eligible to resit the element you didn't submit.
- **No additional sit if you fail** – You will need to retake* the module if you fail at the re-sit
- **Impact on progression** – If you fail too many modules at the re-sit period you may need to retake the year of study
- **Cost** – If you fail the resit you will need to pay for the cost of retaking the module. See the section on retake cost below for further details.
- **Late graduation** – If you are a final year student you won't be able to graduate until the Award Ceremony which follows the completion of your award. This means that you'll normally graduate later than the rest of your cohort if you are resitting and retaking, depending on the resit schedule for the module
- **Further study** – You may not be able to progress onto further study (at UWE or other institutions) if you are undertaking a summer re-sit and haven't completed your course in time
- **Visa implications** – If you undertake assessments within the resit schedule, you may not receive your results before your CAS expires. If you have any queries or concerns, please get in touch with our Immigration Advice Service at immigrationadvice@uwe.ac.uk.

Academic support for resits

If you do need to utilise the re-sit period, there will be study support available to you. While you will not normally be able to receive support from module leaders, you will be able to access other resources such as Blackboard resources, pre-recorded sessions, study skills workshops and library study support over summer.

There may be some exceptions where limited support and access may be available to you.

1) Modules will normally provide one academic revision session

Modules will normally provide one academic revision session for the main assessment deadline. This session could occur individually or be combined across modules where appropriate. It could involve a timetabled session, a pre-recorded video or the review of draft work. The module leader will determine the type of revision session offered.

Resits - Resitting students will have full access to all the learning materials from the original delivery. There may be an additional revision session but this is at the discretion of the module leader.

2) One refresher session for practical tasks may be offered per module

Where the module has a university-based practice task which requires a level of competence in specific equipment or software, one refresher session may be offered for the main assessment deadline.

This may run alongside or instead of the academic revision session, based on the judgment of the module leader. No new skills will be taught during this session and only established skills taught earlier in the academic year can be used for this period.

Resits - Resitting students will have full access to all the learning materials from the original delivery, but no additional refresher sessions for practical tasks.

3) Resitting student may have limited access to specialist space and equipment

Resitting students should be aware that they *may* be have limited access to specialist space and equipment that form part of the module. Any access restrictions to specialist equipment/facilities during the resit period will be communicated to students via Blackboard and access cannot be guaranteed.

The decision will be determined at programme level in close collaboration with technical teams, and ultimately depend on room and equipment availability. Furthermore, access to specialist facilities may only be available to complete work, rather than starting new work, depending on the nature of the resit. Module leaders will be able to advise.

4) One additional meeting with your project supervisor during the resit period

Students resitting projects/dissertations *may* be able to access to one additional meeting with their project supervisor during the resit period, however this is not guaranteed. The support is designed to support students to act on the feedback from the first attempt. Students will be responsible for contacting their supervisors to arrange this supervisory meeting.

Additional Study Support and Resources

If you need additional support outside of your course, you can find more information here on:

[Study support outside of your course](#)

[Study Skills](#)

[Student Support Advisors](#)

[Support processes and the Late Submission Window](#)

[Library Support](#)

[Dissertation and Projects Guidance](#)

Revised December 2022