

**EXTRACT FROM UNIVERSITY ASSESSMENT REGULATIONS, 2009
(Legal Notice 274 of 2009)**

(<http://www.um.edu.mt/registrar/regulations/general/assessmentregulations>)

Revision of Assessment Results

48. (1) Subject to the provisions of any relevant regulations or to any procedural guidelines, including the payment of fees, made by the appropriate University authority, a student may, not later than **one week** from the publication of the result of the Assessment, request that an examination paper or any other work submitted for Assessment be reviewed for the purpose of ascertaining that no error was made in the award of marks. Students may additionally request that the decision of the revision be elaborated in a detailed report.

(2) The academic judgement of the original examiner/s is not reviewable by the academic conducting the revision and a recommendation to alter the result can only be made if the change can be justified by objective criteria.

49. The revision shall be undertaken in the first instance by an examiner appointed by Senate and who had not participated in the marking of the original paper.

50. If the examiner conducting the revision is in agreement with the published result, the examiner shall draw up a report and submit it to the Registrar, through the Dean of the Faculty responsible for the Unit, for onward transmission to the student, if the student has requested a written report in addition to a decision.

51. If the examiner conducting the revision is of the opinion that there are objective grounds for changing the result either upwards or downwards, the examiner shall communicate the findings to the chairman of the Board of Examiners, who shall convene a meeting of the Board of Examiners, including the examiner who conducted the revision, to discuss the relevant part of the paper. The Board of Examiners shall follow *mutatis mutandis* the procedures outlined in regulations 24 and 25. If the examiner's recommendation is to revise the marks downwards, the Board of Examiners shall only agree to the recommendation if it results in a change of grade. A pass grade shall not be downgraded to a failing grade; if it is found that extra marks in a passing grade have been given by mistake, these marks shall be removed provided that the final percentage mark is not less than 45%.

52. When a written report is requested by the student, the report of the examiner conducting the revision shall inform the student about the quality of his performance in each item from the set comprising the Assessment.

53. If after revision, a change in the result, whether upwards or downwards, is found to be necessary, all records, including the final classification, shall be amended accordingly. Any fee paid in connection with the request for revision shall be refunded in the following cases:

- (i) if the change in the marks changes the grade from a fail to a pass;
- (ii) if there is an increase of 10 marks to the original result accompanied by a change in grade; and
- (iii) if an administrative error is detected.

54. Nothing in these regulations prevents students from discussing Assessment questions, including the type of answers expected, with the lecturer and/or the Head of Department concerned. Such consultation is not a prerequisite, nor can it be used to extend the time limit provided for in regulation 48 (1).

55. An appeal which questions the academic or professional judgement of those charged by Senate with the responsibility for assessing students' academic performance or professional competence shall not be permitted.

Update for Students regarding Revision of Papers

Senate has recently approved amendments to the University Assessment Regulations, as shown on the extract of the Regulations overleaf.

In particular, your attention is being drawn to the following:

- Following a revision of papers, marks can be revised either upwards or downwards. If the decision is to revise the marks downwards, **marks shall only be decreased if this results in a change of grade** (e.g. 55% may be reduced to 54% but 54% will not be reduced to 53%). However, **a pass mark will not be downgraded to a failing mark**. If it results that extra marks in a passing grade need to be reduced due to a clerical error, the marks can be downgraded, but not to below 45%.
- Students wishing a review of their marks for dissertations are required to submit a request for revision of papers accompanied by a statement giving the reason why they feel their dissertation merited a higher mark. The additional examiner would examine the students' claims and the augmented Board of Examiners would be able to consider the appeal more effectively and reach a more just conclusion.
- Requests for revision of projects which are seen by a Board of Examiners, usually composed of more than 3 examiners, are not allowed since the examination process itself involves thorough discussion of the projects by the examiners and if any issue regarding the quality of the project is involved, this would have been tackled and resolved during the discussion on the marks to be awarded to the project.

It is important for students to be aware that since now the regulations require that a Board of Examiners, composed of at least 3 members, is appointed for all study-units, the likelihood that an error occurs in the marking of examination papers or assignments is greatly reduced. Boards of Examiners will collectively view all failing overall marks before the results of study-units are published, thus ensuring that only students whose performance is indeed deemed to be of a failing quality actually fail.

Students wishing to apply for a revision of paper are requested to log into eSIMS <https://www.um.edu.mt/esims> and select the 'View your current Results/Apply for Revision of Paper' option.