

**Doctorate in Clinical Psychology**

**Statement on the impact of and mitigation against Covid-19 and industrial action**

**Introduction**

Due to industrial action and Covid-19, semester 2 of this academic year 2019-2020 has been significantly disrupted, both for students and for staff. The University and the School of Health in Social Science have sought to identify and mitigate disruption to teaching and learning as far as possible while maintaining academic standards and the quality of students’ degrees. This statement provides a summary of the action taken.

**Overview of mitigation action taken by the School**

In March, the School undertook a careful review of its own semester 2 courses with outstanding teaching and assessment to determine the nature and level of disruption and to make any necessary changes to course delivery and assessments.

Teaching moved to online delivery. Coursework deadlines were moved if necessary.

Boards of Examiners were fully briefed in June and were able to apply additional measures under the University’s ‘no-detriment’ approach to protect students against disadvantage in course results and in decisions around progression and awards.

* Lateness penalties were removed for assessments submitted after 9 March 2020.
* In order to meet the requirements of the Programme, trainees are required to pass 6 placements (or 5 placements for trainees on the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route). Where a trainee has failed a placement, this alone would trigger a discussion at a Board of Examiners who will consider a range of possible outcomes, reflecting the greater magnitude of placement failure compared to failing an academic assignment. As described in the Academic Handbook, one resubmission opportunity is already allowed for each academic course work assignment for accreditation purposes only. This also adheres to the no-detriment policy: you continue to be allowed one resit.
* Where there was any subsequent failure on an academic piece of work, the trainee’s progress was discussed by the Board of Examiners. Furthermore, where an academic piece of work was failed following a previous placement failure, the trainee’s progress was discussed by the Board of Examiners.

**University Regulations and guidance**

* [Taught Assessment Regulations 2019/20](https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/taughtassessmentregulations.pdf)
* [Annex A Guidance for Boards of Examiners for Taught Programmes](https://uoe.sharepoint.com/sites/Covid19/Shared%20Documents/Forms/AllItems.aspx?id=%2Fsites%2FCovid19%2FShared%20Documents%2FAnnex%20A%20Boards%20of%20Examiners%20Covid%20v6%2Epdf&parent=%2Fsites%2FCovid19%2FShared%20Documents) (Covid-19; industrial action)
* [Special Circumstances Policy](https://www.ed.ac.uk/files/atoms/files/special_circumstances.pdf)

**Summary of mitigation action taken for affected courses:**

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| **Course Name** | Clinical Psychology 1 |
| **Course Code** | CLPS12034 |
| **Summary of actions**  **By the Course Team**  No change to course delivery or assessment    **By the Board of Examiners**  The examination was held after 9 March so was deemed to have been impacted by the pandemic.  All lateness penalties were removed.    As there was a single assessment for this course, no assessments could be disregarded from the course mark calculation.    The course must be passed to meet professional requirements therefore credit on aggregate could not be applied for this course. Any failed assignments are treated as a ‘null sit’, allowing the outcome of the resit to be used instead on the academic transcript. This differs from normal practice, in which the result obtained on the first attempt would have been recorded on the academic transcript.    The course was flagged as having been impacted and this will be considered when prizes are awarded at the end of the programme. | |

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| **Course Name** | Clinical Placements  Adult Mental Health (CP1), Intellectual Disabilities (CP1), Child, Adolescents and Families (CP3), Neuropsychology and Older Adults (CP3), Specialist Clinical Placement 1 (CP5) |
| **Course Code** | CLPS12002, CLPS12039, CLPS12009, CLPS12016, CLPS12013 |
| **Summary of actions**  **By the Course Team**  Delivery schedule changed for placements.  Placements could be carried out in any order. Minimum requirements for number of contact hours and cases were temporarily lifted. Assessment of clinical competency was otherwise unchanged.    **By Board of Examiners**  Due to professional requirements, this programme is following the regular Taught Assessment Regulations.  The course must be passed to meet professional requirements therefore credit on aggregate could not be applied for this course. | |