

Note on the re-use of own work (or avoiding self-plagiarism):

- 1) In the MSc dissertation students are permitted to reuse portions of work submitted for assessments on other modules of the MSc course without incurring a penalty. This is an exception to the University's plagiarism regulations regarding duplication or reusing coursework (aka self-plagiarism). The exception is justified in light of the particular nature of this MSc dissertation, which typically takes the form of a research outline and as such, brings together into one-piece elements that have been developed through numerous iterations. Although some cutting and pasting of previous work may be appropriate (this might include but is not restricted to, e.g., portions of the research problem and/or of the literature review, which may already have gone through a process of refinement and been well formulated), there is an expectation that most portions of work submitted during the course of the MSc will be reworked for inclusion in the dissertation. Long, verbatim replication of coursework in the dissertation is discouraged.
- 2) Students may not, however, reuse the same work between different modules on the MSc. If markers detect substantial overlap or repetition in the subject matter between modules on the MSc course, they must adjust the marks of the two (or more) assessments involved, so that the student does not receive credit for using the same material twice.

Please see The [Examinations and Assessment Regulations](#) Handbook for further details on plagiarism and reusing work:

2.6.6 The marking of special cases (iii) Overlapping material

Unless specifically allowed in module or course documentation, the use of the same material in more than one assessment exercise will be subject to penalties. If Markers detect substantial overlap or repetition in the subject matter of a student's assessments within a single module or across other modules they must adjust the marks of the two (or more) assessments involved so that the student does not receive credit for using the same material twice. The Markers must inform the Student Systems and Records Office which will then inform the Deputy Chair of the relevant PAB. Such cases are not processed as academic misconduct.

- 3) In the PhD thesis, students are permitted to reuse portions of the material presented in the MSc dissertation, but again with the expectation that these portions have been further developed and reworked for the purpose of inclusion in the PhD thesis. Doctoral theses are allowed to include verbatim material from the MSc degree *as long as it is declared*. Please see the relevant regulation in the [Handbook and Regulations](#) for Doctoral Researchers 2017-18:

10.5.7 Statement

Your thesis or portfolio must include a signed declaration bound into the thesis or portfolio after the title page which states:

- The thesis or portfolio, whether in the same or different form, has not been previously submitted to this or any other University for a degree, unless you are re-submitting the thesis or portfolio for re-examination.
- To what extent any material has already been submitted as part of required coursework, at any university and any award obtained as a result.
- The sources from which the information has been derived and, if any part of the thesis or portfolio results from joint work with other persons. If so, the extent to which the thesis or portfolio has drawn on the work of those others and the portion of the thesis or portfolio which you claim to be your own original work.