



The Institute of Ismaili Studies

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Suspension of Regulations Policy

All credit-bearing IIS programmes are subject to the Taught Degree Regulations and, ultimately, the relevant SOAS academic regulations for taught programmes. This is to ensure a consistent quality of degree awards and programmes, and that all students are treated fairly and equitably. The regulations form an integral part of the IIS' contract with the students and all students and staff are expected to follow the approved regulations applicable to their programme of study. In rare and exceptional circumstances, a Suspension of Regulations (SoR) may be considered. This is normally limited to circumstances not covered by any other IIS or SOAS policy and should only be considered as a last resort.

Principles

The following principles apply to all Suspension of Regulations requests:

1. An extension to the maximum period of study or the number of attempts at a module will be granted on one occasion only.
2. Where a student wishes to change programme at the start of the second year of their studies, and has missed required modules from the first year, a maximum of 30 credits of modules may be waived. Core modules cannot be waived.
3. Where a student is seeking to change degree programme and has not taken all the required modules, the expectation is that a period of part-time repeat study will be required to complete the missing modules. Note that this will not be possible for those holding Student Route visas.
4. Requests to replace core or compulsory modules with alternative modules will not be considered, except where the student has covered the content before in a module passed as part of another programme (at SOAS or elsewhere).
5. Requests to replace guided options with alternative modules will not be considered.
6. Requests to replace an open option with a module not normally available as an open option will not be considered.



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Requesting a Suspension of Regulations

1. SoRs can be used in exceptional circumstances for two purposes:
 - i. to request a waiver of a specific regulation (e.g. maximum period of study, number of attempts at a module); OR
 - ii. to modify the programme requirements for a particular student.
2. SoRs cannot be used in situations which come under the Appeals process.
3. SoRs cannot be used in situations which come under the mitigating circumstances process.
4. SoRs cannot be used for individuals who are not current students (unless submitted as part of an exceptional admission decision).
5. The SoR request should include a template outlining all the student's future programme (i.e. which modules, which levels and when they will be taken) compared to the standard programme.
6. Where a deferral of assessment would take a student over the maximum period of study, the Programme Leader should seek approval of the SoR before confirming deferral of assessment.