



University of Limpopo

General Academic Rules

Finding Solutions for Africa



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INTRODUCTION

The rules contained in this section are the General Rules of the University and apply to all *students*. There are also specific rules for each Faculty, which are subordinate to the General Rules.

On registering at this University the *student* bears the responsibility of ensuring that he/she is familiar with the rules applicable to his/her registration. Ignorance of these rules will not be accepted as an excuse.

DEFINITIONS

Academic year means the period determined by *Senate* from time to time for any particular year of study for any particular *programme*.

Admission is an annual process that precedes registration and indicates the programme and the year level at which a person will be allowed to register.

Any university or any other university means any university recognised by *Senate* for the purpose under consideration.

Applicant means a person who has submitted an application in hard-copy or electronic format to become a *student* of the *University*.

Assessment means the process of judging learning and may be of both a formative and/or summative nature.

Continuous Assessment means a variety of assessments, including formative and summative methods, given during a learning process.

Credit means the recognition that is obtained when a *student* passes such *assessments* and complies with such conditions as *Senate* may impose for the completion of each *module*. A *credit* towards a *qualification* may be granted to a *student* in respect of a *credit* obtained from another institution recognised by *Senate* for this purpose or from another programme within the *University*.

Curriculum means a *module* or combination of *modules* leading to a *qualification*.

Cum Laude means a *qualification* obtained with an average distinction mark over *ALL MODULES*.

Discipline means a coherent branch of knowledge and theory.

Dissertation is the term reserved for an extended piece of written work that makes a contribution to the advancement of knowledge that may incorporate creative work or publications integral to the argument, and is submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for a degree of master by research.

Enrolment into a qualification is the process by which a student, having gained admission to the University and to a qualification, accept its rules and curriculum by registering for the first time and ends when the student graduates or leaves the University. Enrolment into a qualification happens once.

Exemption from a module means that Senate has deemed a *student* to have a sufficient understanding of the subject matter of that *module* to warrant the *student* not having to complete the *module*.

Extended Degree Programme means Degree Programme extended by one academic year beyond the normal duration.

Final mark means the weighted average of the formative assessment mark and the summative assessment mark in a *module*.

Formative assessment means *assessment* that takes place during the process of learning and teaching, to inform learning and teaching strategies for improvement as well as give an indication regarding the readiness of the learner to do *summative assessment*.

Formative assessment mark means the mark obtained through continuous *assessment* in a *module*.

Mini-dissertation means a supervised research component for Coursework Masters degrees.

Module means a self-contained unit of study with a defined number of *credits*.

Occasional student means a person who is registered at the *University* for any *module* for non-qualification purposes. An occasional *student* is deemed to be a *student* for all other purposes.

Prerequisite of a module means specified learning required for the registration of a *module*.

Programme means a purposeful and structured set of learning experiences, defined by a coherent grouping of *modules* that leads to a *qualification*.

Qualification means a formal recognition of the achievement of required credits as determined by a programme.

Recognition of Prior Learning means the taking into account of the previous learning and experience of the *applicant* by *Senate* either for purposes of *admission* and/or for the granting of *exemption* or full or partial *credit* towards one or more *modules*.

Registration is completion by a student, and acceptance by the University, of a registration form, physical or electronic, and compliance with such other conditions as are required.

Semester is half of an *academic year*.

Senate is defined in section 28 of the Higher Education Act 101 of 1997 and is the body which governs the policies and procedures in respect of the teaching, learning, research and academic functions of the *University*. The *Senate* may delegate its powers except where expressly prohibited from doing so by the University Statute.

Standard summative assessments and re-assessments means formal, compulsory, scheduled *assessments*.

Student means a person registered at the *University* for a *qualification*.

Summative Assessment means *assessment*, which integrates all learning of a *module* in conjunction with formative *assessment*. It is an indicator of competency and leads to *credits*, which are recorded and reported.

Summative Assessment mark means the mark obtained through summative assessment in a *module*.

Thesis is the term reserved for an extended piece of writing based on research that makes an original and significant contribution to knowledge that may incorporate creative work or publications integral to the overall argument, and is submitted in fulfilment of the requirement for a doctoral qualification.

University means the University of Limpopo, unless the content indicates otherwise.

The Council of the University in consultation with Senate determines admission, registration and graduation requirements for all degrees, diplomas and certificates.

The conditions under which the University of Limpopo (UL) grants degrees, diplomas and certificates are laid down in terms of the Higher Education Act (No. 101, 1997) as amended, the University of Limpopo Statute as amended and these are framed in terms of Section 32 of the Higher Education Act.

(Approved by Council at its meeting held on 20 April 2018)

A. GENERAL RULES

RELATIONS TO OTHER RULES

G1

The General Academic Rules are the primary academic rules of the University and unless stipulated differently, expressly or by implication, takes precedence over all Faculty rules.

ADMISSION

G2

- 2.1 A candidate for a degree, diploma and certificate in any Faculty must meet the general admission requirements of the University as articulated in the University of Limpopo Admission Policy and those of the particular programme that the candidate intends to enrol into, as approved by Council. In addition the candidate must meet the selection criteria as determined by the concerned Faculty.
- 2.2 Persons are required, on admission, to register by signing the official registration form or submit the subject choice/s, in the case of online registration (which shall serve as a contract between the University and the person) and to pay the prescribed tuition fee.
- 2.3 Students must renew their registration and pay the prescribed fee annually as long as they continue to be students of the University. They may be refused permission to renew their registration for any

year of study if they fail to satisfy the prescribed minimum requirements.

- 2.4 A student who, for some or other reason, has been expelled or excluded from another institution shall not be admitted to study at this University.
- 2.5 Senate has the right to refuse admission to any person should it consider such action to be in the interest of the University to do so.

REGISTRATION

G3

- 3.1 On registration and after having
 - 3.1.1 completed and signed the official registration form or
 - 3.1.2 submitted the subject choices in the case of online registration, the student agrees to pay the prescribed tuition fee and to abide by all applicable Rules, Regulations, Policies and Procedures of the University.
- 3.2 Students shall attend lectures/practicals and/or clinical sessions only in those modules officially registered for.
- 3.3 Students who wish to apply for exemption of modules already passed at this or another tertiary institution, must submit their applications on the official application for exemption forms by the end of the registration period in the beginning of the year, subject to Rule G8.
- 3.4 It is the responsibility of the student to verify the accuracy of the modules that are registered every year and the overall composition of his/her programme insofar as its compliance with the General Rules and the Rules of the various programmes are concerned.
- 3.5 A student shall not register for a full-time qualification on a part-time basis.
- 3.6 The onus to register before the closing dates for registration as they appear in the General University Calendar, resides with the student except when Rules G37.1 and G55.1 apply. Failing this, the University shall withdraw the right to register and such a student shall not be serviced during the year.
- 3.7 Upon registration, all students, without exception, must produce their matriculation or equivalent certificates as stipulated in the General Calendar of the University.

- 3.8 First entering students, without exception, must submit original documents that the University requires to the office of the Registrar on or before the end of their first year of registration. If the student fails to do so he/she will not be admitted to the second year of study or from graduating in the case of one year programmes.
- 3.9 Altered names and surnames of students will have effect from date of publication in the Government Gazette, and all documents issued prior to that date will remain in the unaltered or previous names and surnames.

CURRICULUM G4

- 4.1 Subject to the stipulations under Rules G8, G9 and G11, every candidate shall after enrolling as a registered student of the University, follow an approved programme of study as listed under Rule G10.
- 4.2 Programmes of the University are subject to cyclical reviews, but may also undergo amendments from time to time.
- 4.2.1 When mid-cycle module and programme amendments are effected
- 4.2.1.1 A student who began his/her studies under a curriculum and did not interrupt his/her studies, may complete his/her studies under that curriculum, except where Faculty Rules determine otherwise, subject to the stipulations under Rule G4.2.1.3.
- 4.2.1.2 A student interrupts his/her studies when he/she:
- a.) fails to renew registration in the following year of study.
 - b.) fails to attain the requisite credits at a specific year level and in all events, to the stipulations under Rules G25.2 and G26.
 - c.) Fails a single module, is judged to have interrupted his/her studies with respect to that module only.
- 4.2.1.3 A student who interrupts his/her studies sacrifices the right to continue with his/her studies according to the original curriculum and may forfeit accumulated credits in the programme, subject to the stipulations under Rule G9.
- 4.2.1.4 Further, and on the recommendation of the relevant Faculty, Senate may formulate interim measures in order to enable a student indicated under Rule G4.2.1.1, who commenced his/her studies under the

original curriculum, to complete his/her studies according to the new curriculum.

- 4.2.2 When a cyclically reviewed programme is phased in the student shall be required to register under the reviewed programme, whether or not such a student has interrupted his or her studies with the understanding that certain accumulated credits may be forfeited and subject to Rules G8.3.2, G25 and G26.

TIMETABLE

G5

Modules selected and registered by students shall not clash on the official class and assessment timetables.

PAYMENT OF FEES

G6

- 6.1 All requisite fees shall be paid as determined by Council.
- 6.2 No student shall be allowed to register or participate in attestation, oath taking and graduation ceremonies unless all outstanding University debts have been settled.
- 6.3 No academic documents and information pertaining to a student shall be released until all outstanding debts have been settled.

REGISTERING MODULES FOR NON-DEGREE PURPOSES

G7

- 7.1 A student may not, for non-degree purposes, register for any module which requires registration with a professional body, or to upgrade the mark for a module already passed, except under extraordinary circumstances approved by Senate.
- 7.2 A module registered for non-degree purposes may not clash on the official timetables.
- 7.3 A module taken outside a prescribed programme cannot later be recognised for that programme, unless such module could have been taken under the programme, and provided further that all other requirements of the module and the qualification have been satisfied.
- 7.4 Recognition of credits is valid for a maximum period of three years, except where Faculty Rules dictate a shorter period, subject to the stipulations under Rules G8 and G9.1.

- 7.5 The fees charged for all modules registered for non-degree purposes, shall be three times the normal rate.
- 7.6 Students who are excluded from registration, subject to Rule G26, shall not be allowed to register outstanding modules for non-degree purposes at this University.
- 7.7 The limit on the number of credits that students may register for non-degree purposes is subject to programme Rules.

RECOGNITION AND EXEMPTION OF MODULES

G8

8.1 Recognition of modules from other institutions

8.1.1 Senate may recognise and grant a student exemption from class attendance, as well as formative and summative assessment in a module by virtue of a credit obtained from another university or registered institution of higher learning.

8.1.2 Subject to the stipulations under Rule G8.1.1, Senate may, as far as is permissible, accept academic transcripts and certificates attesting to conduct issued by such a university and grant credit for such modules for degree purposes; provided further that such a candidate shall not be admitted to a qualification by the University unless:

8.1.2.1 His/her total period of attendance at such a recognised university or other approved institution and at the University of Limpopo, together equals at least the full period prescribed by the University for the qualification. Such attendance will only be accepted in respect of recognised modules of the University, or equivalent modules approved for the purpose by Senate;

8.1.2.2 He/she has successfully passed at least 50% of the total number of credits prescribed for the qualification at the University.

8.2 Recognition of modules after obtaining degrees or diplomas

8.2.1 In the case of a student of the University or of another university, Senate may recognise periods of attendance and assessment procedures in a module in one programme for admission to studies in another programme; provided that the candidate shall have complied with the conditions laid down under Rule G8.1.2.2, and in the case of a graduate of another university, also those under Rule G8.1.2.1.

8.2.2 In the case of a graduate of this University or of another university, Senate may accept periods of attendance as well as assessment in a core module for a second bachelor's degree; provided that the candidate has complied with all the conditions laid down under Rule G8.1.2.2, and in the case of a graduate of another university or institution approved for the purpose by Senate, also those under Rule G8.1.2.1.

(These requirements do not apply to admission to a postgraduate bachelor's degree).

8.3 Recognition of modules at the University

8.3.1 A module passed with a final mark of 50% is passed with exemption and the student is automatically and fully exempted from such a module; provided it has no clinical component.

8.3.2 Subject to the above, a student receives full credit for the module in question, unless a specific programme Rule precludes such exemption.

8.3.3 A student who has failed a module is required to repeat the respective module in full. The Faculty concerned may, however, exempt him/her from specific attendance requirements, subject to Rule G13.1.2.

RETENTION/LOSS OF CREDITS

G9

9.1 A student who interrupts his/her studies as contemplated under Rule G4.2.1.2, can only retain his/her credits already obtained under the qualification for a maximum period as indicated below. Faculty Rules may prescribe a shorter period:

Certificates	:	2 years
Diplomas	:	2 years
Bachelor's degrees	:	3 years
Honours degrees	:	2 years
Masters' degrees	:	2 years
Doctoral degrees	:	3 years

9.2 Senate may, on the recommendation of a specific Faculty, refuse to maintain credits earned by a candidate through successful completion of assessment procedures or exemption from a qualifying module, if the candidate has interrupted his/her studies at the University, and wishes to resume his/her studies, subject to Rules G4.2.1.1, G4.2.1.3 and G4.2.2.1.

DURATION OF STUDY

G10

10.1 Subject to the stipulations under Rules G8.1 and G9, every candidate for one of the qualifications listed hereunder, after enrolling as a registered student of the University, shall follow an approved programme of study as prescribed by the Rules. Such study programme should have a minimum and maximum duration, in years, as indicted:

Type of Degree Programme	Min	Max
Undergraduate Bachelor's Degree (360)	3	5
Undergraduate Bachelor's Degree (480)	4	6
<i>Bachelor of Medicine & Bachelor of Surgery</i>	6	8
Postgraduate Certificates	1	2
Postgraduate Diplomas	1	2
Honours Bachelor's Degrees	1	2
Masters' Degrees	1	3
Master of Medicine	4	6
Master of Medicine in Surgery	5	7
Doctoral Degrees	2	4

10.2 The duration of all extended degree programmes is one year longer than the corresponding standard degree programme.

CHANGE OF PROGRAMMES AND SIMULTANEOUS REGISTRATION FOR TWO OR MORE PROGRAMMES

G11

11.1 Changes from one programme to another are subject to the approval of the Faculty/Faculties concerned.

11.2 A student shall not, except with the permission of Senate, register for two or more qualifications simultaneously, either undergraduate or postgraduate at this University or at this University and another tertiary institution.

11.3 Where such permission has been granted, the candidate must comply with all applicable Rules.

11.4 A student who has been granted permission to register for more than one programme of study at a time may proceed with his or her proposed studies only if the Faculties concerned have not reported adversely on his or her work.

11.5 Simultaneous registration for two or more programmes shall be allowed provided that there are no clashes in continuous or summative assessment, attendance or any other instance. A student who registers simultaneously for two or more programmes shall ensure

that there are no such clashes on the standard lecture and assessment timetable.

- 11.6 Should it become known that a student of this University has registered in contravention of the above Rule, his or her registration will be terminated in all applicable programmes offered at this University with immediate effect.

ASSESSMENT

G12

- 12.1 Assessment of students shall conform to the University's Assessment Policy.
- 12.2 A candidate shall be subjected to formative as well as summative assessment processes. Certain cases of exemption from assessment events may be condoned, in terms of Faculty Rules.
- 12.3 No assessment event that contributes to the formative assessment mark shall be written after cessation of lectures.
- 12.4 No further assessment shall be granted after the student has had the benefit of a full assessment cycle, i.e. standard summative assessment, re-assessment, etc. where applicable.
- 12.5 A candidate shall not be allowed to receive final assessment results unless he/she has settled all outstanding University debts.
- 12.6 Under certain extraordinary conditions, deviations from the general assessment procedures may be allowed by Senate, subject to Rule G16.

STANDARD SUMMATIVE ASSESSMENT

G13

- 13.1 To be admitted to the standard summative assessment, a student must have:
- 13.1.1 a formative assessment mark of at least 40% in the module and
 - 13.1.2 evidence of class attendance of 75% as a minimum requirement in planned formal contact sessions as determined by Faculty Rules, subject to Rule G8.3.3.
- 13.2 Summative assessment, where indicated, will be held at the normal assessment times, unless Senate allows otherwise.

- 13.3 Summative assessment in a module will normally be a written and/or oral and/or clinical assessment, or an approved alternative assessment procedure subject to Faculty Rules.
- 13.4 Summative assessment for all final year modules shall have one or more external assessors appointed by Senate.
- 13.5 When calculating the final mark following a summative assessment, the differential contribution of the formative and the summative assessment marks are 60% and 40% respectively, except under exceptional circumstances as approved by Senate.
- 13.6 Irrespective of the final mark achieved in a module, a student must obtain at least 40% in all the summative assessments.

SUMMATIVE RE-ASSESSMENT AND SPECIAL SUMMATIVE RE-ASSESSMENT G14

- 14.1 The format of a summative re-assessment and special summative re-assessment shall be the same as that of the standard summative assessment.
- 14.2 Calculation of the final mark will be same as that after the standard summative assessment with the re-assessment/special re-assessment mark substituting the standard summative assessment mark. The maximum final mark allocated can only be 50%.
- 14.3 Summative re-assessment
- 14.3.1 Re-assessment will be granted only under the following conditions:
- 14.3.1.1 the module is part of the curriculum of an undergraduate programme only;
 - 14.3.1.2 the student must be registered for the module in the year in question;
 - 14.3.1.3 the student must have sat for the summative assessment, unless conditions apply as contemplated under Rule G15;
 - 14.3.1.4 if the final mark is between 45% and 49%, both inclusive, subject to Rule G13.6;
 - 14.3.1.5 if the final mark achieved in a module is 50% or more, but the standard summative assessment mark is below 40%.
- 14.3.2 Unless otherwise decided by Senate, re-assessment will be a flexible system within a reasonable period after the standard assessment.

14.4. Special summative re-assessment

- 14.4.1 Special re-assessment shall be granted to a student who is in his/her final year of study and who is in a position to graduate if successful in the special re-assessment, provided the following conditions are met:
 - 14.4.1.1 the module is part of the curriculum of an undergraduate programme only;
 - 14.4.1.2 the student must be registered for the module/s in the year in question;
 - 14.4.1.3 the student passed at least 50% of the credits of an academic year;
 - 14.4.1.4 the student must have sat for the summative assessment, unless conditions apply as contemplated under Rule G15;
 - 14.4.1.5 the student must have obtained a minimum final mark of 40% in every outstanding module;
 - 14.4.1.6 the student must enlist his/her name with the Faculty before undertaking the special re-assessment. The special re-assessment carries the same fee as that of the module.

AEGROTAT ASSESSMENT G15

- 15.1 An aegrotat assessment may be granted to a student who has been prevented from taking the standard summative assessment:
 - 15.1.1 by illness, on the day of the assessment or during or immediately before that assessment; provided that a medical certificate from a registered medical practitioner or registered traditional healer is submitted to the satisfaction of the Faculty;
or
 - 15.1.2 as a result of domestic circumstances such as serious illness, or death of a spouse, legal partner, parent, guardian, child, sibling; provided the student can produce satisfactory proof of such special circumstances.
- 15.2 Faculty shall determine whether the whole or only part of the assessment in the module concerned shall be done.
- 15.3 Where a candidate is permitted to do part of the assessment, the part of the assessment completed before the illness or relevant circumstances shall remain valid.
- 15.4 An aegrotat assessment may be given immediately after the cessation of the circumstances that prevented the candidate from taking part in an assessment or should be given within 7 days of approval.

- 15.5 A candidate who fails to sit for an aegrotat assessment shall not have a chance to sit for further assessment in the same module, and shall re-register for such a module.
- 15.6 Applications for such an aegrotat assessment must be lodged with the Faculty on the prescribed form within 7 days of the date on which the assessment was held.

DEVIATION FROM STANDARD ASSESSMENT PROCEDURE

G16

- 16.1 Under certain extraordinary circumstances, Senate may allow deviation from the standard assessment procedure. Such circumstances include, amongst others, blindness of a student, inability of the student to write, extremely slow writing by a student, stuttering or any other condition that could be considered extraordinary.
- 16.2 Such students shall register with and apply to Senate through the Directorate for Students with Disabilities, for approval at the first Senate meeting of the year.

ASSESSMENT FRAUD

G17

- 17.1 The guidelines as stipulated in the Student Code of Conduct will be followed to identify fraud in the assessment venue. A student, who is suspected of having acted in contravention of these, will be charged with assessment fraud and tried through a Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee, as described in the Student Disciplinary Procedure.
- 17.2 A student charged with assessment fraud shall appear before a Faculty Student Disciplinary committee within four weeks of the occurrence of the act of infringement.
- 17.3 Marks obtained in assessment events in all modules registered for the year in question will be withheld pending the outcome of the disciplinary hearing.
- 17.4 Plagiarism, as described in the Student Code of Conduct and the University's Plagiarism Policy, is considered to be assessment fraud. Any material that is presented for assessment and where plagiarism is suspected will be used as evidence and Rules G17.2 and G17.3 shall also apply.

17.5 A student, who presents a fraudulent Medical Certificate for his/her absence from an assessment, will enter the same process as that described in Rules G17.2 and G17.3.

17.6 A student, who has been found guilty of assessment fraud by a Faculty Student Disciplinary Committee, will automatically forfeit all marks obtained from all registered modules in the year in question and receive a suspension from the University aligned with the outcome of the Disciplinary hearing.

ASSESSORS

G18

18.1 Students are assessed in all modules by internal and/or external assessors.

18.2 Internal assessors are approved by Faculty on behalf of Senate and it is preferable that they should have taken part in the training and preparation of the students for the assessment concerned.

18.3 External assessors are approved by Faculty on behalf of Senate from outside the University staff establishment, provided they were not employees of the University in the last three years.

MINIMUM PASS AND DISTINCTION IN A MODULE

G19

19.1 The minimum pass mark in any module is a final mark of 50%, subject to Rules G13.1 and G13.6.

19.2 A module is passed with distinction when a final mark of 75% or more is obtained.

FAILURE OF A MODULE

G20

20.1 A student is regarded as having failed a module if,

20.1.1 He/she does not fulfil all the requirements in the module concerned, including evidence of at least 75% of class attendance.

20.1.2 He/she does not meet the sub-minimum requirements in certain parts/ divisions/ papers of the assessment.

20.1.3 His/her final mark is less than 50%.

20.2 Subject to the provisions of Rules G25 and G26, a student shall not be permitted more than two attempts at passing a module even when changing his/her degree programme.

VIEWING AND REMARKING OF SCRIPTS

G21

21.1 Viewing of scripts:

21.1.1 With the permission of the Executive Dean of the Faculty, a student may view his/her final assessment script together with the marking memorandum, under the supervision of a responsible person appointed by the Executive Dean.

21.2 Remarking of assessment scripts:

21.2.1 An application from a student for the remarking of an assessment script must be submitted in writing on the prescribed form to the Executive Dean of the Faculty within two weeks of the assessment results having been issued to students. Requests through the postal service should be by registered mail.

21.2.2 The Executive Dean of the Faculty shall make the necessary arrangements for the remarking of the script.

21.2.3 The prescribed fee per module is to be paid in full by the applicant prior to remarking.

21.2.4 Assessment scripts shall be kept for three years only.

STUDENT PROGRESS

G22

22.1 The performance of a student is assessed throughout the year by way of assessment tasks such as tests (written or oral), practical work, assignments, group discussions, seminars and/or other suitable means of assessment. Students must be regularly provided with feedback on their progress as follows:

22.1.1 Assessment Feedback

Unless otherwise agreed to between the class and the lecturer(s), assessment feedback will be handed out on the date specified by the lecturer(s) in the Module Outline, subject to the provisions of the Faculty Assessment Policy as approved by Senate.

22.1.2 Remarking of Assignment and Test Scripts

- 22.1.2.1 An application from a student for remarking of an assignment or test script must be lodged with the Head of Department in writing on the prescribed Departmental Application for Remarking Form within seven (07) days of the assessment feedback having been issued to the class.
- 22.1.2.2. The Head of Department shall make the necessary arrangements for the remarking of the script and inform the student of the outcome thereof within five days.

22.2 The results of each formative assessment are expressed quantitatively and are the determinants of the student's formative mark that is his/her admission to summative assessment (refer to Rules G12 and G13).

CONFERMENT OF A QUALIFICATION G23

23.1 Conferment of a Qualification:

23.1.1 No person shall receive a qualification, except an honorary degree, unless he/she has fulfilled all the requirements prescribed by the Rules for the qualification.

23.2 A degree may be conferred *cum laude* in accordance with the rules of the relevant Faculty, provided that, subject to exceptions as approved by Senate, the student has:

23.2.1 Obtained an average of at least 75% in all those modules registered under the programme; and

23.2.2 Successfully completed all modules in the curriculum at the first attempt; and

23.2.3 Without recourse to re-assessments, given that re-assessments are not permitted at postgraduate level and that aegrotat assessments (Rule G15) are not considered as re-assessments; and

23.2.4 Completed the degree in the prescribed minimum time, except for a non-professional Master's Degree, as contemplated under Rule G10.1, for which the candidate must complete within two years.

23.3 A doctoral degree is not conferred *cum laude*.

23.4 In all events, the University reserves the right neither to confer any

degree nor to award any qualification on any grandaunt of the University who have outstanding University debts.

23.5 The University reserves the right to withdraw any qualification conferred on a candidate if, in the considered view of Senate, the conferment of the qualification is deemed to be irregular.

B. RULES FOR UNDERGRADUATE STUDY

ADMISSION

G24

24.1 No person shall be admitted as a candidate for a qualification unless he/she:

24.1.1 is in possession of a National Senior Certificate with Bachelor Endorsement or its equivalent;

Or

24.1.2 is in possession of the Certificate of Full Exemption from the Matriculation Board or its equivalent;

Or

24.1.3 has satisfied the requirements of an alternative admission through applicable legislation and policy.

24.2 Applicants shall also comply with the conditions contained under Rule G26.

CREDIT FOR MODULES PASSED / ADMISSION TO A SUBSEQUENT MODULE

G25

Limitation on enrolment for modules at subsequent levels, unless otherwise determined by the various Faculties:

25.1 Year level

25.1.1 Second year level

Subject to Rules G8 and G20.2, a student shall not be allowed to take any module at second year level, unless he/she has obtained at least 50% of the total credits prescribed at first year level, unless otherwise determined by the Faculty concerned.

25.1.2 Third year level

Subject to Rules G8 and G20.2, a student shall not be allowed to take any module at third year level, unless he/she has obtained 100% of the total credits prescribed at first-year level, and at least 50% of the total credits prescribed at second year level, unless otherwise determined by the Faculty concerned.

25.1.3 Fourth year level

Subject to Rules G8 and G20.2, a student shall not be allowed to take any module at fourth-year level unless he/she has obtained 100% of the total credits prescribed at second-year level and at least 50% of the total credits prescribed at third-year level, unless otherwise determined by the Faculty concerned.

25.1.4 Fifth Year level

Subject to Rules G8 and G20.2, a student shall not be allowed to take any module at fifth year level, unless he/she has obtained 100% of the total credits prescribed at third year level, and at least 50% of the total credits prescribed at the fourth year level, unless otherwise determined by the Faculty concerned.

25.1.5 Sixth Year level

Subject to Rules G8 and G20.2, a student shall not be allowed to take any module at sixth-year level, unless he/she has obtained 100% of the total credits prescribed at fourth-year level, and at least 50% of the total credits prescribed at fifth-year level, unless otherwise determined by the Faculty concerned.

25.2 Year status

25.2.1 Second-year status

Subject to any contrary Faculty Rule in respect of a particular qualification, a student must have obtained credit for at least 75% of the total credits at first year level before being admitted to second year status.

25.2.2 Third-year status

Subject to any contrary Faculty Rule in respect of a particular qualification, a student must have obtained credit for at least 75% of the total credits at second-year level before being admitted to third-year status.

25.2.3 Fourth-year status

Subject to any contrary Faculty Rule in respect of a particular qualification, a student must have obtained credit for at least 75% of the total credits at third year level before being admitted to fourth-year status.

25.2.4 Fifth-Year Status

Subject to any contrary Faculty Rule in respect of a particular qualification, a student must have obtained credit for at least 75% of the total credits at fourth-year level before being admitted to fifth-year status.

25.2.5 Sixth-Year Status

Subject to any contrary Faculty Rule in respect of a particular qualification, a student must have obtained credit for at least 75% of the total credits at fifth-year level before being admitted to sixth year status.

RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

G26

26.1 A full-time student, who, after having been registered for a full academic year, has not been able to accumulate any credits, will not be able to renew his/her registration at this University.

26.2 Progress limitation

26.2.1 A full-time student who has been registered for a qualification at a specific year level for two years at this or any other University and has not yet obtained the requisite credits at that year level, as described under Rule G25.1, will not be allowed to register or to renew registration at this University in the following year.

26.2.2 A student who was thus excluded from the University may only apply for readmission after the outstanding credits were obtained from another registered Institution of higher learning and subject to the stipulations under Rule G4, G8 and G9.

26.2.3 Under certain exceptional circumstances Senate may allow a student who was thus excluded, to make representations to Senate to be readmitted in the following year provided the student was not affected by Rule G26 before.

26.3 Maximum duration limitation

26.3.1 A full-time student who has been enrolled for a period of two years exceeding the minimum period of attendance of a qualification as stipulated under Rule G10, and is still not in a position to complete his/her study programme in one more additional year, will not be allowed to renew registration at this University in the following year.

26.3.2 A student who was thus excluded from the University may apply for readmission for the purposes of degree conferment only. Renewal of registration will only be allowed after all the outstanding credits for the qualification were obtained from another accredited Institution of higher learning and subject to the stipulations under Rule G4, G8 and G9.

- 26.3.3 Under certain exceptional circumstances Senate may allow a student who was thus excluded, to make representations to Senate to be readmitted in the following year provided the student was not affected by Rule G26 before.
- 26.4 A student who, for some or other reason, has been expelled or excluded from another institution shall not be registered at this University.
- 26.5 The period of study completed at another Institution for a qualification offered on a part-time basis will be equated to a period of full-time study for purposes of applying Rules G26.2 to G26.4.
- 26.6 The maximum number of credits that a student can register for in a qualification in a specific academic year, is 125% of the total credits of the year level for which the student is admitted, except under exceptional circumstances approved by Senate.

STATUTORY REGISTRATION G27

- 27.1 A student who fails to comply with the statutory registration requirements shall not be permitted to pursue his/her studies in that module for the duration of the academic year. The same applies to a student whose statutory registration has been cancelled for a particular year of study.
- 27.2 In all events, the stipulations of Rule G7.1 also apply.

C. RULES FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDY

ADMISSION

G28

- 28.1 Apart from the provisions of the General Rules, the provisions of the Faculty concerned also apply.
- 28.2 Subject to the stipulations of Rule G29 above, a candidate shall not be admitted to study for a postgraduate degree or diploma or certificate unless he/she holds a bachelor's degree, except where Faculty Rules define otherwise.
- 28.3 A student must register at the beginning of each year before the prescribed closing date, except in instances as stipulated under Rules G37.1.1 and G55.1.
- 28.4 The maximum duration of the post-graduate degree or diploma or certificate programme, as defined under Rule G10, may be extended with the approval of Senate.
- 28.5 Interruption of studies must be applied for and approved by Senate. Students who do not comply shall be responsible for payment of unsubsidised fees for the specific year of interruption of studies.
- 28.6 Subject to the relevant Faculty Rules, part-time students may extend their studies by one year beyond the maximum as stipulated under Rule G10.

EQUIVALENT STATUS

G29

- 29.1 On the recommendation of a Faculty, Senate may grant a graduate from another university or equivalent institution an equivalent status at the University on such conditions as Senate may impose.
- 29.2 A person who has passed assessment procedures at another university or equivalent institution, held by Senate to be at least equivalent to the University's own assessment procedures, may be admitted to the study for a subsequent degree.

D. RULES FOR POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATES, POSTGRADUATE DIPLOMAS AND HONOURS DEGREE STUDIES

ADMISSION G30

30.1 In addition to the rules in this Section, those contained under Section A (General Rules) and Section C (Rules for Postgraduate Study) also apply.

30.2 Admission criteria:

30.2.1 A relevant undergraduate qualification or equivalent.

30.2.2 At least 60% obtained as an average final mark in the appropriate major.

Or

30.2.3 By special recommendation of the Faculty concerned.

DURATION OF STUDY G31

31.1 The study duration of the degree is as described under Rule G10.

31.2 No student shall be allowed to register or even receive results when he/she owes outstanding debts to the University.

REGISTRATION G32

32.1 Students shall register during the registration period at the beginning of every year.

32.2 Fees payable shall cover registration as well as modules registered for the year.

COMPOSITION OF A PROGRAMME G33

The programme is composed of a number of modules as prescribed in the relevant Faculty Rules. For purposes of this Rule, Faculty Rules may

prescribe papers, projects, extended essays, practicals, or combinations thereof, as modules for the programme.

ASSESSMENT

G34

- 34.1 The programme is offered over one calendar year and students shall sit for summative assessment during the assessment periods as determined by Senate.
- 34.2 In order to pass, a student shall obtain a minimum of 50% in every required module in the programme.
- 34.3 Subject to Rule G10, submission and assessment of research reports shall be concluded before the end of the registration period in the year following the final year of enrolment for the programme.
- 34.4 The general assessment Rules (Rules G12 to G21), all apply to Postgraduate Certificates, Postgraduate Diplomas and Honours degree programmes, except for re-assessment (Rule G14) that is only permitted for undergraduate programmes.

CONFERMENT OF THE QUALIFICATION

G35

- 35.1 The qualification shall not be conferred before at least one year has elapsed since the student obtained the undergraduate qualification or other qualification by virtue of which he/she was admitted to the postgraduate programme.
- 35.2 The qualification will be conferred when the required number of appropriate credits have been accumulated.

E. RULES FOR MASTERS' DEGREE STUDY

ADMISSION

G36

36.1 In addition to the rules in this Section, those contained under Section A (General Rules) and Section C (Rules for Postgraduate Study) also apply.

36.2 Admission criteria:

36.2.1 A relevant honours bachelor's degree or equivalent.

36.2.2 At least 60% obtained as an average final mark in the appropriate major learning programme.

Or

36.2.3 By special recommendation of the Faculty concerned.

36.3 On the recommendation of the Faculty concerned, Senate may allow a student to do a masters degree in a programme or Faculty different from that in which he/she holds an honours degree.

REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

G37

37.1 A candidate admitted into a masters' programme shall register for that programme in the first year of study and shall renew his/her registration each year before the closing date for academic registration until he/she has complied with all the requirements for the degree, subject to the stipulations under Rule G9, provided that:

37.1.1 candidates admitted to research masters' programmes may register for the first time throughout the year; and

37.1.2 candidates admitted to coursework masters' programmes must register for the first time before the closing date for academic registration in the beginning of the year.

37.2 If a candidate registered for a coursework masters study fails in any module, he/she must repeat the module in order to qualify for the degree, subject to Faculty Rules.

37.3 If a student's progress is not satisfactory as per Faculty Rules, his/her registration for the programme in question may be cancelled.

COMPOSITION OF A PROGRAMME

G38

- 38.1 All masters' degrees require a dissertation or equivalent requirement as determined by special Faculty Rules.
- 38.2 A research master's programme is composed of a research project where the candidate should exhibit competency in planning, execution and reporting of a research topic.
- 38.3 A coursework master's programme may include assessment papers, projects, a mini-dissertation, directed research, practicals, or combinations thereof, as modules for the degree.

DISSERTATION/MINI-DISSERTATION

G39

- 39.1 The title and proposal of a dissertation/mini-dissertation is approved for a period of three years, unless programme rule determine otherwise.
- 39.2 The dissertation/mini-dissertation must render proof that the candidate is able to conduct and execute independent scientific research.
- 39.3 Material from the student's own published work may be incorporated in the dissertation/ mini-dissertation, but a collection of published works shall not be accepted as a dissertation.
- 39.4 No publication may, without prior permission of Senate, contain a statement to the effect that the published material was or is to be submitted in part or in fulfilment for the degree.
- 39.5 A dissertation/mini-dissertation previously submitted as a whole or in substance for a degree at another university will not be accepted at this University.

CLOSING DATES FOR SUBMISSION

G40

- 40.1 With a view to graduation, the assessment copies of the dissertation/mini-dissertation must be submitted for assessment such that it allows sufficient time for the assessment process to conclude, as contemplated under Rule G41 and G42.
- 40.2 Students who aim to graduate during the first graduation of the year, but who, for some reason, do not make the deadline described in Rule G40.1, must re-register before end of February and complete all outstanding requirements for the degree.

ASSESSMENT OF THE DISSERTATION/MINI-DISSERTATION G41

- 41.1 On the recommendation of the Faculty concerned, the Faculty appoints an assessment panel consisting of the two external assessors, preferably from different institutions in the case of a research masters', and one external with one internal assessor in the case of mini-dissertations.
- 41.2 As soon as the dissertation/mini-dissertation has been submitted for assessment, the Postgraduate Office shall notify the members of Senate and the Faculty concerned, in writing, that the dissertation/mini-dissertation is ready for inspection. Within fourteen days, any member of Senate or the Faculty concerned may submit comments, in writing, through the Executive Dean, to the Postgraduate Office.
- 41.3 The members of the assessment panel must submit their independent reports on the dissertation/mini-dissertation in writing within six weeks to the Postgraduate Office which will forward them, with comments received, to the supervisor to compile a summarised report for submission to the Faculty within two weeks. Upon approval the supervisor oversees corrections and submits a report, with a spirally bound copy of the dissertation/mini-dissertation to the office of the Executive Dean.
- 41.4 Before the degree is conferred, the candidate must submit to the Postgraduate Office:
- 41.4.1 One corrected hard bound copy for each assessor and each supervisor.
 - 41.4.2 One corrected hard bound copy and one file in electronic form (CD) in PDF format for the Postgraduate Office.
 - 41.4.3 One corrected hard bound copy and one file in electronic form (CD) in PDF format for the Library & Information Services.
- 41.5 If a candidate fails in a dissertation/mini-dissertation, he/she may submit an amended or different dissertation/mini-dissertation within one year, provided that:
- 41.5.1 the intention to submit an amended or different dissertation/mini-dissertation has been reported and approved by the Faculty Executive Committee;
 - 41.5.2 the Postgraduate Office is informed of the approval by the Faculty.

CONFERMENT OF THE MASTERS DEGREE

G42

42.1 Apart from the provision of the Statute to the contrary, a master's degree may not be conferred,

42.1.1 Before the minimum period of registration has elapsed and

42.1.2 Unless he/she has complied with all the requirements imposed under the Rules.

42.2 In order for the degree to be conferred during a particular graduation, the summarised report in its final form must be approved by the Executive Committee of Senate at least one month before the graduation ceremony.

PUBLICATION OF A DISSERTATION/MINI-DISSERTATION

G43

43.1 If a dissertation, or a paper thereon, is not published by the author within one year after the conferment of the degree, or no actual steps regarded by Senate as satisfactory are taken to effect the publication thereof in the said period, the University is entitled to publish the whole of the dissertation or part thereof or a summary.

43.2 The term "publishing" implies that the dissertation is made available to the public, free or against payment, privately or through the trade, in the form of a typed volume or in the form of a volume multiplied by other processes or as a journal article or by other means.

43.3 At publication, the University must state that it is a consequence of a dissertation/mini-dissertation submitted by the candidate in compliance with the requirements for the degree... of the University, and with the supervisor, co-supervisor (s) and student acting as co-authors.

MASTERS STUDY BY RESEARCH

DURATION OF STUDY

G44

The minimum and maximum duration of study is as described under rule G10.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFERRING A MASTERS DEGREE

G45

45.1 A research master's degree is conferred on the grounds of:

45.1.1 A dissertation, in addition to which;

45.1.2 An oral summative assessment and/or evidence of submission of an article in an accredited journal may be required.

SUBMISSION OF DISSERTATION

G46

46.1 The title page of the copies of the dissertation which are submitted shall contain the following:

46.1.1 The full title of the dissertation.

46.1.2 The full name of the candidate.

46.1.3 Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of, in the Faculty of, at the University of Limpopo, South Africa.

46.1.4 Name(s) of supervisor (s).

46.1.5 Year of submission.

46.2 The candidate must sign the following official statement on submitting his/her dissertation:

"I declare that the dissertation hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of (degree & field of research) has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; that it is my work in design and in execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged."

- 46.3 The candidate is required to submit to his/her supervisor, the following:
- 46.3.1 An abstract of the dissertation, in English. The abstract should be bound into each copy of the dissertation.
 - 46.3.2 One spirally bound copy of a dissertation for each assessor.
 - 46.3.3 One spirally bound copy for the Postgraduate Office for viewing purposes by members of Senate and Faculty.
- 46.4 With the copies of the dissertation, the supervisor and co-supervisor(s) must indicate to the Faculty that the candidate is ready for assessment.
- 46.5 If a candidate fails in a dissertation, he/she may submit an amended or different dissertation within one year, subject to Rules 41.5.1 and 41.5.2, provided that:
- 46.5.1 the intention to submit an amended or different dissertation has been reported and approved by the Faculty Executive Committee;
 - 46.5.2 the Postgraduate Office is informed of the approval by the Faculty.

AWARDING OF MARKS

G47

- 47.1 The final mark achieved for the dissertation, is the average of the marks allocated by all assessors.
- 47.2 If an assessor indicates in his/her examination report that he/she has to view the dissertation again after the corrections are effected, it may be done so once only.
- 47.3 Where an assessor awards a mark below 50%, Senate may seek a third opinion once only.
- 47.4 In order to pass the degree, a minimum of 50% should be allocated by all assessors.

**CONVERSION OF A MASTERS DEGREE STUDY INTO A DOCTORAL DEGREE
G48**

48.1 Should a Masters dissertation be deemed of exceptional merit by the supervisor(s) and/or co-supervisor(s), during supervision, it may be converted to a doctoral thesis, subject to the following:

48.1.1 The degree shall be awarded at least four years after the Bachelor's degree has been conferred on the candidate, subject to Rule G54.

48.1.2 Endorsement by the Faculty for the dissertation to be ultimately assessed as a doctoral study, is required.

48.1.3 On the basis of a recommendation by the supervisor(s) and/or co-supervisor(s), Director of the School and Head of Department, the Faculty shall seek the opinion of two external assessors who qualify to assess a doctoral thesis, and

48.1.4 If both external assessors' reports recommend that the research qualifies to be converted into a doctoral study, the Executive Dean shall submit a recommendation of the external assessors and the substantiation of the supervisor(s) and/or co-supervisor(s) to the Faculty Board for endorsement and the Executive Committee of Senate for consideration and approval.

48.2 If a Masters' dissertation is ready for assessment and is found to be of such an exceptional merit that the supervisor(s) and co-supervisor(s) are of the opinion that it qualifies to be upgraded to a doctoral degree, the Executive Dean of the Faculty shall submit an application for conversion to the Executive Committee of Senate, subject to the following:

48.2.1 The dissertation shall be reviewed by the two external assessors with express indication that it qualifies to be a doctoral study.

48.2.2 If the external assessors' reports recommend that the research qualifies to be converted into a doctoral study, the Executive Dean shall submit a recommendation of the external assessors and the substantiation of the supervisor(s) and/or co-supervisor(s) to the Faculty Board for endorsement and the Executive Committee of Senate for consideration and approval.

48.2.3 If the ECS approves the Faculty's recommendations, normal processes relating to the assessment of doctoral thesis will be initiated.

48.3 If the student fails in the opinion of the assessors to obtain a pass in a doctoral thesis, the normal assessment procedures for Masters dissertation, as indicated under Rule G41, shall apply.

MASTERS STUDY BY COURSEWORK

DURATION OF STUDY

G49

The minimum and maximum duration of study is as described under Rule G10.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFERRING A COURSEWORK MASTERS DEGREE

G50

50.1 A coursework master's degree is conferred on the grounds of:

50.1.1 Completion of the required modules.

50.1.2 A mini-dissertation aligned with approved prescribed programme rules and the Higher Education Qualifications Sub-Framework (HEQSF).

SUBMISSION OF A MINI-DISSERTATION

G51

51.1 The title page of the copies of the dissertation which are submitted shall contain the following:

51.1.1 The full title of the dissertation.

51.1.2 The full name of the candidate.

51.1.3 Submitted in partial fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of, in the Faculty of, at the University of Limpopo, South Africa.

51.1.4 Year of submission.

51.1.5 Name(s) of supervisor (s).

51.2 The candidate must sign the following official statement on submitting his/her dissertation:

"I declare that the mini-dissertation hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of(degree & field of research) has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; that it is my work in design and in

execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged.”

51.3 The candidate is required to submit to his/her supervisor, the following:

51.3.1 An abstract of the mini-dissertation. The abstract should be bound into each copy of the mini-dissertation.

51.3.2 One spirally bound copy of a mini-dissertation for each assessor.

51.3.3 One spirally bound copy for the Postgraduate Office for viewing purposes by members of Senate and Faculty.

51.4 With the copies of the mini-dissertation, the supervisor and co-supervisor(s) must indicate to the Faculty that the candidate is ready for assessment.

51.5 If a candidate fails in a mini-dissertation, he/she may submit an amended or different mini-dissertation within one year subject to Rule G41.5.1 and G41.5.2.

AWARDING OF MARKS

G52

52.1 In order to pass the degree, a student shall obtain a pass mark of at least 50% in every module required for the degree.

52.2 The final mark should be proportional between the mark obtained for the mini-dissertation and all the required coursework components of the degree.

52.3 The final mark achieved for the mini-dissertation, is the average of the marks allocated by all assessors.

52.4 In order to pass the degree, a minimum of 50% should be allocated for the mini-dissertation by all assessors (internal and external).

52.5 Where an external assessor awards a mark below 50%, Senate may seek a second external opinion once only.

52.6 If an assessor indicates in his/her examination report that he/she has to view the mini-dissertation again after the corrections are effected, it may be done so once only.

F. RULES FOR DOCTORAL DEGREE STUDY

ADMISSION

G53

53.1 In addition to the rules in this Section, those contained under Section A (General Rules) and Section C (Rules for Postgraduate Study) also apply.

53.2 Admission criteria:

5.3.2.1 A master's degree or equivalent qualification.

53.2.2 If a candidate does not have a master's degree, he/she may be admitted to the doctoral study provided that Senate through the recognition of prior learning (RPL) is satisfied that such a candidate has reached the standard of a master's degree.

53.3 Before a candidate is accepted for doctoral study, the Faculty concerned must be convinced that the candidate has sufficient knowledge of the field of study to be able to fulfil the requirements for the degree.

DURATION OF STUDY

G54

The minimum and maximum duration of study is as described under Rule G10.

REGISTRATION AND RENEWAL OF REGISTRATION

G55

55.1 Candidates for doctoral study are not subject to the registration period in the beginning of the year, for the first registration only.

55.2 A candidate who has been registered for a doctoral degree must renew his/her registration each year before the closing date for academic registration and pay all prescribed fees until the candidate has complied with all the requirements for the degree.

55.3 If a student's progress is not satisfactory as per Faculty Rules, the student's registration for doctoral study may be cancelled.

REQUIREMENTS FOR CONFERRING A DOCTORAL DEGREE

G56

56.1 A doctoral degree is conferred on the grounds of a completed thesis.

56.2 Subject to Faculty Rules, the assessment panel may subject a candidate to a defence of the thesis.

THESIS

G57

57.1 The title and proposal of a thesis is approved for a period of four years, unless programme rules determine otherwise.

57.2 A thesis must:

57.2.1 Demonstrate a high level of research capability.

57.2.2 Make a significant and original academic contribution in the discipline or field.

57.2.3 Be of a quality to satisfy peer review

and

57.2.4 Merit publication and may require evidence of submission of one or more articles to accredited journals.

57.3 Unless otherwise stated under Faculty Rules for degrees and diplomas, material from the student's own published work may be incorporated in the thesis, but should not substitute the full text. A collection of published works shall not be accepted as a thesis.

57.4 No publication may, without prior permission of Senate, contain a statement to the effect that the published material was or is to be submitted in fulfilment of the degree.

57.5 In order for the degree to be conferred during a particular graduation, the summarised report in its final form must be approved by the Executive Committee of Senate at least one month before the graduation ceremony.

57.6 Students who aim to graduate during the first graduation of the year, but who, for some reason, do not make the deadline described in Rule G57.5, must re-register before end of February and complete all outstanding requirements for the degree.

57.7 A thesis previously submitted as a whole or in part for a degree at another tertiary institution will not be accepted for consideration at this University.

SUBMISSION OF THE THESIS

G58

58.1 The title page of the copies of the thesis which are submitted shall contain the following:

58.1.1 The full title of the thesis.

58.1.2 The full name of the candidate.

58.1.3 Submitted in fulfilment of the requirements for the degree of, in the Faculty of, at the University of Limpopo, South Africa.

58.1.4 Year of submission.

58.1.5 Name(s) of supervisor (s).

58.2 A candidate for the doctoral degree must sign the following official statement on submitting his/her thesis:

“I declare that the thesis hereby submitted to the University of Limpopo, for the degree of (degree & field of research) has not previously been submitted by me for a degree at this or any other university; that it is my work in design and in execution, and that all material contained herein has been duly acknowledged.”

58.3 The candidate is required to submit to his/her supervisor, the following:

58.3.1 An abstract of the thesis, in English, subsequently bound into each copy for approval.

58.3.2 One spirally bound copy of a thesis for each assessor.

58.3.3 One spirally bound copy for the Postgraduate Office for viewing purposes by members of Senate and Faculty.

58.4 With the copies of the thesis, the supervisor and co-supervisor (s) must indicate to the Faculty that the candidate is ready for assessment.

ASSESSMENT OF THE THESIS

G59

- 59.1 On the recommendation of the Faculty concerned, Faculty Executive Committee appoints an assessment panel consisting of at least two external assessors who must, preferably, be from different institutions.
- 59.2 The Faculty will appoint one additional member, who is not an assessor, to act as chair as the assessment panel.
- 59.3 As soon as the thesis has been submitted for assessment, the Postgraduate Office shall notify the members of Senate and Faculty concerned, in writing, that the thesis is ready for inspection.
- 59.4 Within fourteen days after the abovementioned notice, any member of Senate or Faculty concerned may submit comments on the thesis, in writing, through the Executive Dean, to the Postgraduate Office for submission to, and consideration by the assessment panel.
- 59.5 The members of the assessment panel must submit their independent reports on the thesis, in the prescribed format, in writing within six weeks to the Postgraduate Office who will forward them, with comments received to the supervisor.
- 59.6 The supervisor compiles a summary report for submission to the Executive Dean within two weeks. Where necessary, the supervisor oversees corrections and submits a report thereof, with one spirally bound copy of the thesis to the Office of the Executive Dean.
- 59.7 Before the degree is conferred, the candidate must hand in to the Postgraduate Office:
 - 59.7.1 One corrected hard bound copy for each assessor and each supervisor.
 - 59.7.2 One corrected hard bound copy and one file in electronic form (CD) in PDF format for the Postgraduate Office.
 - 59.7.3 One corrected hard bound copy and one file in electronic form (CD) in PDF format for the Library & Information Services.
- 59.8 A candidate may not resubmit a thesis for a doctoral degree if it has been formerly rejected in a different form.
- 59.9 For the degree to be conferred to the candidate all assessors have to accept the thesis as a pass. No alternative assessor may be appointed if one or more of the assessors rejects the thesis.

59.10 If an assessor indicates in his/her assessment report that he/she has to view the thesis again after the corrections were affected, it may be done so once only.

CONFERMENT OF THE DEGREE

G60

60.1 A Doctoral degree is not conferred unless the candidate has been registered for the degree at the University for at least two academic years before the presentation of his/her thesis.

60.2 If a thesis is accepted and an assessor decides that the candidate has to make certain changes, the degree is not conferred until the changes have been effected to the satisfaction of Senate.

60.3 The doctor's degree is conferred on a student who, in the opinion of the assessment panel and Senate, has fulfilled the requirements of the degree.

60.4 The doctoral degree is not conferred with distinction.

PUBLICATION OF A THESIS

G61

61.1 Rule G43, applies throughout to a doctoral degree.

61.2 The Senate may waive this right, provided the student makes arrangements for publication of the work in a manner acceptable to Senate.

AWARDING OF DEGREE *Honoris Causa*

G62

62.1 Subject to the provisions of the Statute and the Policy and Procedures for awarding an honorary degree, Council may confer a degree *honoris causa* on a person on the recommendation of Senate.

62.2 A degree *honoris causa* may be awarded to a person who has shown exceptional contributions to society, provided such a person is not:

62.2.1 An active member of staff

62.2.2 A donor, where the perception can be created that the award is for financial benefits

62.2.3 A member of Council

- 62.3 A proposal to confer the degree can only be submitted by academic members of staff to the Senate.
- 62.4 The proposal has to be supported by at least a two thirds majority in Senate to be approved and recommended to Council for ratification.
- 62.5 A maximum of four honorary degrees may be awarded during one academic year.
- 62.6 The consent of the candidate to be honoured shall be obtained, in writing beforehand, but the degree can be awarded posthumously under exceptional circumstances.
- 62.7 Honorary degrees are normally awarded in perpetuity, but Council can revoke a degree if the candidate is deemed to have breached the University values