**Programme Regulations: 2023/24**

**Programme Title: INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION CERTIFICATE (INTO NEWCASTLE UNIVERSITY)**
**INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION – SCIENCE, COMPUTING, ENGINEERING AND MATHEMATICS**

**Code:** 2963F – September intake
2965F – January intake

*Notes*

(i)   *These programme regulations should be read in conjunction with the University's Taught Programme Regulations.*
(ii)  *All optional modules are offered subject to the constraints of the timetable and to any restrictions on the number of students who may be taught on a particular module. Not all modules may be offered in all years and they are listed subject to availability.*
(iii) *Unless otherwise stated under 'Type', modules are not core.*
(iv)  *A compulsory module is a module which a student is required to study.*
(v)   *A core module is a module which a student must pass, and in which a fail mark may neither be carried nor compensated; such modules are designated by the board of studies as essential for progression to a further stage of the programme or for study in a further module.*
(vi)  *All modules are delivered in Linear mode unless stated otherwise as Block, eLearning or distance learning.*

**1.   Programme Structure**

(a)  The International Foundation Certificate will be offered with a September and January start date each year.  The programme will have identical content and assessment; the only difference will be that the vacation periods will be shorter for the January start date.  The tables below show the module codes for both the September and January start dates.

(b)  Students shall take one of the following compulsory and core modules in English for Academic Purposes, with the route depending on their level of English at entry:

Either for students with English language competence equivalent to an IELTS score of more than 5.5 with a minimum of 5.0 in writing. 5.0 in reading, 5.0 in listening and 5.0 in speaking:

| September Code | January Code | Descriptive title | Total Credits | Credits Sem 1 | Credits Sem 2 | Level | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| INU0101 | INU0501 | English for Academic Purposes | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | *Core* |

Or for students with English language competence equivalent to an IELTS score of at least 5.5 with a minimum of 5.0 in writing. 5.0 in reading, 5.0 in listening and 5.0 in speaking:

| September Code | January Code | Descriptive title | Total Credits | Credits Sem 1 | Credits Sem 2 | Level | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| INU0103 | INU0503 | English for Academic Purposes - Foundation Sciences | 40 | 20 | 20 | 3 | Core |

(d)     Students shall take the following compulsory module:

| September Code | January Code | Descriptive title | Total Credits | Credits Sem 1 | Credits Sem 2 | Level | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| INU0122 | INU0522 | Study Skills and ICT for Science and Engineering | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |

(e)     Students shall select academic modules from the list below, with the approval of the Degree Programme Director and to fulfil any pre-requisites of their intended subsequent degree programme, to bring their total credits up to 120 credits.

| September Code | January Code | Descriptive title | Total Credits | Credits Sem 1 | Credits Sem 2 | Level | Type |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| INU0114 | INU0514 | Mathematics for Physical Sciences and Engineering 1 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |
| INU0115 | INU0515 | Mathematics for Physical Sciences and Engineering 2 | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |
| INU0116 | INU0516 | Foundation Physics | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |
| INU0117 | INU0517 | Foundation Chemistry | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |
| INU0121 | INU0521 | Principles of Computing | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |
| INU0126 | INU0526 | Professional and Personal Development | 20 | 10 | 10 | 3 | |

## 2.     Assessment methods

Details of the assessment pattern for each module are explained in the module outline.

The marking scale used for the academic modules will be as follows:
80%+          Outstanding
70-79%        Excellent
60-69%        Very good
50-59%        Good
40-49%        Fair
< 40%         Fail

Academic modules will be marked on a 0-100 scale.  The pass mark for academic modules is 40.  The following forms of assessment may be used: class tests, seen and unseen examinations, coursework, portfolios, oral tests, presentations, group-work.

English for Academic Purposes modules are internally assessed, using Newcastle's English Language Proficiency Scale (and benchmarked against IELTS). Modules will be marked on a 0-90 scale with 50 being equivalent to IELTS 5.0, 60 equivalent to IELTS 6.0, 6.5 equivalent to IELTS 6.5, etc. The pass mark for the English for Academic Purposes modules is 60.

## 3.    Award of the International Foundation Certificate

Satisfactory completion of the International Foundation Certificate requires that:
(a)    The average mark over all academic modules, taking due account of the credit value, is not less than 40;
(b)    No single mark for any academic module is below 35;
(c)    Marks of less than 40 are compensated in academic modules, provided the total credit value of these modules does not exceed 20;
(d)    The average marks for English for Academic Purposes is not less than 60 *equivalent to IELTS 6.0) with no competence (reading, writing, listening and speaking) below 55.
(e)    No compensation for English for Academic Purposes is permitted.

A student who fails a module will be able to have <u>one</u> further attempt to achieve a pass for that module. Students will not be permitted to proceed to a degree programme at Newcastle University carrying a failure in any module.

## 4.    Re-sit assessment

As an exception to the University Taught Programme Regulations re-assessment may take place before the August/September period on the recommendation of an interim progress board.

For the English for Academic Purposes module, the following will apply:

Note:
The required pass mark for the module is 60. The required competence level (as determined by UKVI regulations) in each of the four subskills (reading, listening, writing and speaking) is 55.

A student will be granted one resit opportunity in either of the following cases:

If a student fails to achieve the required pass mark (60) for the module. In this case, the student will only be required to resit those subskills where they have failed to achieve a subskill pass mark of 60. The result achieved in the resit for the subskill in this case will be uncapped, but the overall module result following the resit will be capped at the pass mark of 60.

If a student has achieved a module mark of 60 or more but has one or more subskill mark of less than 55, then in line with Programme Regulations the student has not passed the module. In this case, the student will be required to resit those subskills where they have failed to achieve the competence level of 55. The result achieved will be uncapped but the overall module result following the resit will be capped at the pass mark of 60.

In both cases, marks of over 60 achieved in any subskill at a first attempt will need to be capped to ensure overall module marks following either resit case do not exceed 60.

University selectors may be provided with uncapped marks so that a decision can be made based on the student's actual English language competence level.

**5.       Progression to Newcastle University degree programmes**.

Performance higher than a basic pass (in both academic modules and English for Academic Purposes) will be required for entry into Newcastle University degree programmes as specified in the progression requirements for specific degree programmes.