The document attempts to briefly review major changes/differences in the 2015 regulatory framework in comparison to the previous one. We recommend that all students, registered for an OU validated award thoroughly review the Regulations for validated awards of the Open University for institutions offering Dual awards.

While these regulations, taking effect September 1, 2015, apply to all new, continuing and readmitted student cohorts on programmes leading to an Open University (OU) validated award, there are a number of clarifications emphasized below which all students should review:

- References to the term “Stage” correspond to “Level”. A stage of a programme is a collection study consisting of a total of 120 (UK) credits. Stages are usually commensurate with a credit level (Stage 1 = Level 4, Stage 2 = Level 5 and Stage 3 = Level 6).
- The Open University offers to DEREE students the following Validated Awards: CertHE, DipHE, Ordinary Bachelor’s degree (Exit Award only) and Bachelor’s degree with honours [BA (Hons), BSc (Hons)].
- References to (post)graduate programmes do not apply to the Deree College Graduate School.
- Progression rules remain the same: students must complete all Level 4 courses within the validated programme before they progress to Level 5. Providing that a student has obtained the necessary prerequisites, s/he may progress to Level 6 courses having gained at least 60 UK credits at Level 5.
- Interruption of Studies (please refer to paragraph 8.1 of the Regulations for validated awards of the Open University for institutions offering Dual awards) includes army deferral for the purpose of required national military service. The Committee on Academic Standards and Policies (CASP) remains responsible on behalf of Deree for all petitions in relation to interruption of studies for any reason(s).
- Paragraph 11.2: last sentence changes to “these minima may apply to assessments elements as stated in the wording of the module specifications, but will apply to modules, stages and qualifications”.
- Late submission of work is penalized according to the number of working days exceeded from the original date of submission (see paragraph 13.3).
- Policy for moderation refers to the existing second marking policy (and a third marking policy where necessary).
- A *viva voce* (oral) examination is provided in exceptional cases (see paragraph 16.0).
- The maximum number of retakes allowed in a programme leading to an OU award in ten (10) (see paragraph 17.3.1 (a)).
- If a student fails a validated course more than two times s/he may be required to withdraw from the OU validated award unless CASP has accepted the student’s petition for mitigating circumstances. The maximum number of retakes allowed per module is two (2).
- Compensation (see paragraph 17.4): references to level compensation are NOT applicable (as of OU BoE July 2017). Compensation within a module still apply, i.e. students that score 38/39 in one of the assessments and their overall calculated grade is at least 40, they may be eligible for assessment compensation. Those cases will be discussed and decided in the relevant subject board.
- While all references in paragraph 17.5 are entitled “Repeats”, references to partial repeats are NOT applicable.
- Classification of bachelor degrees will be based on the average mark across all modules within Stage 3 (Level 6) and Stage 2 (Level 5) at a 2:1 ratio, i.e. 2/3 of L6 + 1/3 of L5 (see paragraph 19.1).
- While all transfer credit requests are handled by the Validation Office, students must be aware that no credits can be granted for any courses at Stage 3 (Level 6). A student however may be awarded credit for prior learning (RPL) towards the requirements of a named award up to 50% (all Stage 2 and half of Stage 3 modules-courses) of the total credit requirements for that specific award (please refer to paragraphs 22.0 and 22.3).
- Academic Misconduct-Section E: Reference is made to a number of academic types of misconduct such as plagiarism, collusion, etc and the utilization of AMBeR Tariff (The Academic Misconduct Benchmarking Research). This tariff in use provides guidelines for defining sanctions in relation to academic misconduct.
- Progress Report (paragraph 35.2): Upon completion of each Stage (Level), a letter will be issued to the student upon the student’s request. (One may consider this as a “partial transcript”).