Yes, all practical components must be passed regardless of whether the practicals are standalone modules or embedded into a theoretical module.

Yes, labs in the 'with' part of the degree can be included in the 300 practical hours and they do have to be passed.

Artificial intelligence is a fast emerging topic and the RSC are aware of the impact this is having on degree programmes. The RSC will continue to understand this impact and provide guidance where appropriate. The Quality Assurance Agency based in the UK have issued some guidance on this - [Generative Artificial Intelligence (qaa.ac.uk)](https://qaa.ac.uk). The RSC accreditation criteria ask for all assessments to be robust to maintain academic integrity.

have processes in place to ensure that assessments outcomes are authentic and not the result of collusion. KR12 now states that assessment should be varied, appropriate and rigorous, and require students to apply their knowledge and solve problems. All assessment methods should be inclusive and accessible. We expect to see a variety of assessment methods used, however the choice of assessment method should be a reasoned, appropriate choice made by subject experts within the discipline.

As part of the accreditation review, the RSC did consult with industry, and this was not raised as part of our discussions.

If these practicals are assessed then they can probably count towards the practical hour requirement. Computational practical can count towards the 300 practical hours. Simulations could be used as part of pre-lab. We have seen examples of this.

No, the final year project for either BSc or integrated masters cannot be included in the 300 hours.

We don't currently have a complete definition for this but generally speaking digital skills or digital capability are broader than just information technology (hard or technical skills often used in operating and manipulating technology) and could include newer technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, digital confidence and communication plus coding skills. Digital skills should allow a graduate to acquire the IT skills any employer/research group will require of that individual. The RSC will provide M   ould   r

The new accreditation criteria will come into ef ect from September 2024 for UK and Ireland based universities and from January 2025 for international universities. This means that when your university is due for reaccreditation it will be assessed against the new criteria. If you have questions or would like to speak to us, please contact the team.

Yes, there must be at least 300 hours which does not include the f nal year project.

There is no prescribed length for these. Typically in the UK and Ireland placements last 1 year but at international universities the length of placements vary and the RSC Accreditation Team see placements of varying lengths. Ideally the length of the placement should allow the student to have a valuable experience. We have an industrial best practice guide available if you would like to read [more](#) about this.

It is not compulsory from an accreditation point of view however industry placements do enhance the student learning experience. Many universities of er them to support the development of their students.

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