Calculation and Determination of Degree Classifications at the Board of Examiners

BSc/BA/BEng

First class

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 70% they will be awarded a 1st Class Honours.

(ii) If a student achieves <70% (68.0-69.49%), in order to take into consideration that some marks in the final year may have been affected by the COVID-19 situation, an award of a 1st Class Honours will be made if all of the following conditions are met:

• at least 68% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year);
• at least 50% of the module marks in the final year (based on the best 80 credits, i.e. completed modules and partial credits; note that these 80 credits must include the dissertation/project) are 1st class standard;
• the remainder of the module marks in the final year (pertaining to the best 80 credits) are 2.1 standard;
• at least 80 credits of marks from Stage 2 are 1st class standard.

(iii) Alternatively, if a student achieves <70% (65.0-<69.49%) overall, and in order to take into consideration that some of the work in the final year (e.g. the project/dissertation) may have been particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation, and are out of line with the other marks, a 1st Class Honours will also be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:

• at least 65% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year)
• at least 50% of the module marks in the final year (based on the best 80 credits, i.e. completed modules and partial credits; note that these 80 credits must include the dissertation/project) are 1st class standard;
• all other module marks in the final year (pertaining to the best 80 credits) are at least 2.2 standard;
• at least 100 credits from stage 2 are 1st class standard OR at least 80 credits from stage 2 and 60 credits from stage 1 are 1st class standard.

(iv) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation and has an overall mark of <70%, but is not awarded a 1st class degree because the above criteria are not fulfilled. For example, a student may have obtained all 1st class marks in the final year, but just misses out on a 1st because of a poorer 2nd year performance; or a student just fails to obtain the required number of credits at 1st class standard in years 1 or 2. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <70% should be awarded a 1st Class Honours, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.
2.1 degree

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 60% they will be awarded a 2.1 degree classification.

(ii) If a student achieves <60% (58.0-59.49), in order to take into consideration that some marks in the final year may have been affected by the COVID-19 situation, an award of a 2.1 degree will be made if all of the following conditions are met:
   - at least 58% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year);
   - at least 50% of the module marks in the final year (based on the best 80 credits, i.e. completed modules and partial credits; note that these best 80 credits must include the dissertation/project) are 2.1 class standard;
   - the remainder of the module marks in the final year (pertaining to the best 80 credits) are 2.2 standard;
   - at least 80 credits of marks from Stage 2 are 2.1 standard.

(iii) Alternatively, if a student achieves <60% (55.0-59.49) overall, and in order to take into consideration that some of the work in the final year (e.g. the project/dissertation) may have been particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation, and are out of line with the other marks, a 2.1 degree will also be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:
   - at least 55% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year)
   - at least 50% of the module marks in the final year (based on the best 80 credits, i.e. completed modules and partial credits; note that these best 80 credits must include the dissertation/project) are 2.1 class standard;
   - all other module marks in the final year (pertaining to the best 80 credits) are at least 3rd class standard;
   - at least 100 credits from stage 2 are 2.1 standard OR at least 80 credits from stage 2 and 60 credits from stage 1 are 2.1 standard.

(iv) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation and has an overall mark of <60%, but is not awarded a 2.1 class degree because the above criteria are not fulfilled. For example, a student may have obtained all 2.1 class marks in the final year, but just misses out on a 2.1 because of a poorer 2nd year performance; or a student just fails to obtain the required number of credits at 2.1 class standard in years 1 or 2. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <60% should be awarded a 2.1 Class Honours, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.

2.2 degree

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 50% they will be awarded a 2.2 degree classification.

(ii) If a student achieves <50% (48.0-49.49%), in order to take into consideration that some marks in the final year may have been affected by the COVID-19 situation, an award of a 2.2 degree will be made if all of the following conditions are met:
   - at least 48% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year);
• at least 50% of the module marks in the final year (based on the best 80 credits, i.e. completed modules and partial credits; note that these best 80 credits must include the dissertation/project) are 2.2 class standard;
• the remainder of the module marks in the final year (pertaining to the best 80 credits) are 3rd class standard;
• at least 80 credits of marks from Stage 2 are 2.2 class standard.

(iii) Alternatively, if a student achieves <50% (45.0–<49.49%) overall, and in order to take into consideration that some of the work in the final year (e.g. the project/dissertation) may have been particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation, and are out of line with the other marks, a 2.2 class will also be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:
• at least 45% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year)
• at least 50% of the module marks in the final year (based on the best 80 credits, i.e. completed modules and partial credits note that these best 80 credits must include the dissertation/project) are 2.2 class standard;
• all other module marks in the final year (pertaining to the best 80 credits) are at least 3rd class standard;
• at least 100 credits from stage 2 are 2.2 class standard OR at least 80 credits from stage 2 and 60 credits from stage 1 are 2.2 class standard.

(iv) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation and has an overall mark of <50%, but is not awarded a 2.2 class degree because the above criteria are not fulfilled. For example, a student may have obtained all 2.2 class marks in the final year, but just misses out on a 2.2 because of a poorer 2nd year performance; or a student just fails to obtain the required number of credits at 2.2 class standard in years 1 or 2. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <50% should be awarded a 2.2 Class Honours, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.

3rd class degree

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 40% they will be awarded a 3rd class degree classification.

(ii) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation (e.g. the project/dissertation may have been particularly affected), and has an overall mark of <40%. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <40% should be awarded a 3rd Class degree, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.
MSci/MEng

First class

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 70% they will be awarded a 1st Class Honours.

(ii) If a student achieves <70% (68.0-69.49%), in order to take into consideration that some marks in the final year may have been affected by the COVID-19 situation, an award of a 1st Class Honours will be made if all of the following conditions are met:
   - at least 68% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year);
   - at least 50% of the module marks at Stage 3 (i.e. year 3 and 4) are 1st class standard; note that the final year is based on the best 80 credits (i.e. completed modules and partial credits and includes the project/dissertation);
   - the remainder of the module marks at Stage 3 are 2.1 standard;
   - at least 80 credits of marks from Stage 2 are 1st class standard.

(iii) Alternatively, if a student achieves <70% (65.0-<69.49%) overall, and in order to take into consideration that some of the work in the final year (e.g. the project/dissertation) may have been particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation, and are out of line with the other marks, a 1st Class Honours will also be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:
   - at least 65% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year)
   - at least 50% of the module marks at Stage 3 (i.e. year 3 and 4) are 1st class standard; note that the final year is based on the best 80 credits (i.e. completed modules and partial credits and includes the project/dissertation);
   - all other module marks at Stage 3 are at least 2.2 standard;
   - at least 100 credits from stage 2 are 1st class standard OR at least 80 credits from stage 2 and 60 credits from stage 1 are 1st class standard.

(iv) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation and has an overall mark of <70%, but is not awarded a 1st class degree because the above criteria are not fulfilled. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <70% should be awarded a 1st Class Honours, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.

2.1 degree

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 60% they will be awarded a 2.1 degree classification.

(ii) If a student achieves <60% (58.0-59.49%), in order to take into consideration that some marks in the final year may have been affected by the COVID-19 situation, an award of a 2.1 will be made if all of the following conditions are met:
   - at least 58% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year);
   - at least 50% of the module marks at Stage 3 (i.e. year 3 and 4) are 2.1 class standard; note that the final year is based on the best 80 credits (i.e. completed modules and partial credits and includes the project/dissertation);
   - the remainder of the module marks at Stage 3 are 2.2 standard;
• at least 80 credits of marks from Stage 2 are 2.1 standard.

(iii) Alternatively, if a student achieves <60% (55.0-<59.49%) overall, and in order to take into consideration that some of the work in the final year (e.g. the project/dissertation) may have been particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation, and are out of line with the other marks, a 2.1 will also be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:
  • at least 65% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year)
  • at least 50% of the module marks at Stage 3 (i.e. year 3 and 4) are 2.1 class standard; note that the final year is based on the best 80 credits (i.e. completed modules and partial credits and includes the project/dissertation);
  • all other module marks at Stage 3 are at least 3rd class standard;
  • at least 100 credits from stage 2 are 2.1 standard OR at least 80 credits from stage 2 and 60 credits from stage 1 are 2.1 standard.

(iv) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation and has an overall mark of <60%, but is not awarded a 2.1 degree because the above criteria are not fulfilled. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <60% should be awarded a 2.1 degree, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.

2.2 degree

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 50% they will be awarded a 2.2 Class Honours.

(ii) If a student achieves <50% (48.0-<49.49%), in order to take into consideration that some marks in the final year may have been affected by the COVID-19 situation, an award of a 2.2 Class Honours will be made if all of the following conditions are met:
  • at least 48% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year);
  • at least 50% of the module marks at Stage 3 (i.e. year 3 and 4) are 2.2 class standard; note that the final year is based on the best 80 credits (i.e. completed modules and partial credits and includes the project/dissertation);
  • the remainder of the module marks at Stage 3 are at least 3rd class standard;
  • at least 80 credits of marks from Stage 2 are 2.2 class standard.

(iii) Alternatively, if a student achieves <50% (45.0-<49.49%) overall, and in order to take into consideration that some of the work in the final year (e.g. the project/dissertation) may have been particularly adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation, and are out of line with the other marks, a 2.2 class will also be awarded if all of the following conditions are met:
  • at least 45% has been achieved overall (and not just in the final year)
  • at least 50% of the module marks at Stage 3 (i.e. year 3 and 4) are 2.2 class standard; note that the final year is based on the best 80 credits (i.e. completed modules and partial credits and includes the project/dissertation);
  • all other module marks at Stage 3 are at least 3rd class standard;
  • at least 100 credits from stage 2 are 2.2 class standard OR at least 80 credits from stage 2 and 60 credits from stage 1 are 2.2 class standard.
(iv) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation and has an overall mark of <50%, but is not awarded a 2.2 class degree because the above criteria are not fulfilled. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <50% should be awarded a 2.2 class Honours, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.

3rd class degree

(i) If a student has obtained an overall weighted mean mark of at least 40% they will be awarded a 3rd class degree classification.

(ii) There might be situations in which a student has clearly been adversely affected by the COVID-19 situation (e.g. the project/dissertation may have been particularly affected), and has an overall mark of <40. In such cases, if the Board of Examiners decides that a student with <40% should be awarded a 3rd Class degree, based on the full profile of marks across all years of study, including module marks (completed or partial) in the final year outside of those comprising the best 80 credits (that includes the dissertation/project), an award can be made (without recourse to PAB) Notwithstanding the Emergency Framework as long as the external examiner is supportive. The decision and rationale must be clearly minuted.