



Degree Awarded by Middle East College

STUDENT HANDBOOK

PART A – GENERAL REGULATIONS

PART B – PROGRAMME REGULATIONS

DISCLAIMER

The statements and policies in this handbook are for informational purposes only and serve as guidelines for a successful campus life. The College reserves the right to modify the information in this handbook and keep students advised of any such changes.

PART A. GENERAL REGULATIONS

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1. WELCOME FROM THE DEAN

Dear Students,

Welcome to Middle East College (MEC), one of the most reputed institutions of higher education in the Sultanate of Oman. We believe in contributing to the development of a harmonious and sustainable world through the pursuit of knowledge. Founded in 2002, MEC is one of the fastest growing higher education institutions in the Sultanate with around 5000 students from around 25 different countries. MEC offers 13 undergraduate and 3 post graduate programmes in academic partnerships with Breda University of Applied Science (Netherlands), Coventry University (UK), and University of Wolverhampton (UK). In collaboration with the National Records and Archives Authority of Oman, Middle East College is the first educational institution in the Gulf to offer specialized Diploma and Bachelor degrees in Contemporary Archives Science. With a continuously evolving curriculum, various professional body memberships, university associations and innovative teaching and learning practices at MEC, our students gain professional competence to stay abreast with evolving technologies in their field of study. Our students are provided with opportunities for developing creativity, and a sense of community in an intercultural environment through various co-curricular and extra-curricular activities, supported by an expanding infrastructure. As a responsible Higher Education institution, we focus on continuous improvement which is responsive to the needs of the community and making useful contributions to education, knowledge and society at large.

With best wishes for a wonderful and successful year,

Dr Kiran G R

Dean

2. CAMPUS CONTACT INFORMATION

MIDDLE EAST COLLEGE
P.O. BOX 79, AL RUSAYL
POSTAL CODE 124
SULTANATE OF OMAN

TEL.: +968 24531400
FAX: +968 24446028
E-mail: info@mec.edu.om
Website: www.mec.edu.om

2.1. CONTACT PERSONS IN DEPARTMENTS

Faculty	Department/Centre	Extn.	Email ID
Dr Smitha Sunil K Nair	Post Graduate Studies	Ext. 576	smitha@mec.edu.om
Dr Tareq Al Damen	Centre for Foundation studies	Ext. 565	tareq@mec.edu.om
Dr Mounir Dhibi	Computing	Ext. 463	mdhibi@mec.edu.om
Dr Elango Rengasamy	Management Studies	Ext. 494	elango@mec.edu.om
Dr Anilloy Frank	Electronics Engineering	Ext. 653	anilloy@mec.edu.om
Dr Ram Kishore	Civil Engineering	Ext. 646	ramkishore@mec.edu.om
Ms Alya Al Farsi	Mathematics and Applied Sciences	Ext. 704	alya@mec.edu.om
Dr Hazem Hussain Ali	Archives & Records Management	Ext. 774	hali@mec.edu.om
Dr Basim Khidhir	Mechanical Engineering	Ext. 720	basim@mec.edu.om

3. GENERAL INFORMATION

3.1. USING THIS HANDBOOK

This handbook contains all the important information that the students will need to understand the path of progress for addressing their academic requirements. It is by design, concise and the student will, therefore, at various times, also must consult other sources of information, such as different departments and units.

Students are encouraged to read through the handbook since it will be a great advantage for them. It familiarises them, from the outset, with the various aspects of their studies and regulations governing their studies that are described in these pages. The answers to most of the questions the students want to ask during their time of study are contained in the handbook. Students are further given access to all student related policies through the college portal.

It may be necessary on occasions to amend or revise the details given in this handbook.

3.2. ABOUT THE COLLEGE

Middle East College (MEC) is an integral part of the 21st century Oman. MEC is housed in the Knowledge Oasis Muscat (KOM), the Information Technology hub of Sultanate of Oman. MEC, in collaboration with Coventry University, UK, offers a wide range of programmes in different areas of technology, primarily catering to students in the Sultanate who are interested in furthering their career prospects in the emerging areas of Engineering, Information Technology and Business IT.

MEC is about 12 km from Muscat International Airport, with easy access from any part of the Sultanate. The College with its vibrant student population is situated very close to Muscat City Centre and Sultan Qaboos University. MEC is the first Microsoft IT academy in the country as well as a member of the Oracle Academic Initiative and the CISCO Networking Academy.

3.3. VISION, MISSION, VALUES

Vision statement: *Contributing to the development of a harmonious and sustainable world through pursuit of knowledge.*

Mission statement: *We endeavour to fulfil creative human potential through education, inquiry, innovation, intercultural engagement and service.*

Values:

QUALITY: We challenge ourselves continuously in our quest for excellence.

DIVERSITY: We appreciate diversity of individuals, ideas and cultures.

TRANSPARENCY: We demonstrate integrity and openness in our conduct.

RESPECT: We discharge our responsibilities with respect for all.

COMMITMENT: We commit ourselves to the nation and its culture, intellectual inquiry and the environment

3.4. LEARNER ATTRIBUTES

- Professional competence
 - Domain knowledge and research skills
- Ethical awareness and practice
- Leadership and teamwork skills
- Communication skills
- Digital competence
- Intercultural competence
- Community engagement
- Lifelong learning

3.5. AWARDING BODY

Middle East College, Sultanate of Oman.

3.6. ADMISSION CONDITIONS IN GENERAL AND FOR EACH SPECIALISATION

Students seeking admission to any of the Bachelors or Diploma programmes mentioned

below should possess a General Education Diploma from Sultanate of Oman or its equivalent qualification approved By Ministry of Education, the Sultanate of Oman and a General Foundation Programme completion certificate.

Students who do not have GFP Certificate will have to take MEC Placement Tests to determine their proficiency levels Math and Computing. Depending on their proficiency levels reflected in the Placement Tests, students will be placed in appropriate levels of MEC Foundation Programme.

BSc in Archiving and Records Management

3.6.1. OVERSEAS STUDENTS

Overseas students who have other qualification equivalent to General Education Diploma (as may be approved by the Ministry of Education, Sultanate of Oman) in appropriate streams may apply for the programmes. They further have to study Math and Computing components of General Foundation Programme (GFP) from MEC. Their admission would require attestation and approvals from appropriate authorities.

3.7. FEE PAYMENT STRUCTURE FOR AY 2018 – 19

3.7.1. APPLICATION FEE

Application fee (non-refundable): OMR 50(OMR. Fifty Riyal) per application.

3.7.2. CAUTION DEPOSIT

Every student taking admission has to pay towards a refundable caution deposit of RO.100/- on admission. The caution deposit will be refunded at the time when the student is leaving the college. Caution deposit may be adjusted and paid in case any outstanding amounts are payable by the student.

3.7.3. TUITION FEE

Tuition fee are normally paid in advance.

The payment may be made by cash, cheque and/or bank transfer only. Fees details are given below:

Tuition Fees for Foundation Programme components:

- Mathematics (2 Levels): OMR 269/- (OMR. Two Hundred Sixty Nine Only)
- Computing (2 levels): OMR 204/- (OMR. Two Hundred Four Only)

For Under Graduate ARM Programme

- OMR 1,126/ (OMR One Thousand One Hundred Twenty Six Only)- per semester (based on 60 credit points per semester)

- Total fees for Bachelors is OMR 9,008/- (Omani Riyal Nine Thousand Eight Only)

3.8. STUDENT IDENTITY CARD

On completion of admission formalities each student will be issued an ID card which has varied functionality. Student should possess the ID card at all times while on campus and at times off campus when required.

1. Accepts responsibility for any damage or loss of the card including any money that is stored in the card
2. Assures to use the card responsibly for his/her own purposes and not share it with any
3. Understands that, if the card is lost or damaged, he/she will have to pay an amount of RO 10/- (Omani Riyal Ten Only) for a duplicate card to be issued
4. Would abide by MEC IT Policies and Procedures and understand that he/she is liable to disciplinary action if found violating the same

Some of the current functionalities of the ID card are Student Identification, Printing documents from College printers, Access Control and Book Circulation. Other features, which may be added in near future, include Fee Payment, Sunray system login & Hot Desking and Payments in Cafeteria.

3.9. STAFF/STUDENT MEETINGS

These are opportunities for all students on the module/programme to come together with staff to discuss issues and problems. Students will be informed by the respective departments of the details of such meetings. All students are encouraged to participate and contribute to these meetings. However, students are reminded not to assemble for any meetings without prior permission from Deputy Dean and Registrar. Such meetings will be considered unlawful and action will be initiated as per disciplinary policies, which may include expulsion from the college.

3.10. NOTICE BOARDS

Students are advised to check the appropriate notice boards on a regular basis (every day). The notice boards are positioned in different areas in the College.

Students are not allowed to display unauthorised notices on the College notice boards. Any information which is to be put up on the notice board by the students should have prior approval from Head of Media and Communication Department. Failure to do so shall invite stringent action which may even lead to expulsion from the College as per disciplinary policies.

3.11. CONTACTING STAFF

Students are encouraged to reach members of faculty to address issues relating to their studies, classes and other academic matters and, appropriate units in the College for other

issues that they may want to discuss. Office hours of all staff members are provided in SIS and mentioned in MIGs. Students are welcome to meet members of faculty during their indicated office hours. Students who would like to meet any staff during their office timings should take an appointment through SIS/email.

3.12. CAFETERIA

The College holds within its campus, spacious cafeterias with a pleasant ambience, which serves a variety of intercontinental and local cuisine and is functional from 7:30 am to 8:30 pm on all working days. Separate counters are available for girls and boys. The MEC Hygiene Committee regularly conducts quality checks on the service offered by the cafeteria. The cafeterias are closed during the holy month of Ramadan.

3.13. WELLNESS CENTRE

MEC believes that good health is vital in the fulfilment of student's academic as well as personal aspirations. MEC Wellness Centre operates from AL KHWARZMI Building supported by first aiders in each building. Wellness Centre operates from 8.00 am to 8.00 pm. Additionally, a resident nurse is available on call.

3.14. ALUMNI

MEC believes in strong relations with its Alumni. Alumni surveys are conducted every year to take feedback from them for improving the services offered by MEC.

To further strengthen the relations with Alumni, MEC organizes Alumni Meet every year where MEC graduates re-unite with MEC Faculty members, staff and their classmates. Career Services and External Affairs Department maintains the record on an online portal of all the Alumni through MEC Alumni Association. Alumni are encouraged to register their names in the MEC Alumni Association to receive updates on the activities of the Association, to obtain latest information about the College and to keep in touch with their ex-classmates and friends.

4. GENERAL STUDENT POLICIES & PROCEDURES

4.1. STUDENT RESPONSIBILITIES

It is expected of the student to:

1. plan and register his/her programme of study and make necessary amendments if required.
2. register for modules as per his/her degree plan and in consultation with the respective academic adviser following the regulations and schedules as prescribed in the Student Handbook and the Academic Calendar respectively, and other regulations as may be prescribed from time to time for the smooth registration process
3. complete all elements of assessment according to the instructions given by different instructors and such others who are engaged for the purpose of assessing student's performance

4. meet his/her academic adviser regularly and at appointed times and keep the adviser posted with matters that are likely to affect student's academic performance and those that require the adviser's intervention
5. collect the assessment details, lecture notes, worksheets or any other instruments required for the registered modules, whenever s/he is absent during distribution of the same or if s/he is required to do so
6. return the books provided, on long term borrowing, in good condition upon completion of the semester or as per the time notified for the purpose of return to the library
7. attend classes at all times unless circumstances prevent him/her from doing so and keep the appropriate departments updated of his/her absence, if any, with supporting evidences as may be required within the prescribed period
8. inform appropriate departments and members of faculty of any circumstances likely to affect his/her academic performance
9. immediately inform the Registration Office of any change of address and contact number
10. check, preferably daily, the notice boards, emails for any information that may be directly or otherwise be required for him/her as a student and respond with due time.
11. keep student Identity Cards at all times while on campus and at times off campus when required
12. read, understand, and keep copies of all forms he/she is asked to sign
13. to vacate a building when a fire alarm is activated and follow the instructions given by the fire wardens.
14. to be responsible for any personal possessions that he/she brings to the campus. Any personal property, which is left in the college campus will be deposited with the security office and may be discarded within 30 days.

4.2. STUDENT RIGHTS

The students have the right to ask about college's programmes, facilities, fees, financial aids and refunds, their academic progress, attendance status, and provisions available to students with special needs.

4.3. STUDENT CODE OF CONDUCT

All students must abide by applicable government laws, college rules, regulations, policies and procedures. Any offence related to person, property, operations of college or welfare, health and safety may be subject to disciplinary action based on the severity of violation of the code of conduct.

1. Students should not harass, threaten or use physical force in a manner that endangers the health and safety of another person, both physically and mentally.

2. Students should not be involved in destruction of college property/IT resources/ Laboratory equipment etc.
3. Smoking is permitted only in the designated areas in the college premises.
4. Any alcoholic or banned drugs are not allowed to be brought, stored, or consumed in the college premises.
5. Food and beverages are not permitted inside classrooms, laboratories, and prayer rooms.
6. Dress modestly and appropriately in line with the values of Oman and Islam norms. As per the requirements of Ministry of Higher Education, girl students should not be covering their face with veils.
7. Students must not falsely report fire or activate emergency warning equipment.
8. Students should not use college email services for unlawful activities and personal use that violates other college policies.
9. Mobile phones must be turned off during all classes.
10. Students must not indulge in any act or behaviour to cause disturbance within the college premise.
11. Students are not allowed to display unauthorised materials such as posters, flyers, advertisement etc; under any circumstance.

4.4. DISCIPLINARY ISSUES

The following process is initiated in the event of a disciplinary case lodged against a student.

- Student Experience Office (SEO) confirms the lodged issue as a disciplinary case and
- informs the Student Disciplinary Committee.
- The Student Disciplinary committee shall investigate the case and take an undertaking from the students involved in the misconduct.
- An appropriate action against the specific misconduct is formulated by the committee based on the investigation (verbal warning and issuing first written warning letter which is prepared by SDC). If the student is convinced with the decision of the committee, the case is closed at this level. If the student does not accept the decision of the committee, he/she can appeal against the decision to the Deputy Dean and Registrar.
- In cases wherein, the Committee is recommending serious actions like a second warning letter, suspension or termination letters (which are prepared by SDC and signed by the DDR) of a student, his/her case is forwarded with specific recommendation to the Deputy Dean and Registrar (DDR) for final decision/approval. The final action approved by the DDR is communicated to the student and his / her parent or sponsor through a written letter and an e-mail sent to him/her. If the student does not accept the decision of the DDR, he/she can appeal against the decision to the Dean. Thereafter, the Dean's decision will be final and binding.

4.5. STUDENT GRIEVANCE REDRESSAL

1. If a student faces any issue related to teaching and learning or with any services of the college, student may contact the respective staff who meets the student to collect all information related to the complaint and resolve it at this level. If student is convinced with response from the respective staff, the issue is closed at this level. If the student is not satisfied with the response, he/she can take the issue to the HoD/ Asst. HoD of the concerned department.
2. The student may contact the HoD/ Asst. HoD of the concerned department who works on resolving the issue at this level. If student is convinced with response from HoD/ Asst. HoD, the issue is closed at this level. If not satisfied, he/she can take the issue to the Students' Experience Office (SEO).
3. SEO receives complete details regarding the issue from the student in writing and fills up the prescribed online form which contains all the complaint description. An automated email to be sent to the HoD/ Asst. HoD concerned to give feedback and response on the particular issue referred to him/her.
4. The student gets an automated email informing him/her with the response given from the HoD/ Asst. HoD. If student is convinced with the action taken, the complaint is closed at this level. If not, the issue will be referred to the SEO.
5. SEO gives the feedback on the particular issue for explanation and better understanding as per the investigation with the HoD/Asst. HoD, accordingly the student gets an automated email informing with the SEO response. If student is convinced, the complaint is closed at this level. If not, the issue will be escalated to the Deputy Dean & Registrar/ concerned Associate/ Asst. Dean concerned depending on the reporting structure.
6. The Deputy Dean & Registrar/ Associate/ Asst. Dean concerned takes a decision and gives feedback on the particular issue referred to him. The student gets an automated email informing him/her on the response. If student is convinced with the action taken, the complaint is closed at this level. If not, the issue will be escalated to the Deputy Dean & Registrar. In cases, where the complaint is against staff coming under the reporting structure of the DDR, the case would be escalated to the Dean.
7. The Deputy Dean & Registrar takes a decision and gives feedback on the particular issue referred to him. The student gets an automated email informing him/her on the response from the Deputy Dean & Registrar. If student is convinced, the complaint is closed at this level. If not, the issue will be referred to the SEO.
8. SEO gives the feedback on the particular issue for explanation and better understanding as per the updated feedbacks, accordingly the student gets an automated email informing with the SEO response. If student is convinced, the complaint is closed at this level. If not, the student can appeal to the Dean.
9. The Dean reviews details of the case as given by the student, responses at each level of appeal and also shall discuss the issue with the HoD of the concerned

department or might request to meet the student in person. Thereafter, the Dean's decision will be final and binding.

4.6. RESPONSIBLE USE OF COMPUTER RESOURCES

MECs policies concerning unauthorised use of computer resources include but are not limited to the following.

1. Student must not download, create, store or transmit any material which contain pornography, or which encourages violence, hatred, racism or any illegal activity.
2. Student must not make unauthorized entry to any other computer or networks, using MEC's computer or network.
3. Student must not try to access any data or program which they are not authorized, or they do not have explicit consent in MEC systems.
4. Student must not share any information or devices which is used for identification and authorization such as, MEC account(s), passwords, PIN, secure token etc.,
5. Student must not use software which is not on the MEC standard software list. Shareware or freeware software which are non-standard, must not be used without the IT Services Office's approval.
6. It is prohibited to use non-approved security programs or utilities that may be harmful to a system or that may reveal or exploit any weakness of a system, (e.g.:, Packet sniffers, Port scanners, Password cracking programs or any other non-approved programs).
7. It is prohibited to send or forward e-mails that are part of chain letters.
8. E-mail users should not misrepresent and create a false impression by giving opinions or statements on behalf of MEC without prior authorization.
9. Confidential or sensitive MEC information must not be sent, forwarded or received through non-MEC e-mail accounts.
10. Students should not allow anyone to login using their ID and share their password.

4.7. FACILITY SCHEDULES

Sufficient notice will be given whenever timings are changed. All facilities remain closed on Fridays.

Library

Sunday to Thursday	7:00 am to 8:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Registration Office

Sunday to Thursday	8:00 am to 12:30pm; 1:15 pm to 6:00 pm
Saturday	Closed

Front Desk & Security

Sunday to Thursday	7:45 am to 9:00 pm
Saturday	9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Wellness Centre

Sunday to Thursday

8:00 am to 8:00 pm

Class Timings

As per time table

5. FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

The General Foundation Programme for students opting to study ARM is integrated with the undergraduate programmes. Foundation Mathematics and Computing modules are offered as non-credit bearing modules and run parallel with the mainstream course.

The objective of the Mathematics component is to equip students with mathematical understanding and skills that are necessary to achieve the cognitive and practical requirements for successfully pursuing their undergraduate studies.

The Computing component of the FP introduces students to the basics of a computer and enables them to use popular computer applications to prepare and edit formal documents, work with spread sheets, and create professional presentations.

The foundation components can be taken along with the undergraduate and is integrated with the course structure in the first and second semester of the programme. To proceed to the third semester of the programme all the components of the foundation must be completed.

5.1. ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

All candidates having a Diploma of General Education or an equivalent qualification approved by Ministry of Education, Sultanate of Oman, are eligible for entry into the MEC Foundation Programme.

5.2. EXEMPTION

Exemptions are granted based on the criteria in the table 1 below.

Exemption	Exemption Criteria
Exemption from Computing component	International Computer Driving License (ICDL) European Computer Driving License (EDCL) IC3 International Diploma in IT Skills Completed computing components of GFP from an approved HEI in Oman.
Exemption from Mathematics component	Placement test score of 60% and above or has completed mathematics components of GFP from an approved HEI in Oman.

Table 1: Exemption Criteria

5.3. PLACEMENT TEST

The Placement Test is administered to all candidates who have not enrolled previously on an undergraduate programme and are now seeking enrolment in the undergraduate programmes offered by MEC. For ARM programmes, there are two separate Placement Tests for two learning areas: Mathematics and Computing.

The Placement Test is usually scheduled on all working days of a week with different time slots. Candidates may consult the Admissions Office / Registry Services for exact timings.

The duration of the test is two hours: an hour each for Mathematics and Computing. Normally, the Placement Test for all two areas is expected to be completed on the same day.

The results of the Placement Test are released within two working days.

The candidate's eligibility to be placed in a particular level is determined by the following criteria:

Module(s) to be studied	Score obtained in Placement test
<i>Foundation Mathematics</i>	
Foundation Mathematics 1	0-44
Foundation Mathematics 2	45-59
Exemption from Foundation Mathematics modules	60 and above
<i>Foundation Computing</i>	
Introduction to IT	0-59
Exemption from Introduction to IT	60 and above
Computer Applications	0-59
Exemption from Computer Applications	60 and above

Table 2: Eligibility criteria GFP module exemption

A candidate could qualify for different levels in Mathematics and Computing depending on his/her level of proficiency. This would mean that students may enroll in different combinations of subjects at varying levels.

Student transferring from other HEI their GFP levels shall be determined by the placement test. If their levels from the placement test results are lower than the one acquired in the previous study then they would be placed in the same level or equivalent of the previous study.

Placement test result is valid only for the academic year in which the test is attempted. If the applicant does not enroll officially during the academic year in which the test is attempted he/she is required to repeat the test.

The difference in the pass mark for the Placement Test and End Semester Exam is due to the fact that the Placement Test aims at placing candidates at a specific level, whereas the End- Semester Exam assesses to ascertain that the learning outcomes of one specific level have been achieved.

5.4. FOUNDATION PROGRAMME STRUCTURE

Mathematics modules in two levels are named Foundation Mathematics 1(General), Foundation Mathematics 2(Applied mathematics). The two modules of Computing are Introduction to IT and Computer Applications. The math and computing components are offered in Arabic language.

The foundation components are offered along with the undergraduate programme and is integrated with the course structure in the first and second semester. A student can only

proceed to the third semester of the programme only if all the foundation components are completed. At no circumstances a waiver is allowed in this regard.

5.4.1. ASSESSMENTS AND EVALUATION

Students are assessed using a combination of summative and formative assessments. Formative assessments are used to give students an opportunity to fill the gaps in their learning before taking the summative assessments that make up their final mark. Summative assessments are assessed from a total range of 100 marks (consolidated) and the student needs to score at least 50 marks for Mathematics and Computing components.

Students are expected to fulfil an attendance requirement of 75% to be eligible to attend final examination. Students with attendance between 55 % and 75% may also be considered eligible if they score a total of at least 50% in their internal course work. There shall not be any special attendance marked on submission of any kind of certificate whether it is medical, work related, etc.

Attendance is calculated based on the actual sessions held in a semester.

Assessment weightages

a) Mathematics component of the Foundation Programme

Assessment for each level is for 100 marks comprising 50% for Coursework and 50% for End-Semester Exam. Students need to score at least 50% to move to the next level.

b) Computing component of the Foundation Programme

Assessment for each module is for 100 marks comprising 50% for Coursework and 50% for End- Semester Exam. Students need to score at least 50% to move to the next module.

5.4.2. SUPPLEMENTARY EXAMINATION

Students who are eligible but absent in a GFP examination component with extenuating reasons are eligible to take a supplementary exam. This is held along with the undergraduate exams. An IP grade shall be given to such component on applying to the Registration Office in a prescribed form with original supporting documents and the component would be registered for supplementary examination.

(The eligibility is based on the fulfilment of attendance requirements the internal course work assessment).

5.4.3. CHALLENGE EXAMINATIONS

A provision is made for students to take a Challenge Examination to skip levels in the GFP component in order to motivate them to perform better and provide an opportunity for exceptional students to skip levels and progress to a higher level. A student is eligible for the Challenge Examination if he/she scores 75%

or more in the Computing and Math components in his/her level summative assessment(s).

The Challenge Examination is the end of level test meant for the next level. The student who scores at least 50% marks for the Math and Computing components on the Challenge Examination qualifies to skip one level.

Students have to register for challenge exam on the prescribed time for attending the exam.

5.5. EXIT FROM FOUNDATION PROGRAMME

Archiving and Records Management programme is offered in Arabic and therefore English component is not a part of the foundation programme. Students are allowed to learn the mathematics and computing components along with the specialization modules which is offered in the first and second semester of the programme. In case if they have completed those components in any other approved HEI, exemption to such components is given.

5.6. APPEALS

In order to maintain transparency in the procedures followed and to confirm there is no bias or unfair practice in any task relating to placement examination systems, students have been provided with the right to appeal the results.

5.6.1. PLACEMENT TEST

Candidates who have attempted the Placement Test are eligible to appeal against the result prior to the commencement of classes. Candidates registering late are to appeal as soon as results are announced. Students are advised to meet the Admission Office for any such appeal. A panel comprising representatives from Mathematics and Computing departments meets to consider appeals so as to verify compliance to various procedures followed in arriving at the results. However, there shall be no contest on the academic judgment passed.

5.6.2. COURSEWORK ASSESSMENTS

- a) In the case of appeal relating to marks awarded in any coursework assessment, the student is advised to meet the instructor who has marked the paper and seek details relating to the appropriateness of the marks awarded within five working days from the declaration of results.
- b) For further appeal, students may approach the Head of the respective department within five working days from the declaration of results after the first appeal. The Head of the department will then constitute a team consisting of the Programme Coordinator, one other faculty member from the department who is currently not teaching the

module and one member from the Examinations Office to resolve the issue.

However, there shall be no contest on academic judgement passed in the coursework assessments.

6. ACADEMIC POLICIES AND PROCEDURES

While every effort is made to describe different academic policies and related procedures, students are advised to reach the relevant departments and units for additional information on specific cases and to constantly update themselves with the information provided from time to time through electronic media and other communication systems including but not limited to the notice boards.

6.1. REGISTRATION POLICY

6.1.1. Module Registration Schedules

Module Registration shall start and end on the dates notified in the Academic Calendar. Changes, if any, shall be communicated through appropriate media.

6.1.2. Module Registration

- Students can register for modules through the Student Information System (SIS). Full-time students must enrol on 120 credit points each year, normally with 60 credit points in each of the two semesters.
- Part-time students are required / expected to enrol on 90 credit points each year, normally with 45 credit points in each of the two semesters.
- In the case of graduating students, or for other reasons as approved by the Registrar, students may be allowed to exceed the normal load of 120 credit points in a year.
- The College may decide to cancel the registration of modules where there is insufficient enrolment.
- Students are allowed to take a smaller workload. For example:
 - i. when pre-requisite conditions are not met due to which the student cannot register for advanced modules;
 - ii. on account of clashes in modules' sessions for out of phase students;
 - iii. When the student is academically weak and has a backlog of modules to study.
 - iv. Other reasons not limited to medical

6.1.3. Add/Drop Period

Students are permitted to add or drop modules online, without paying a penalty, during the Add/Drop period. Add/Drop takes place during the first week of classes during the Fall and Spring semesters. In the Summer Semester there will not be any add/drop period for undergraduate modules. There will be no refunds for modules dropped after the Add/Drop period.

6.1.4. Module Withdrawal

A student, who wishes to withdraw from a module after the Add/Drop period, but before the end of half-way point in the module, will be required to complete the module withdrawal process by applying through SIS. They will also need to pay the prescribed fees. A 'W' grade will be given beside the appropriate module on his/her transcript. It shall lead to the cancellation of any coursework marks obtained during the semester. Students are normally not allowed to withdraw after the end of the halfway point and a module withdraw after the halfway point on account of emergency situations will be designated 'FW' to denote Failed on Withdrawal on the transcript.

6.1.5. Programme Withdrawal

1. Withdrawal from the College may be initiated by the student or registration Office on behalf of the student. A student who withdraws officially from the College will have the grade appropriate to the time of the programme withdrawal.
2. Due to the following academic or disciplinary reasons, the college may require a student to withdraw from the programme mandatorily:
 - a. A student who exceeds the maximum time allowed to complete the programme enrolled on shall be required to withdraw from the College and exit with a Fall-back award (the immediate maximum award possible at the time of exit) where s/he is found to be eligible.
 - b. Based on the recommendations from the Disciplinary Committee, the Deputy Dean and Registrar can take a disciplinary action which may lead to withdrawal.
 - c. Students who fail to register by the end of the add/drop period for three consecutive semesters, will be considered to have withdrawn unofficially and will be removed from the registration roll.

6.2. RE-JOINING

Students who desire to re-join the College after having withdrawn may be considered for re-admission which is not automatic and will take into consideration several factors including but not limited to availability of seats, reasons for withdrawal, past academic performance etc. Students who have exceeded their term of study in the college (Ref: Clause 6.4 Maximum period of study) shall not be allowed to re-join. Students re-joining shall continue with their old MEC ID numbers.

It is important to note that, if a student Re-joins (maximum period of study applies) to complete the study within a period of three regular semester shall have the same fee structure prevailing at the time of exit. However, shall be subject to the prevailing academic regulations and programme structure.

Students re-joining after having withdrawn or after having dropped for more than three regular semesters shall be subject to the programme structure, regulations and financial implications prevailing during that semester or academic year in progress.

A student may re-join the College only at the beginning of a semester and is required to fill a prescribed form for re-joining which is available at the Registration Office and following the usual procedures for module registrations. However, such students will be registered one day after reporting to the College. Registration Office requires a minimum of one day to process the request and update degree plans for these students on the SIS.

6.3. PAYMENT OF FEES

Fees are payable for all programmes/modules as per the fee payment schedule. No student will be awarded certificates of completion until all fees has been paid in full. No student will be permitted to graduate or proceed to the next semester until tuition fees for all preceding semesters have been paid in full.

6.4. MAXIMUM PERIOD OF STUDY

The maximum time periods allowed to complete programmes are as follows:

General Foundation Programme (GFP)

The maximum time period allowed to complete the GFP is two years. A student is expected to pass modules in two regular attempts at any GFP level. Under special consideration, a student may be allowed a third regular attempt only in one module per GFP level.

The GFP certificate is valid for 2 years from the date of issuing the certificate.

Students in GFP having back logs are allowed to continue study and register for modules based on the schedule given hereunder.

GFP Level 1	GFP Level 2
General Math (passed in maximum 2 regular attempts)	Applied Math (passed in maximum 3 regular attempt)
Introduction to IT (passed in maximum 2 regular attempts)	Computer Application (passed in maximum 2 regular attempts)

Diploma Programmes: 4 years

Bachelors Programmes: 8 years

The maximum period allowed shall include all kinds of delays including dropping of a semester, postponement, and other interruptions which may not be listed here.

The period of study is calculated from the semester in which the student started the programme.

The maximum period of study for a student who joined a programme with an advanced standing shall be double the minimum number of semesters required to complete the

remaining modules on the programme.

Students in bachelor programmes are required to complete all modules in the diploma level within a maximum period of 4 years or else s/he would be considered as term exceeded.

Term exceeded students shall not be allowed to continue study at MEC and would withdraw from the registered programme.

6.5. EXEMPTION POLICY

Exemptions can be sought only by those candidates who have passed similar modules with at least 75% of the components/content matching. Course completion certificate or other certificates of similar nature shall not be considered.

Students who return to study after their maximum period of registration or after 5 years of interruption of studies, whichever is smaller, would not get any exemption, irrespective of the institution from where the student earlier studied. If students have exited with an award, this rule shall not be applicable. The period of registration will be considered as per MEC policy. Exceptions may be made to such students if they have been working in related fields.

Students enrolled for Diploma, Bachelor exits will not be allowed exemptions above 50 per cent of maximum number of modules required for the respective exits. Exempted students enrolled for Honours Degree will be eligible for a Diploma if and only if they study at least a minimum of 50% of the modules specified for the award with the College. Else, they will only be eligible for any other award which fulfils the said criteria.

All Level 3 modules shall not be considered for exemption. Diploma level Project shall not be considered if the student has not completed a similar programme with similar learning outcome of a Diploma programme approved by MOHE, Oman.

All applications for exemptions shall be reviewed by relevant academic departments. Departments may recommend or reject the application based on the exemption criteria mentioned above. In certain cases, departments may recommend a suitable test for proficiency and competence and also for additional information to determine exemption. Students have a chance to appeal against the modules by filling an appeal form which is available in the Admissions Office. Appeal shall not be considered after the issuance of final acceptance letter.

Exemptions are given during the enrolment of the student on a programme. The Degree path arrived at after exemptions are given shall be final and binding. There shall be no additional exemptions given during the period of study.

Exempted modules shall be indicated by letter P in the transcript. Exemptions shall be cancelled, and disciplinary action initiated, if it is found at any point in time that there is a discrepancy in the information/documents submitted by the students to obtain exemptions.

6.5.1. EXEMPTION FEE

- a) If a student is awarded exemptions s/he will be required to pay a

prescribed fee towards exemption charges for each module exempted.

- b) If the student withdraws from the programme after the issue of the final acceptance letter or in the event of any interim exit, any fee paid on account of exemption fees shall not be refunded.
- c) If a student is required to take a test for the purpose of awarding exemption, s/he is charged an additional fee per test apart from the normal exemption charges.

Documents to be submitted for exemptions:

- a) Copy of the Omani ID /passport
- b) Original academic transcript/attested copies indicating the grades secured in the module for which exemption is sought for the purpose of verification
- c) Detailed official syllabus of the modules against which exemptions is sought
- d) General Education Diploma or equivalent, as approved by Ministry of Education, Sultanate of Oman.

6.6. CHANGE OF SPECIALISATION/AWARD

6.6.1. PROCEDURE FOR CHANGE OF SPECIALISATION

Students who were admitted to and are registered in a under a specialisation may apply for a different specialisation by filling/online the appropriate form provided they fulfil the requirements of the programme sought and the admission conditions to the respective programme. In certain cases, this may require registration of additional modules. Change of specialisation is contingent upon availability of seats subject to approval from the respective Department Heads and the Academic Adviser. In addition, sponsored students should obtain approvals from the concerned Sponsor and DIRECT students from their parent/guardian.

A student is normally allowed to change his/her specialisation only once during the entire period of study.

6.6.2. CHANGE OF SPECIALISATION – DIPLOMA TO BACHELORS

If a Diploma graduate desires to continue to the Bachelors programme with a different specialisation than the one in which the Diploma was awarded, he/she is allowed to do so. However, he/she will be required to study additional modules from the Diploma programme of the specialisation sought but is not entitled to receive an additional Diploma in the new specialisation. The student is eligible to receive a higher award in the changed specialisation, for example, Advanced Diploma or Bachelors, by successfully fulfilling the requirements for the respective awards.

6.6.3. CONTINUING IN BACHELORS FROM DIPLOMA REGISTRATION

Students enrolled for Diploma but desiring to continue for the Bachelor's award are required to do so by filling/online up the appropriate application forms and submitting it to the Registration Office. Students enrolled for Bachelor's award but desiring to exit with an interim award of Diploma or Advanced Diploma are also required to fill/online in the appropriate form during the specified period within a semester.

6.6.4. AWARDS ELIGIBLE ON CHANGE OF SPECIALISATION

Students are eligible for only one award in his/her course of study. In case of students exiting with an interim award and thereafter re-joining to continue their studies for a higher award may do so only on surrendering the award previously conferred.

Requests for change of specialisation or change of award (as in Diploma to Bachelors or from Bachelors to Diploma) have to be applied through the SIS and the completed form must be submitted between the 12th and 15th weeks of Fall and Spring Semesters and between the 6th and 8th weeks of Summer Semester.

Change of specialisation shall be strictly subject to the Admission Conditions stated in Programme Regulation clause 3.8

6.7. ATTENDANCE

Students are required to be punctual and regular to all registered classes. They should be present in all classes for the entire duration. It is the responsibility of the student to check their attendance record on SIS or with module instructors.

6.7.1. CLASS ATTENDANCE

Students are expected to have a minimum of 75 per cent attendance for each module registered for the particular semester. Attendance percentages are calculated on the basis of attendance at lectures, practical, tests and tutorials. Failure to have 75 per cent attendance shall normally make students ineligible for the End Semester Examination. However, students having attendance between 55 and 75 percent shall be allowed to attend the end semester examination provided he/she scores a minimum of at least 50 per cent for the internal coursework assessment of the module.

In the case of cent percentage (100%) course work module including project the minimum attendance required is 55 per cent (55%). This is applicable and mandatory even if the student have scored total marks equivalent for a pass in the respective module.

Students who do not fulfil the attendance requirement will not be allowed to write the End Semester Examination in the respective module and will subsequently be declared as failed. Students are required to re-register for modules in which they have shortage of attendance. There shall not be any

special attendance marked on submission of any kind of certificate whether it is medical, work related etc. Attendance is calculated based on the actual sessions held in a semester.

6.7.2. ATTENDANCE MONITORING

In the case of modules registered for the particular semester, attendance will be monitored and reports indicating absenteeism of the student is sent through e-mails on a periodic basis. However, the student is responsible to ensure that his/her attendance stays within the specified limits.

Students are advised to bring any discrepancies noted in the marked attendance to the module instructor concerned within five working days from the date of such lecture, practical, test and tutorials.

Students may bring to the notice of the Registration Office any requests for the attendance report by the parent/sponsor and the same shall be attended to.

Students showing poor attendance may be contacted by the Student Success Centre for counselling.

6.7.3. COMING LATE TO CLASS

Any student who arrives late to class after 10 minutes from the start time of the session will be marked absent for that session. However, the student shall be permitted to attend the session if he/she wishes to do so.

6.8. EXEMPTIONS TO ACADEMIC REGULATIONS UNDER EXTRAORDINARY CIRCUMSTANCES

All students are expected to comply with the academic policies and procedures in the student handbook. Only under extraordinary circumstances, a student may request for exemptions from academic regulations on the following by applying to the Committee on Academic Regulations Exemption:

- a) Eligibility criteria for undertaking end semester exam (provided that the student has a minimum of 35% internal marks with no less than 45% attendance.
- b) Term of study (provided that the maximum number of modules left Term of study (provided that the maximum number of modules left for the student to graduate does not exceed three modules)
- c) Academic Probation (provided that the maximum number of modules left for the student to graduate does not exceed three modules)
- d) A second supplementary exam provided that it is only module left for the student to graduate in the particular semester.

Decisions in such cases shall not be automatic but shall be based on student application and a rigorous scrutiny of the specific case. Students must apply for exemption by submitting all the following documents:

- a) Duly filled form stating details of the circumstances leading to noncompliance along with the details of exemption requested,
- b) Supportive evidence (medical reports etc.),
- c) Recommendation letter from Head of Department at MEC or Programme Manager/Coordinator.

Students should submit the above mentioned documents to the Head of Student Success Centre no later than week 14 of the semester. GFP students are required to submit the relevant documents no later than week 13. Any application submitted after the prescribed time limit of a semester shall not be entertained. Committee on Academic Regulation Exemptions shall respond within three working days of the date of submission of the request. The decision of the committee will be final and binding for the student.

6.8.1. STUDENT WORKING OUTSIDE MUSCAT

Many of the working professionals in Oman, especially those in jobs of national duty and key sectors of economy such as the Oil and Petroleum industry work in an alternating working on-off mode, for e.g., a 2 weeks on- 2 weeks off work type of mode. Students of such work schedule find it difficult to maintain minimum attendance required to pursue their education even in part time mode of study. MEC considers such students in the category of “Student Working outside Muscat (SWOM)”. Such students are provided additional academic support, option in terms of date for make-up tests for coursework related time constrained test/quiz/exams and also relaxation in attendance regulations to cope up with their studies.

1. Administrative Regulations

- Student to be considered under this category has to bring an official letter addressed to the College confirming the nature of his/her work schedule (15 days on -15 days off).The letter must also detail that his/her organization will relieve the student from duty on the days of end semester exam as well as if possible for the coursework written examinations
- A student if admitted under this category has to produce such letter at the beginning of every academic year during week 0 before the registration of the modules.
- Such student may also be asked to provide evidence of the continuation of their work status at the start of every semester too if needed.
- At the time of admission as well as every semester by week 0, the students must submit to Registration Dept., their work schedule for the whole semester period duly signed by competent authority of their work. This work schedule should contain the clear indication of the weeks during which the students will be at work and the

weeks during which he/she will be in the College.

- The student undertaking any programme at MEC in “SWOM” mode should adhere to/comply with all other student regulations of the College.
- The student shall sign a declaration which states the above clause clearly and that the flexibility is offered is with respect to session attendance and scheduling of coursework closed book/written/quiz/lab examinations only which should be worked out by week 1 of the semester.

2. Academic Regulations and Support

- Minimum attendance percentage allowed for student in SWOM category would be 50% to be eligible to sit in the End Semester Examination / last assessment of the 100 percent coursework module.
- In cases of assessments like assignments/case studies/projects, individual or group, the schedule of submissions would be as applicable to regular students.
 - For group work based assessments and diploma projects, the module teacher may create groups of exclusive SWOM students if sufficient number of students are available.
 - In case of group work assessments, it is the student’s responsibility to work out meeting times with other team members and ensure proper collaboration so that the deadlines are met.
- In cases of Closed Book Tests/Quiz/Time Constrained examinations, students of SWOM category students should attempt the assessments along with the regular students if the assessment falls within their study (on campus) schedule. The students can be permitted to attempt the assessments along with other sessions of the same module if that is applicable / possible. This has to be requested and approvals must be received from Module Leader and HoD before week 3.
- In cases of the students not able to attend a Closed Book Test/Quiz/Time Constrained test/Lab exam due to the prior approved work schedule, make-up test on the same topics as assessed in the original exam that the student has missed shall be administered to the students. Such make up tests will be conducted only once and before the date of issue of the hall tickets of end semester exams.
- For modules with End Semester Examination (ESE) component the student has to take the ESE with other regular students and no separate assessment would be conducted exclusively for this

category of students.

6.9. ACADEMIC INTEGRITY POLICY

MEC upholds the spirit of academic integrity in all forms of academic work. Any benefit obtained by indulging in the act of violation of academic integrity shall be cancelled. MEC holds the right to inform the law enforcement authorities concerned, if required, of any case of academic integrity violation, and to provide necessary support in the investigation of such cases. All cases of violation of academic integrity on the part of the student shall fall under any of the below mentioned categories:

1. Plagiarism
2. Malpractice
3. Ghost writing
4. Collusion
5. Other cases

6.9.1. Plagiarism

According to the Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary, plagiarism is an act of copying or including in one's work, without adequate acknowledgement, intentionally or unintentionally, the work of another, for one's benefit. Submitting one's own work for an assessment, either whole or in part, which is previously submitted for any other course, degree or qualification at this or any other institution, without proper references, is also considered as an act of plagiarism.

6.9.2. Malpractice

It is a form of cheating that includes, but is not limited to, any attempt to gain an unfair advantage in an assessment mainly in written examinations. It includes taking and/or using unauthorized materials and devices to examination hall as well as copying from other candidates.

6.9.3. Ghost Writing

Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary describes ghost-writing as the act by which a third party is engaged to write on your behalf and the work is presented as your own concealing the fact that another person has written it.

6.9.4. Collusion

Submit a piece of work with the help of another person when it is not permitted. For instance, collaborating with another person in case of individual assignment or taking help from another person who is not part of the group in case of group work assignments.

6.9.5. Other cases

It denotes all other forms of academic misconduct including but not limited to fabrication, falsification, copyright violation, unauthorized access to unseen examination papers and other academic and administrative documents/systems and aiding academic dishonesty/misconduct.

6.10. PENALTIES FOR ACADEMIC INTEGRITY VIOLATION

The vision mission and values of the institution drive the academic integrity efforts of MEC. Any form of violation of academic integrity will invite severe penalty. Any benefit derived by violation/cheating/plagiarism/using unacceptable means shall be cancelled. If a student commits an act of academic misconduct defined as above in section 6.9. or of a different nature, the same may be dealt along the lines of penalties for academic integrity violations.

1. Plagiarism

A. First offence of plagiarism

- i. If a student is caught first time in an act of plagiarism during his/her course of study in any assignment other than project work, the student will be allowed to re-submit the assignment once, within a maximum period of one week. However, a penalty of deduction of 25% of the marks obtained for the resubmitted work will be imposed.
- ii. Period of re-submission: The student will have to re-submit the work one week from the date he or she is advised to re-submit.
- iii. If the re-submitted work is also found to be plagiarized, then the assessment will be awarded a zero mark
- iv. Re-submission of the work beyond the maximum period of one week will not be accepted and the assessment will be awarded a zero mark.
- v. If plagiarism is detected in Project work (Project 1, Project Planning and Project Design and Implementation) the above clauses (i, ii, iii, iv) do not apply and the work will be summarily rejected. In these cases, the student will be awarded a fail (F) grade and is required to re-register the module
- vi. If the student fails the module and has a proven case of academic integrity violation in this module, the student is required to reregister the module.

B. Second offence of plagiarism

- i. If any student is caught second time in an act of plagiarism during his/her course of study (in a subsequent semester), the student will directly be awarded zero for the work in which plagiarism is detected. In such cases, the student will not be allowed to resubmit the work.
- ii. If the student fails the module and has a proven case of academic integrity violation in this module, the student is required to re-register the module.

C. Third Offence of plagiarism

If any student is caught for the third time in an act of plagiarism during his/her course of study (in a subsequent semester), the student will be penalized with a fail in the module and shall be required to re-register the module.

D. Fourth Offence of plagiarism

If any student is caught for the fourth time in an act of plagiarism during his/her

course of study (in a subsequent semester), the student shall be suspended from the College for a period of one semester.

E. Fifth offence of plagiarism

If any student is caught for the fifth time in an act of plagiarism during his/her course of study (in a subsequent semester), the student shall be expelled from the College.

Types/Variations of cases of Plagiarism and associated actions

- A. Type 1:** In case plagiarism is detected in any component or part submission (submitted at different times) of one assessment (assignment), the deduction in marks will be applicable for the whole assessment (assignment), even if only the component or part submission alone needs to be resubmitted.
- B. Type 2:** In case plagiarism is detected in a group assessment, all students of the group will be considered as having committed an act of plagiarism irrespective of whether plagiarism is on account of the act of all or a few or only one member. The policy will then be applied to all students.
- C. Type 3:** Combination of Type 1 and Type 2: In case plagiarism is detected in any component or part submission (submitted at different times) of a group assessment (assignment), the deduction in marks will be applicable for the whole assessment (assignment), even if only the component or part submission alone needs to be resubmitted. All students of the group would be considered as having committed an act of plagiarism irrespective of whether plagiarism is on account of the act of all or a few or only one member. The policy will then be applied to all the students of the group.
- D. Type 4:** Variation of Type 1 and Type 2: In cases where the assessment consists of components or part submissions that could be a group assessment component (e.g. group assignment) and an individual assessment component (e.g. individual reflection), the following will be applicable:
 - a. If plagiarism is detected in the group assessment component, all students of the group will be considered as having committed an act of plagiarism, irrespective of whether plagiarism is on account of the act of all or a few or only one member. The policy will then be applied to all students of the group. In such cases the group assessment component will be resubmitted as per the policy.
 - b. If plagiarism is detected in the individual assessment component, the individual assessment component will be resubmitted as per the policy. The policy will then be applied to that student alone.
 - c. In both cases (a) and/or (b), the deduction in marks will be applicable for the whole assessment (assignment).

2. Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion

A. First offence of Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion

If a student is caught in an act of Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion for an assessment component irrespective of coursework or end semester, the student shall fail the module and shall be required to reregister the module.

B. Second Offence of Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion

If a student is caught a second time in an act of Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion for an assessment component irrespective of coursework or end semester (in a subsequent semester), the student shall be suspended for one semester from the College.

C. Third Offence of Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion

If a student is caught a third time in an act of Malpractice/Ghostwriting/Collusion for an assessment component irrespective of coursework or end semester (in a subsequent semester), the student shall be expelled from the College.

3. Other cases

If a student commits an act of academic integrity violation as per the definition of “other cases” mentioned in the previous section or of a different nature, those cases shall also be forwarded to a department-level committee set for the purpose. The committee shall investigate the case by means of a viva and/or a disciplinary hearing and shall take appropriate decision. The minimum penalty that can be granted to a proven case of academic integrity violation which falls in this category of “other cases” is a fail in the module. For further offences in this category, the penalty can range from suspension to expulsion from the college depending on the nature and gravity of the offence. The guidelines given below should be followed for undertaking the viva/disciplinary hearing for such cases.

Types/Variation of Cases of Multiple Offences

If a student is caught in a subsequent offence of academic integrity violation which is of a different nature than the previous offences, then the penalty shall be applied as per the penalty detailed for the subsequent offence of the current violation.

For example, a student was found to have plagiarized during a semester and was penalized with deduction of 25 percent marks in his resubmitted mark as per the policy on Plagiarism. During a subsequent semester, if the same student is caught in malpractice, then the student will be suspended from college for a semester as detailed in the penalty for second offence of Malpractice.

Appeal Period & Procedure

A student has the provision to appeal against the academic integrity violation finding/decision against them. Appeal against the procedure undertaken for handling the case of academic integrity violation shall be dealt with as per the student grievance redress policy. For any appeal against a decision that involves a reduction in the grades, the appeal shall be dealt with as per Grade appeal policy.

6.10.1. HOW TO AVOID PLAGIARISM

Citing sources and referencing of your academic writing

Gathering information from a variety of sources forms an essential part of most

academic writing. It is important that the material is appropriately referenced. All writers borrow material from other sources at some time, including ideas, information, images, charts, graphs, and statistics. Whenever such information from other sources is used it must be referenced.

Every piece of information that is borrowed from another source must be referenced because it is the intellectual property of the individuals or groups of people who have produced it. All statements, opinions, conclusions, images, etc. which have been taken from someone else's work (books, journals, lectures, videos, TV programmes, newspapers, internet pages, etc.) should be acknowledged, whether the work is mentioned, described, reproduced, summarised, paraphrased or directly quoted.

CAW conducts regular workshops to students on literature review and CU Harvard referencing style.

6.11. STUDENT PROJECT

Students are advised to take keen interest in their project and its related activities.

- a) Students may be allowed to register for Project module (Project-1, Project Planning Project Planning and Implementation) only after they have met all the pre-requisites set for that module.
- b) Students will be advised on the details with reference to their projects
- c) Students have to meet their respective project supervisors regularly at appointed times
- d) It is important to submit the project proposals and other documents as may be required from time to time for the smooth completion of the Project work
- e) Students will have to meet the attendance requirement as per the attendance policy of the college
- f) Students will not be given financial support from the College to buy components for their Project
- g) Project work found to be plagiarised will be summarily rejected and the student will be awarded an —F grade
- h) Failure to adhere to Project work schedules and submissions will result in a deduction of marks in the respective components of the Project
- i) Student must submit the final project report as specified in the Project Schedule (Refer Bachelor Project Guide) without fail. Student who fails to submit the final project report in Moodle as per the submission schedule will not be allowed to make the project presentation. The project presentation will not be re-scheduled due to failure in uploading the project report on time in Moodle. This is applicable if the student doesn't attend the project presentation on the allotted date and time without getting due permission from the Head of the Department. The Head of Department or any higher authority of the college can only approve the project

presentation schedule extension. Any extension for presentation shall be subject to a written request from the student with valid supporting documents to show why an extension is required. Under extenuating circumstances only the request for extensions are considered. If the request for extension is approved the student is given a chance to give the presentation either before the processing of that particular semester result or in the immediate succeeding semester in which the module is offered. If the student is given the chance to present the project in the succeeding semester then an IP grade is given towards the module until the presentation is completed.

- j) Failure to meet all the requirements of Project work will result in an award of —Fail grade. In such cases students will have to re-register for the Project module by paying the prescribed fees and carry out the Project work all over again.

While due credit will be given to student's effort and involvement in different stages of the project, every project in its final form shall remain with the College and shall be available for further study or future reference. The College has the right to archive and/or keep student projects at any time for the purpose of keeping a permanent record of the work the student did while enrolled.

6.12. MAKE-UP CLASSES

Make-up classes or backlog clearance classes may be scheduled for certain modules where it is required, either during the last hour of class of each day or at other times including Saturdays as agreed between the module instructor and the students of the class. **These are compulsory classes that students are expected to attend.** These classes will be taken into account for the purpose of calculating attendance.

6.13. EXAMINATION TIMETABLES

These are normally published each semester, well ahead of the examinations. It is the responsibility of the student to inform the Examinations Office if any of the problems listed below affects him/her.

1. clashes have occurred
2. two examinations at the same time on the same day

Problems such as these are unlikely to occur. However, students must check carefully and well in advance. Alternative arrangements can usually be made provided the student informs the Examinations Office within the prescribed time that is usually announced through emails and notice boards in the College.

Students are advised to engage themselves in a continuous learning process and not to set time only on the eve of the examinations. A constant and consistent engagement in learning would avoid the need for marking time between examinations; necessitating a longer period for examinations.

Admission ticket for examinations will normally be issued a week before the commencement of examinations. Students are required to clear all dues pending with the Accounts Department and can print the admission ticket from the SIS.

End semester exams are held in the morning and afternoon sessions and students studying part time(evening session) are also mandated to take these examinations as there shall be no End semester examinations held separately for part time students in the evening. In the event of instances like natural calamities or changes in holidays declared by government, there could be changes made to the schedule in the academic calendar leading to exams being deferred to an appropriate date. Any change in a specific examination on this account would normally be deferred and conducted at the end of the exam schedule for that semester. Students are advised to take note of this while planning for their holidays.

6.14. EXAMINATION ARRANGEMENT FOR DIFFERENTLY ABLED STUDENTS

Physically Challenged students are required to submit the medical documents (medical reports and certificate from medical consultants) to the Registration Department at the time of their admission to MEC, if it is known at that time or whenever known during the study period. Once the medical documents are verified, special provisions/adjustments during final examinations and other assessments will be discussed with the student and an appropriate support shall be provided. It will be the responsibility of the Examination Office to ensure the agreed arrangements for the student, provided that the process has been followed by the student at least one week in advance of the examination.

6.15. RELEASE OF RESULTS

Results are announced through the SIS and may not be released to third parties apart from the authorities concerned. Academic transcripts are available from the Registration Office on request after five working days from the announcement of results.

Results may be released over the phone on special requests by the students or their sponsors or to any person authorised to receive such information or to the student. However, in all these cases prior requests need to be made by the student or the sponsor. No results shall be released over the phone to any unauthorised person.

Sponsors and parents can avail the facility from parent portal in SIS to view their wards results.

Results may not be released if the student has pending fee payment.

6.16. GRADE APPEALS PROCEDURE

6.16.1. GRADE APPEAL AGAINST ASSESSMENT PROCESS- SEMESTER MODULES

In order to maintain transparency in the procedures followed and to confirm there is no bias or unfair practice in any task relating to examination systems, students have been provided with the right to appeal.

Coursework Assessments

- An appeal against marks awarded in a coursework assessment must be raised with the respective module instructor within five working days from the declaration of results in case of UG as detailed in the

Grade Appeals procedure. Further appeal may be made to the Head of the department.

- Student has the right to appeal to the Associate Deans concerned and further to the Deputy Dean and Registrar (DDR).
- If the student is dissatisfied with the resolution provided by the DDR, he/she has the right to appeal to the Dean whose decision shall be final and binding.

End of Semester Examinations

- Students have the right to appeal against the marks awarded in the End Semester Examination by applying to the Assessment Office in the prescribed format within five working days from the announcement of results as detailed in the Grade Appeals procedure.
- Such grade appeal will require payment of prescribed fees (refer to Fee Policy).
- Subsequent to the appeal, if a change of mark is affirmed by the Assessment Office, the prescribed fee paid by the student is refunded.
- Students can make further appeals to the Dean. Decision of the Dean shall be final and binding.
- In case, the student is dissatisfied with the process followed for Grade Appeal, they can raise a formal grievance with the Student Experience Office

6.17. STUDENT PERFORMANCE REPORTS TO PARENTS/SPONSORS

Parents and Sponsors are encouraged to contact Registration Office to follow up on the progress of their wards/sponsored students. Furthermore, they are encouraged to reach the academic advisers for comprehensive feedback on the student performance both academic and otherwise.

Parents/Sponsors may request Registration Office for performance reports of their wards/sponsored students. Such requests will be taken up and the reports will be made and issued.

The Sponsor Information Portal provides access to some aspects of student data (pertaining to the sponsored student concerned), including student progress data to sponsors and parents who sponsor such students. Such access shall be provided based only on an appropriate request from the student concerned.

6.18. GRADUATION CEREMONY

The Annual Graduation Ceremony will be organised after the completion of an academic year or at a time to be announced by the College.

All students eligible for the award of Bachelor's Degree or Diploma/Advanced Diploma and

would like to participate in the Graduation Ceremony are required to confirm their participation by paying the prescribed fee and by filling an online form or an appropriate form available in the Registration Office eight weeks prior to the ceremony.

A student may not request for the award any earlier than the scheduled graduation date. Graduation letters for Diploma, Advanced Diploma or Bachelors will not be issued by the College. However on student's request the college will provide a provisional notification of degree completion to the student until the original award is provided. A minimum of 4 weeks or more is required to issue the Graduation Notification document from the date of request. Students requesting Graduation Notification for Diploma/Advanced Diploma are required to complete at least 50% of the modules specified for the respective award with the College.

Certificate attestation by Ministry of Higher Education will be done by the College.

Note: For interim graduation/exit requirements please refer Programme Regulation Clause 2.10

Students who are eligible for the any exit awards or on completion of their applied course/programme are eligible to apply for graduation notification.

Who can apply for graduation notification?

- a) Students you have complete the course in which they have enrolled for
- b) Students who choose to exit with an interim award, either Advanced Diploma or Diploma

6.19. REQUESTS FOR TRANSCRIPTS

Official consolidated transcript and certificate will be issued by the awarding body after the completion of study. Until such time students may seek for provisional transcript/Graduation Notification from the college. Refer Clause 4.9 (Programme Regulations) for more details on Graduation Notification.

Transcripts shall be issued from the Registration Office on request only after the completion of the grade appeal period of a semester. A minimum of a day is required to process any such request.

6.20. EXTERNAL EXAMINER

Students may review feedback given by the external examiner of the partner university, and external Examiner reports from the partner university are made available in the library for student's reference.

6.21. INFORMATION TO BE BROUGHT TO THE ATTENTION OF THE REGISTRATION OFFICE

If any student is affected by infectious diseases, the same should immediately be brought to the notice of the Registration Office. Students suffering from such diseases will be required to abstain from classes / examinations. Suppression of such information shall lead to prevention from appearing for classes / examinations in addition to other action as may

be recommended by the appropriate committee constituted for this purpose by the Registration Office.

6.22. ISSUE OF LETTERS

Students can request for letters or documents online through SIS. A minimum of a day is required to process any such request. For certain requests students are required to fill respective forms in the Registration Office. Some requests may need approvals from other departments or units in the college. All requests will be processed within one working day provided necessary approvals come through.

Individual letters stating details of internal class tests and quizzes will NOT be issued from the Registration Office. Any student who requires such information could make use of the Module Information Guide (MIG) which clearly mentions such details. The MIG could be stamped from the Registration Office to make it official.

7. STUDENT SUPPORT AND GUIDANCE

7.1. ACADEMIC WRITING:

The Centre for Academic Writing (CAW) shall endeavor to enhance the learning experience of undergraduate and postgraduate students by providing academic writing support in their disciplinary writing tasks. They help the students through comprehensive and systematic intervention mechanisms. The CAW provides individualized support on writing project reports, dissertations, and coursework assignments at Diploma, Bachelors and Masters Level. It collaborates closely with academic departments to identify student needs and design solutions such as embedded language courses, individual consultations for assignment writing support, and workshops to support students in meeting their coursework writing requirements.

7.2. STUDENT SUCCESS CENTRE

The office of SSC in MEC supports and counsel students on academic, career, personal and social matters. The mission of SSC office is to enable sustained improvement in academic performance of the students particularly those with learning difficulties, facilitate professional competence and clarify College policies, regulations, rules and procedures to ensure optimal compliance.

Objectives

- To intensify and strengthen academic advising
- To facilitate better understanding of college academic and other regulations, rules and procedures and to ensure student compliance with the same.
- To monitor student progress
- To coordinate and supervise peer-tutoring program in various academic departments
- To identify issues affecting performance of academically weak students and providing appropriate interventions including counselling.
- To provide special provisions for students with medical conditions
- To propose academic policies based on the findings of student data

- To promote professional competence and social engagement through awards

7.2.1. ACADEMIC ADVISING

- Every student in MEC is assigned with Academic Advisor during their study at MEC and students on weak academic standing shall be assigned an additional advisor from Student Success Centre.
- Academic advisers and staff members of the Student Success Centre (SSC) play an important role in assisting students to identify and organize different modules for the semester in accordance with academic regulations. They also help students to explore different paths towards their Degree when necessary and advise students on matters that influence their studies.
- Students on weak academic standing are advised to meet the academic advisers in SSC and develop an appropriate remedial plan.

7.2.2. PSYCHOLOGICAL COUNSELLING

- Faculty and Academic Advisers at SSC shall refer students with personal, or other psychological problems to the counsellor at SSC.
- Cases that require further clinical assistance shall be referred to external professionals, with the consent of the student concerned.
- Student counselling details shall be kept confidential.

7.2.3. PROVISIONS FOR STUDENTS WITH MEDICAL CONDITIONS

- Students with any medical conditions, that affect their studies, shall be supported by Academic Adviser at SSC.
- SSC shall work closely with relevant departments to ensure that the necessary support for such students is provided.
- Confidentiality shall be maintained while dealing with students with special medical conditions.

7.3. LEARNING RESOURCES

7.3.1. LAB FACILITIES

Studying at MEC gives the student access to a wealth of learning technologies and the latest computer hardware and software. Students have

- a) Free use of extensive computer facilities – MEC has around 500 PCs with many specialist computer suites, open until 8.00 pm
- b) Access to a huge variety of the latest standard and specialised software on student computers.
- c) Extensive wireless network on campus – free access to the network where and when it suits the student.

- d) IT helpdesks/STL (Student Technology Leaders) to help with all computer and network queries
- e) Free email service and personalised file storage space for saving work that can be accessed.
- f) Dedicated support team and computing resources for 'Research and Innovation centre'.

Students are encouraged to use the labs available in the college. There are several labs with computers, electronic equipment's, supporting software and hardware, and internet facility. Additional computer time is provided to students upon availability and prior booking with the respective Lab Assistant. Students are advised to follow all safety rules in all department operated labs. As each lab has a specific focus such as software lab, hardware lab, electronics lab general purpose lab etc., students are required to identify the lab that may want to use. They are welcome to take help from the lab assistants to identify the lab that would prove useful to their interest for further study and practice.

7.3.2. LIBRARY RESOURCES

Textbooks/hand-outs/lecture notes may be issued to the students for the modules chosen. Module notes are available for level zero and level one module and for level two and three students would be guided to use prescribed text books and reference materials. Books are made available in the college library. A prescribed fine would be charged per day on overdue items and will be collected by the librarian. Students may reach the librarian for library policies which include conduct in the library.

Users are responsible for materials borrowed in their name and for its return by the due date. Text books issued should be returned to the College in good condition at the end of the semester, failing which, a fine will be imposed. Students will be required to pay for any damage to, or loss of material borrowed at double the cost of replacement.

Registration to the next semester or award of Degree/Diploma may be deferred until all books have been returned and outstanding fines/charges paid.

Comprehensive materials covering several areas related to different modules are available in the appropriate locations in the server/library/department web sites etc. Students will be advised on the relevant links by the respective module instructors. Students may visit these links and download the material as may be required by them. These materials can also be printed. Students may reach the personnel in charge of different labs for the purpose of printing and collect the same with pre-scheduled timings. However, the paper cost for the same needs to be borne by the student.

Students are encouraged to use the labs available in the College. There are several labs with computers, supporting software and hardware, and internet facility. Additional computer time is provided to students upon availability and prior booking with respective Lab Instructor. As each lab has a specific focus

such as software lab, hardware lab, general purpose lab etc., students are required to identify the lab that they may want to use. They are welcome to take help from the Lab Instructors to identify the lab that would prove useful to their interest for further study and practice. The labs which have hazardous equipment which are sharp or fast moving to operate can be used only in presence of a lab instructor.

7.4. CAREER SERVICES AND ENTREPRENEURSHIP OFFICE

Career Services and Entrepreneurship office assists students with aspects of career and professional development. It conducts relevant workshops, organises campus interviews, career fairs and assist the students by providing letters for training and internship in companies/organisations. Students may request for training letters online through Letter request feature on the SIS. Training letters are issued only to those students who are completed 12 undergraduate modules and not on reduced workload at the time of application. Information about availability of job vacancies are communicated to students and alumni through this office.

7.5. COMMUNITY OUTREACH AND ACTIVITIES DEPARTMENT

7.5.1. ACTIVITIES OFFICE

Activities Office is the main contact point for organising, supervising and managing student activities. Student can approach activities office if they want to participate in any external events. Student must attend all schedule classes except for those that conflict with the approved competition, including travel time. A student who misses a module coursework component due to participation in an external competition is eligible for a retest. In case of delayed submission of assignments, the agreed event schedule is sufficient to allow a late submission without penalty. Participation in off-campus competitions will be strongly discouraged during the final exam period. Exemptions will be given for students who are members of national and international teams.

Community Outreach activities are conducted by the community outreach and Activities Office by involving students with governmental and non-governmental organisations and schools. Students involved in community outreach do not receive academic credit.

Societies at MEC: A Society at MEC is defined as an organization supervised by MEC staff in association with external experts/organizations. Due to the generic nature of a society, students across specialisations can seek membership. There are currently 6 societies: Health, Safety, and Environmental Society; Art and Craft Society; Photography Society; Music and Drama Society; Literary and Debating Society; Sport Society

Clubs at MEC: Program offering Academic Department have clubs associated with them. The clubs organize activities related to various specialisations

offered by the department. The supervisor of clubs prepares their annual activity plan in consultation with students and the respective Heads of Department. There are currently 8 clubs at MEC: Electronics Club; Mechanical Club; Civil Engineering Club; ARM Club; Business Club; Computing Club; Post Graduate Club; Rovers club is an institutional club and is in addition to the aforementioned clubs.

Membership

Students are automatically members of clubs representing their specialisations and are not required to register formally to be members. Membership in societies is open for all students. Students are allowed to register in a society only during the module registration period through SIS.

Certificates

Students get points on the level of participation in activities as per the point system:

A student who accumulates:

- 250 points and above is eligible for Diamond Member Certificate
- 100 - 249 points is eligible for Gold Member Certificate.
- 50 - 99 points is eligible for Silver Member Certificate.

Based on the points collected students are recommended for scholarship (for extracurricular activities) from college.

Point System

	College Level (any student event organized by MEC)	National Level (any event organized by MEC or other institutions open to participants across the Sultanate)	International Level (any event outside the country/or in Oman but of International significance) (The points for this category are only generic descriptors; actual allotment of points is subject to the evaluation of the nature of participation by the Committee on Student Affairs, External Relations and Community Outreach)		
			(Participation in person)	(Online submission of photographs etc.)	Participation in Summer School Programs
First Prize	60	80	120	60	NA
Second Prize	50	70	100	50	NA
Third Prize	40	60	80	40	NA
Participant	10	20	60	10	60 (going for Summer Schools)
Organizer	20	40	60	NA	NA
Attendees (in college)	5	5	10	NA	NA
Attendees (outside college)	NA	10	15	NA	NA

Table 4 – Point System

Student Welfare Office: Is responsible for collecting applications for the economically weak students' scholarship category. A student with total family income RO 600 and below can approach Student Welfare Office for more details. The applications are submitted to the scholarship committee for consideration.

7.6. SCHOLARSHIPS AND STUDENT RECOGNITION

Scholarship awards are granted at the start of every academic year by the Scholarship Committee. Students who excel in co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are recognized for their participation and/or achievement in relevant activities. Community Outreach and Activities Department shall be responsible for identifying and promoting students who take part in extra-curricular activities.

CATEGORIES OF SCHOLARSHIPS AND RECOGNITIONS AT MEC

DEAN'S LIST

Every year, all students with Overall Average Mark (OAM) of 84 shall be recognized by inclusion in the Dean's List and they shall be awarded a certificate. Every year, one topper each from Technical/Science, Engineering, Archives and Records Management (ARM) and Business programmes are awarded Dean's list scholarship based on the criteria given

below:

- Students with an Overall Average Mark (OAM) of 84
- Students should have completed a minimum of two semesters or 120 credit points excluding exempted modules.
- The student with the highest OAM will be selected for scholarship
- In case of tie, students will be selected based on the number of modules passed
- Students who are currently availing any other scholarship shall not be eligible for Dean's List scholarship. Additionally, the total eligible students is restricted to a maximum of 25 students with the highest OAM.

ECONOMICALLY WEAK

These are scholarships given to support students coming from weak economic background.

Eligibility Criteria

- Such scholarships are provided to students whose parents' combined monthly income is less than RO 600/-.
- Students should have scored a minimum CGPA of 1.
- Students should have completed a minimum of one year of study at MEC.

EXTRA-CURRICULAR ACHIEVEMENTS

These are scholarships given to students for their extraordinary achievements/participation in extracurricular activities such as sports, games, community and social services, science, engineering, management and innovation events.

Eligibility Criteria

Students should have accumulated maximum points for participating in activities as per the point system.

Best Outgoing Student Award

During annual graduation ceremony one topper with the highest OAM in each of the UG and PG degree awarding universities, shall receive best outgoing student award.

Best Bachelor's Project Award

- In the Spring and Fall semesters, the Best Bachelor's Project Award is given to students pursuing bachelors for their outstanding performance in project.
- Separate awards are given to students of different programme offering departments.

Appeal on the termination of a student scholarship shall follow the Student Grievance Redress policy.

7.7. STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

The student Advisory Council at MEC is an elected body of 17 members including the president and vice president. It has three committees with three members in each of the committee.

a) The Student Council Office Bearers

1. President of the Council
2. Vice-President of the Council
3. Head of Academic Committee
4. Head of Student Services Committee
5. Head of Activities and Initiatives Committee

b) Criteria for President and Vice President of the Student Council

Both must fulfill the following conditions:

1. They must be Omanis.
2. They should have successfully completed:
 - 180 credit points of the 240 credit points for Diploma.
 - 240 credit points of the 480 credit points for Bachelors.
 - 60 credit points of the 180 credit points for Master's.
3. Any student, taking position of President/Vice-President, is to run the council in that position one time only.
4. They must not take part in any administrative position in any student club.

c) Criteria for other members

A member of the Council must fulfill the following **criteria**:

1. Have, at least, successfully completed one semester with a work load not less than the minimum requirement;
2. OAM is not below 54 % for Diploma and Bachelor students
3. Have not exceeded the required term (study period) in the respective programme.
4. Is registered, at least, with the minimum required work load during period of membership, except for Summer Semester and last semester of study in the respective programme.
5. Have not faced a disciplinary penalty, or been condemned for any violation under disciplinary procedures

Tenure: The term for Student Council membership is one academic year starting from the date of announcing election results.

d) Objectives of the Student Council:

1. Representing the student community.
2. Participating in enhancing student experience, in terms of student learning, student research activity and student services.
3. Fostering effective communication skills and ethics; i.e., working with transparency, giving constructive feedback, not being self-opinionated, being responsible and being committed to make polite effective

conversations at all times.

4. Developing student awareness of their surrounding community; i.e., encouraging them to practice social responsibility.
5. Developing patriotism and spiritual and ethical values.
6. Equipping students with the essential knowledge/awareness to building personality, enhancing sense of team work, practicing critical thinking, self-expression, openness to others and communication skills.
7. Representing and following up with all student community issues, needs, achievements.
8. Enhancing student activities in all fields; cultural, social, sport, art and others.
9. Strengthening values of volunteerism, thus supporting charity organizations and enterprises.
10. Helping excelling students to achieve more in studies, research and other related issues.
11. Bridging communication channels between the students and the working team of the institution (administration, faculty, and staff).

e) Responsibilities of the Student Council:

1. Preparing the Council's annual plan, and proposing it to the Dean for approval. 2. After approval, the annual plan is forwarded to Student Councils' Committee.
2. Discussing the budget of the Council that is proposed by the Student Council Office and forwarding it to the Dean for approval.
3. Making appropriate decisions and recommendations in harmony with the rules, regulations and instructions of the institution.
4. Representing students and the institution in external activities assigned by the Dean.
5. Discussing and approving the financial and administrative reports proposed by the Student Council Office.
6. Terminating the membership of any member of the council after approval of Dean who has been found guilty of committing a prohibited or offensive act/violation
7. Recommending whatever appropriate to enable the Council, itself, to practice its specialties and roles.

8. HOSTEL FACILITIES

Hostel facilities are available for both girls and boys, supervised by the Student Accommodation and Estate Department. The range of services include furnished rooms, utilities, 24/7 internet, safety and maintenance, shopping trips, medical emergency hospital visit, airport pick and drop. Single, double, and triple occupancy rooms are available. The accommodation for boys is separate and is located outside the campus but is within two kilometres from the College. Students are required to sign a hostel agreement form which details the terms and conditions to be followed.

8.1. HOSTEL FEES

The fee covers charges for accommodation, services, and facilities at the hostel.

Girls Hostel

Occupancy Type	Annual fee (payable in three equal instalments)
Triple Occupancy	RO 720/-
Double Occupancy	RO 900/-
Single Occupancy	RO 1080/-

Table 5: Fee structure for Girls Hostel

Boys Hostel

Occupancy Type	Annual fee (payable in three equal instalments)
Shared room occupancy	RO 630/-

Table 6: Fee structure for Boys Hostel

Every student who opts for hostel facility, must pay a refundable caution deposit of OMR.50/- (OMR. Fifty Only). The caution deposit will be collected in advance and will be refundable at the time of vacating the accommodation. Caution deposit may be adjusted and paid in case of any outstanding amounts by the student.

8.2. VEHICLE PARKING

MEC provides non – reserved parking areas for students and staff. Students and staff are expected to obey circulation rules by driving within specified speed and parking properly in designed areas. Royal Oman Police (ROP) conducts random inspection in and out of campus and may levy charge on violating parking rules. Any fine charged shall not be the responsibility of MEC.

PART B. PROGRAMME REGULATIONS

PART B. PROGRAMME REGULATIONS

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1. EDUCATIONAL PROCESS

MEC aims to provide and achieve education of international standard. In all programmes of study, emphasis is placed on an effort based learning system, which requires significant contribution by the student for his/her learning process. In addition to knowledge acquisition through class room lectures, lab based work and practices, the student is required to allocate time for library visits, internet based knowledge building and sharing, field visits, team work and other activities as may be appropriate to the chosen module. The student is encouraged to use the resources and other support facilities available for this purpose.

The College is committed to develop an efficient and flexible system of education. The College follows a semester calendar with Fall and Spring Semesters, each of fifteen weeks in addition to examination period and a Summer Semester of five weeks in addition to examination period. The Summer session makes available a limited range of modules, subject to availability of teachers, which are either remedial in nature or are needed for the student to graduate,

Degree plan for each student is made available on the SIS. Each programme of study is made up of various modules. Each module carries certain number of credit points. Certain modules may require completion of a prescribed set of module(s). In other words, some modules have prerequisite(s). In some cases two modules will have to be taken together, i.e. registration to one module requires another module to be registered as a co-requisite. Accumulation of set number of credit points through core modules and specialisation modules and fulfilling all other requirements results in different awards.

Normally a student is allowed to take a maximum of 60 credit point modules per semester. Exceptional cases will be considered by the appropriate committee authorised for the same.

2. PROGRAMME OF STUDIES

Different programmes at undergraduate level are organised to have exits upon accumulation of set number of credit points.

2.1. FIRST LEVEL OF EXIT: CERTIFICATE

The first level of exit with an award of Certificate is available upon achieving 120 credit points. These credit points need to be earned through a prescribed number of modules that are marked as College Requirements and Majors. A student, who exits with a Certificate, would possess very basic marketable skills and useful knowledge for addressing a work that demands very simple skills.

Usually a one year period of study over two semesters, each semester extending over a fifteen week period, is required under normal circumstances to meet the requirements for the award of the credit points required under this exit.

2.2. SECOND LEVEL OF EXIT: DIPLOMA

A title of Diploma with a specialization is awarded on successful completion of the second level and it necessitates achieving 240 credit points. These credit points need to be earned through a prescribed number of modules marked as College Requirements, Majors, Major Electives and General Electives. A Project related to the subject of specialization is an integral part of the requirements to be achieved for the award of a Diploma.

Thus, for the award of a Diploma with specialization, 240 credit points are required to be

achieved. For achieving this, normally a two year study period spread over four semesters, each regular semester extending 15 weeks is required.

2.3. THIRD LEVEL OF EXIT: ADVANCED DIPLOMA

A title of Advanced Diploma with a specialization is awarded on successful completion of this level which necessitates achieving 360 credit points. These credit points need to be earned through a prescribed number of College Requirements, Majors, Major Electives and General Electives and Project at Diploma level. Thus, for the award of an Advanced Diploma with specialization, 360 credit points are required to be achieved. For achieving this, normally a three year study period, spread over six semesters, each regular semester extending 15 weeks is required.

2.4. FOURTH LEVEL OF EXIT: BACHELORS

A title of Bachelors with Honours with a specialisation is awarded on successful completion of this level which necessitates achieving 480 credit points. These credit points need to be earned through a prescribed number of College Requirements, Majors, Major Electives, General Electives, Special Topics and two Projects, one at Diploma level and the other at Bachelors (Honours) level, in addition to an Internship.

Thus, for the award of a Bachelor's Degree with specialisation, 480 credit points are required to be achieved. For achieving this, normally a four year study period, spread over eight semesters, each regular semester extending 15 weeks is required.

Note: Bachelor of Engineering (Hons) Environmental Engineering have only the fourth level of Exit.

2.5. AWARDING BODY

Middle East College, Sultanate of Oman.

3. MODULE CHARACTERISTICS

All programmes have certain modules in common which facilitate the student to achieve common skills. Certain levels in terms of knowledge and skills need to be achieved that are unique to the specialisation and programme. This differentiation is brought out with modules that are unique to each programme. These modules are usually considered under Core modules and Broad Electives.

A Module information guide (MIG) containing all the details pertaining to the module is made available to student in the first week of each semester for all modules he/she has registered.

4. GRADING & EVALUATION

Grading and evaluation policies provide the student a clear understanding about course completion requirements and will enable the student to improve his/her performance.

4.1. EVALUATION NORMS and PROCEDURES

1. The module instructor will arrange to share details of teaching plan, evaluation plan together with the module objectives, learning outcomes, background materials, etc. to

- all students with reference to the different modules taught by him/her.
2. The evaluation plan details how student performance will be evaluated for in-semester coursework and end-semester examination.
 3. Each module shall be evaluated for a total of 100 marks involving in-semester coursework alone or in-semester coursework and end semester examination. Modules which are assessed completely through coursework are referred to as 100% coursework modules.
 4. Coursework assessment shall be based on continuous evaluation, and shall include methodologies of assessment such as (1) Open book test (2) Closed book test (3) Individual Assignment (report/presentation) (4) Quiz (5) Group Assignment (report/presentation) (6) Case-Study (report/presentation).
 5. A minimum of 50 per cent, based on the overall performance in all the assessments put together is required for passing a module.
 6. Student's performance will be documented and announced by the respective module instructor periodically.
 7. In the case of modules having end semester component It is mandatory that the student to attend the end semester component for a pass in that particular module even if the student have acquired 100% marks in the coursework component
 8. In order to maintain transparency in the procedures followed and to confirm that there is no bias or unfair practices in any task relating to examination systems student has the right to appeal and confirm procedures. However, there shall be no contest on the academic judgement passed.
 9. Students are advised to reach the module instructors to have a comprehensive understanding of typical assessments for their modules.
 10. It is the responsibility of the student to obtain the marks of his/her module from the teacher or through the SIS.

4.2. LATE SUBMISSION

Students may contact their teachers for clarification on specific details of the submission time if required. The recommended practice at MEC is to set the cut off time to 23:59 on the due date for all assessment submissions.

As per the Assessment Policy at MEC, for any late submissions, a penalty of deduction of 5% (five per cent) of the marks obtained for the resubmitted work will be imposed for each working day following the last date of submission till the date of actual submission. Assessment documents submitted beyond a period of one week after the last date of submission will not be accepted and will be awarded a zero for that assessment.

In cases where the submission has been delayed due to extenuating circumstances, the student may be permitted to submit the work without imposing the late submission policy. This extended period of submission will be one week from the original last date of submission. It is permitted only in those cases where the student has submitted the request for extension and supporting certificates online before the original last date of submission and has received an approval for the same. The requests shall be approved by the Module Leader and by Asst. HOD/HOD of the department concerned. The late submission policy shall then be applied if the student fails to submit the work within one week of the original last date of submission.

4.3. COMPENSATION

The Diploma/Advanced Diploma Examination Board may offer a student a condoned pass in at most one module that the student has failed if as a consequence of the condoned pass being accepted the student becomes eligible for the award of a Diploma/Advanced Diploma, subject to the conditions mentioned.

The Degree Examination Board may offer a student a condoned pass in at most one module that the student has failed if as a consequence of the condoned pass being accepted the student becomes eligible for the award of a degree, subject to the conditions mentioned.

A student offered a condoned pass must indicate, in writing, his/her wish to accept the condoned pass following confirmation of the condoned pass eligibility/award by Examination Board.

Conditions for compensation

A failed module may be assigned a condoned pass by an appropriate Examination Board in the above circumstance under any one of the situations (A or B) mentioned below subject to the following conditions.

1. Condoned module may not be repeated or reassessed in any way in future
2. Condoned module may not be raised to a pass
3. Failure in the Degree or Diploma Project, as the case may be, will not be condoned.
4. For modules assessed by 100% coursework only situation A shall apply.
 - A. Student has obtained 45% aggregate marks (total marks obtained from all assessments) in the module.
 - B. Student has obtained at least 40% aggregate marks in coursework assessments and additionally obtained at least 40% aggregate marks in end-semester assessments of the module.

4.4. GRADING SYSTEM

All modules are marked out of a total of 100 marks. Equivalent Grade point (GP), as detailed in the table below shall also be provided for modules.

Grade	Grade Point	Marks
A	4.00	91 to 100
A-	3.75	87 to 90
B+	3.50	84 to 86
B	3.25	80 to 83
B-	3.00	77 to 79
C+	2.75	74 to 76
C	2.50	70 to 73
C-	2.25	66 to 69
D+	2.00	60 to 65
D	1.75	50 to 59
F	0.00	< 50

Table 7: Grade Point system

4.5. GRADE DESCRIPTORS (WITHOUT NUMERIC VALUE)

4.5.1. IP – In Progress

The 'In Progress' grade shall be used when the student has had an extenuating circumstance that prevented him/her from attending an end semester examination. The module shall not count towards the calculation of grades for that semester. However, an IP grade is awarded only once per module and the student is required to re-register for the module after exhausting the allowed re-sit attempts.

An IP grade will be awarded only after submission of a valid medical certificate within two working days from the date of the end semester examination which was not attended.

4.5.2. CP – Condoned Pass

The 'Condoned Pass' grade shall be assigned to a failed module for which a student is offered a condoned pass after he/she indicates, in writing, his/her wish to accept the condoned pass, following the Examination Board (Refer the complete Compensation Policy). Condoned Pass is denoted as CP on the transcript and for the purpose of calculation of the Overall Average Mark, Cumulative Grade Point Average and Classification, the mark and grade of minimum pass is considered.

4.5.3. W – Withdrawn

A grade W shall be assigned to a module in which the student withdraws formally within the prescribed deadline.

4.5.4. FW- Failed on Withdrawal

A grade FW shall be assigned to a module in cases where a student withdraws a module after the withdrawal period (FALL and SPRING).

4.5.5. P – Exemption

A grade P shall be awarded to a module in which the student has been granted exemptions based on the exemptions policy of the college.

4.5.6. T- THRESHOLD

In the case of modules that have coursework assessment and end semester examination components, students shall be considered to have passed such modules only if they have scored a minimum of 35% marks in the external examination (end semester examination threshold pass mark) in addition to attaining an overall aggregate pass mark of 50%. The modules failed on account of threshold shall be shown as T.

4.6. AVERAGE MARK (AM) AND OVERALL AVERAGE MARKS (OAM)

To be eligible for consideration for an award, a student must pass all the modules and fulfil all

the requirements as mentioned in the Assessment Regulations of that programme.
The classification of an award shall be on the basis of the marks and credits point accumulated by the student over the period of study for chosen award.

4.6.1. AVERAGE MARKS

Average Marks obtained by a student in a semester is calculated using a weighting system that takes account of the credit point value of all the modules attempted and the marks obtained in those modules.

The Average Mark is determined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Average Mark} &= A \\ \text{Module Mark} &= A(m) \text{ for module } m \\ \text{Module Credit Point} &= C(m) \text{ for module } m \\ \text{Total number of modules attempted} &= N\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{And } A = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^N A(m)C(m)}{\sum_{m=1}^N C(m)}$$

Sample calculation of Average Marks

Modules	Credit Points	Marks Obtained
Module 1	15	90
Module 2	15	83
Module 3	15	75
Module 4	15	54

Table 8: Module marks and credit points

$$\text{Average Marks, } A = \frac{(90 \times 15 + 83 \times 15 + 75 \times 15 + 54 \times 15)}{15 + 15 + 15 + 15} = 75.5$$

4.6.2. OVERALL AVERAGE MARKS

Overall Average Marks obtained by a student in a programme is calculated using a weighted average of credit point value of all the modules passed in the programme and the marks obtained in those modules.

The OAM is determined as follows:

$$\begin{aligned}\text{Overall Average Mark} &= \text{OAM} \\ \text{Module Mark} &= A(m) \text{ for module } m \\ \text{Module Credit Point} &= C(m) \text{ for module } m \\ \text{Total number of modules attempted} &= N\end{aligned}$$

$$\text{And } OAM = \frac{\sum_{m=1}^N A(m)C(m)}{\sum_{m=1}^N C(m)}$$

Sample Calculation of OAM

Semester 1			Semester 2		
Modules	Credit Points	Marks Obtained	Modules	Credit Points	Marks Obtained
Module 1	15	90	Module 5	15	60
Module 2	15	83	Module 6	15	77
Module 3	15	75	Module 7	15	45
Module 4	15	54	Module 8	15	57

Table 9: Module marks and credit points

Overall Average Marks

OAM

$$= \frac{(90 \times 15 + 83 \times 15 + 75 \times 15 + 54 \times 15 + 60 \times 15 + 77 \times 15 + 45 \times 15 + 57 \times 15)}{15 + 15 + 15 + 15 + 15 + 15 + 15 + 15}$$

$$= 67.625$$

GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA)

Grade Point Average (GPA) is assigned for a student at the end of each semester based on the Average marks obtained in that semester. The GPA is assigned as per the equivalence provided in table 11.

CUMULATIVE GRADE POINT AVERAGE: (CGPA)

CGPA is also calculated in a way similar to the GPA by considering the Overall Average marks. The CGPA is assigned as per the equivalence provided in Table 10.

Grade	Grade Point	Marks
A	4.00	91 to 100
A-	3.75	87 to 90
B+	3.50	84 to 86
B	3.25	80 to 83
B-	3.00	77 to 79
C+	2.75	74 to 76
C	2.50	70 to 73
C-	2.25	66 to 69
D+	2.00	60 to 65
D	1.75	50 to 59
F	0.00	< 50

Table 10: Grade point system

REQUIREMENTS FOR AWARDS

Certificate, Diploma, Advanced Diplomas classification:

The award of a Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma shall be made with the classifications of Pass, Merit or Distinction arrived at in accordance with the schedule set out in Table 11.

The Merit or Distinction classification is based on the OAM accumulated over whole programme.

Overall Average marks	Classification
50-76	Pass
77-83	Merit
84-100	Distinction

Table 11: Mark Range for Classification

Classification (Bachelor's Degree)

The award of bachelor's degree classification is based on the OAM accumulated over the whole programme as given in table 12.

Overall Average marks	Bachelor Classification
50-69	Third Class
70-76	Second Class, Lower Division
77-83	Second Class, Upper Division
84-100	First Class

Table 12: Mark Range for Bachelor classification

Marks based on Bachelors classification bands

In order to arrive at the OAM for bachelor degree classification, the following two options are considered out of which the higher of the OAM shall be considered.

Option 1:

Based on OAM over the whole programme i.e. all modules are considered for calculation of final OAM

Option 2:

To consider the OAM of 240 Credit Point worth of modules at Level 2 and Level 3 with Project Design and Implementation module marks being considered compulsory

4.7. DEAN'S LIST

The top 25 students securing an OAM of 84% and above with a minimum of 120 credits completed by spring semester of an academic year is eligible for appearing in the Dean's List. In case of a tie, while considering the top OAM, the student with more credit earned shall get the preference.

4.8. STUDENT PROGRESSION

Student who is on good academic standing will progress normally taking normal (full) work load. A student is also allowed to take normal workload if the student has a backlog of not more than two modules, provided pre-requisite conditions are met.

4.8.1. ACADEMIC PROBATION (Weak Academic Standing)

A student will be required to reduce the workload (academic probation) and register in a semester for a maximum of 45 credit point if s/he has a backlog of more than 2 modules. A student who is on reduced workload on account of backlog modules

which are to be cleared is required to devise a remedial plan with the guidance of his/her respective academic adviser/(SSC). Such a student will be closely monitored by the Student Success Centre in consultation with the respective academic adviser. Such students will be allowed to take normal workload only after the backlog modules are cleared.

Student who failed in any module and s/he is eligible for supplementary is required to pass the same within the immediate two semesters during which the module is offered, failing which the student will be required to retake the module by paying the prescribed fee.

MOHE students who are on reduced work load /academic probation for 3 consecutive semesters shall not be allowed to continue his/her study on their scholarship as per the regulations.

4.8.2. INTERIM EXIT REQUEST

Those students who are enrolled on Bachelors programme but would like to exit with a Diploma/Advanced Diploma due to unforeseen circumstances, personal or otherwise, are required to apply online via SIS after the announcement of the results but within ten days from the announcement of result.

4.9. REQUEST FOR GRADUATION NOTIFICATION

Students intending to graduate are therefore required to apply for graduation notification within three weeks from the announcement of semester result.

As per the regulation from Ministry of Higher Education students are allowed to receive graduation notification for their applied exit levels. Students under MOHE scholarship would follow the guidelines as per the regulations of the scholarship given.

4.10. ACADEMIC REQUIREMENTS

In order for a Certificate, Diploma, Advanced Diploma, or bachelor's degree to be conferred, students must have successfully obtained credits for all the required modules. Students must also be in good academic standing and should have a minimum OAM of 50.

4.11. REASSESSMENTS

4.11.1. REASSESSMENT FOR MODULES WHICH CONTAIN AN EXAMINATION COMPONENT

Any student, failing a module but achieving a mark of at least 50% in the coursework component of the assessment, will have an opportunity to pass in the module by re-sitting the examination during a semester in which the module is offered. Re-sit examinations for all modules are usually offered during the Summer Semester. Students are also allowed to register for re-sit examinations during the regular semesters provided they get a clash free examination schedule.

Reassessment by re-sit of a module is restricted to one attempt and is free of charge.

On failing to secure at least a 'Pass' in a module after the resit attempt, the student is required to repeat the module and pay the prescribed fees. Any student, failing a module and achieving a mark of less than 50% in the coursework component of the assessment, will have an opportunity to pass in the module only by repeating the module by paying the prescribed fee during a semester in which it is offered.

The number of attempts to obtain a pass by repeating a module is not restricted. A student should complete the re-assessment within one year of the original failure.

A student is required to register for supplementary attempts.

Details of registration are notified through the notice boards and by email. Should the student fail to appear for the exam for which s/he is registered, the last achieved grade shall stand.

For a supplementary attempt, the registration process shall be considered complete upon registration for examination through SIS online or submission of the request form duly completed in all respect to the Registration Department. Incomplete forms are liable to be considered as not registered.

4.11.2. REASSESSMENT FOR MODULES WHICH ARE ASSESSED BY COURSEWORK ONLY

Any student failing a module which is assessed by coursework only, may be reassessed only by repeating the module, during a semester in which it is offered. The student shall be allowed to re-register once for the module by paying half the module fee. The student shall be eligible for only one re-registration per module as per this scheme. This shall be allowed only if the student has secured a minimum of 25 per cent of the module marks or 75 per cent attendance in the first attempt at the module. If the student fails to achieve a total of 25 marks or 75 per cent attendance, then s/he shall have to re-register for the module by paying the total module fee.

4.12. END SEMESTER EXAMINATION DO'S AND DON'TS

1. Students are responsible for ensuring their physical presence at the Examination Hall on the given day and time as per the examination time table.
2. Students must bring their MEC Identity Card and Hall Ticket for all the exams. Students shall not be allowed to write the examination if they fail to produce their MEC Identity Card and Hall Ticket for all the exams.
3. Students should not write or draw using pen/pencil on the Hall ticket.
4. Students are advised to have a copy of their examination schedules as published on the notice boards and web site for reference and planning.
5. Use of forged documents to gain entry into the examination hall or any unlawful means shall be viewed seriously. In such cases the relevant committees and authorized personnel would recommend appropriate actions which may include expulsion or suspension from college for a set time period.
6. Students are not allowed into the examination hall after 30 minutes from the commencement of the examination. Student are not allowed to handover the answer

sheets within the first 30 minutes of the examination.

7. Students entering the examination hall should not carry anything other than the authorized materials for examinations. Possessing any material that may be used for cheating will be considered as malpractice.
8. Any student having contagious illness should be prevented from taking examination. Such student is advised to address his/her health condition on priority.
9. Students must adhere to the directions provided by the Invigilators.
10. Students must write their MEC ID numbers on the main answer booklet.
11. Students shall not directly or indirectly disclose their names or other identification marks in the answer scripts.
12. Student should use blue/black pen only. Pencils may be used for diagrams and graph.
13. Student are not allowed to use notes, books etc. into the examination hall. Dictionaries are allowed for certain modules if specified by respective departments.
14. Students can clear any exam doubts with the Module leaders within the below mentioned time frame:
 - 1 hour examination (Theory and Practical) – first 15 minutes.
 - 2 hours examination (Theory and Practical) – first 30 minutes.
 - 3 hours examination (Theory and Practical) – first 30 minutes.
15. Exchange of calculators and stationery is not permitted during the examination. Exchange of diskettes/flash memories during the Lab Exams is also not permitted.
16. Use of electronic devices or communication networks, software/hardware or other methods not approved by the college, in order to gain advantage over other students or to tamper with the examination system are strictly prohibited and may lead to severe disciplinary action.
17. All rough work shall be done only in the space provided on the Answer booklet.
18. Any information found on the Hall ticket written or drawn by the student will be considered as Malpractice.
19. Any form of malpractice is strictly prohibited. If any student indulges in malpractice, his/her answer sheet will be cancelled and awarded zero, and/or debarred from taking the remaining examinations. If there is no evidence found, the student can continue with his/her exam.
20. If an invigilator suspects a student of cheating during the examination the invigilator must ask the student to stop writing. The invigilator will inform the Assessment office which in turn will immediately inform the security office about the case. The security guards will be instructed to check the student (male security guard for male student, female security guard for female student).
21. In case of Malpractice
 - The students have to fill-in and sign the Malpractice form supplied by the Assessment office acknowledging his/her indulgence, which will be countersigned by both the Invigilators.
 - The student has to leave the examination hall immediately.
 - Student has to re-register the module.

22. Talking during the examinations is strictly prohibited.
23. Students may not provide assistance to or receive assistance from anyone during the exam. In such case students will face disciplinary action which may include cancellation of marks obtained in the module in the end semester exam.
24. Students who have completed their examination before the allotted time are permitted to leave the exam room, provided 30 minutes have elapsed from the commencement of the examination. Once they have completed, they have to:
- Ensure that MEC ID written in Answer Booklet.
 - Ensure that all the required information in the Answer booklet is written clearly.
 - Remain seated until the Answer booklets are verified by the Invigilator and the permission is granted by the invigilator to leave the Exam Hall.
25. Students should then immediately vacate the place and not disturb any remaining students who are writing examinations.
26. In the event of Emergency Alarm during Examination
- An emergency alarm requires an immediate evacuation from the exam hall.
 - The students will leave all the materials on their desk and faculty will guide them to the nearest exit point to assemble at emergency Assembly point of that building.
 - The faculty will also evacuate the room without collecting any examination materials.
 - The examination for such modules will be re-scheduled.

Due to the emergency situation, if the exam is postponed, then a new schedule shall be made and communicated to all those students effected. The new schedule is likely to be at the end of the existing examination schedule for that particular semester.

For more information regarding this, students can refer the Assessment Guidelines published in the College portal (Instructions to students for ESE).

5. USEFUL CONTACTS

Campus Contact Information

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E-mail: info@mec.edu.om

Website: www.mec.edu.om

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Dean		
Dr. Kiran G R	599	kirangr@mec.edu.om
Deputy Dean and Registrar		
Mr. Ashwin J K	727	ash@mec.edu.om
Assistant Registrar (External Affairs)		
Mr. Harith Jahwari	405	harith@mec.edu.om
Associate Dean		
Dr. Anupam Srivastav	505	anupam@mec.edu.om
Dr. Saleh Al Shaaibi	411	salshaaibi@mec.edu.om
Assistant Dean/ Centre of Research And Innovation		
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Table 13: Details of Contact Persons