

REGULATIONS

A3.14 GRADING SCHEMES AND GRADE POINT AVERAGE (GPA) REGULATIONS

A3.14.1. Grading Schemes

- i. The University adopts a core Grading Scheme for all its taught provision except where a specific exemption has been considered and agreed. This section of the University Regulations sets out the core Grading Scheme. Variations to the core Grading Scheme may be considered at the University Quality and Learning Infrastructure Committee (QLIC) upon the recommendation of a Faculty AESC.
- ii. The core Grading Scheme includes both Final Grades and Provisional Grades. Except where explicitly stated otherwise in these Regulations, Provisional Grades must be resolved to a Final Grade by no later than the last meeting of an Examination Committee for a given take of a module.
- iii. The final summative judgement of a student's performance in an attempt at a module is expressed first as a percentage. Grades and Grade Points where applicable, are derived automatically for each attempt at a module according to the percentage.

A3.14.2. Final Grades

- i. Final Grades at level 6 or below for students outside the Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme (see Regulation A3.14.5.ii below).

| Percent Range | Grade | Pass / Fail | Classification Equivalent | Notes |
|---------------|-------|-------------|---------------------------|--|
| 70 – 100 | A | Pass | First Class | |
| 60 – 69 | B+ | Pass | Upper Second Class | |
| 50 – 59 | B | Pass | Lower Second Class | |
| 41 – 49 | C | Pass | Third Class | |
| 40 | D | Pass | Third Class | |
| 30 – 39 | CP | Pass | n/a | Compensated pass |
| 0 – 39 | F | Fail | --- | Marks between 30 and 39 are Fail marks unless a compensated pass is agreed by the Examination Committee. |

- ii. Final Grades at level 6 or below for students within the Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme (see Regulation A3.14.5.ii below).

| Percent Range | Grade | Grade Point | Pass / Fail | Classification Equivalent | Notes |
|---------------|-------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|-------|
| 75 – 100 | A+ | 4.5 | Pass | First Class | |
| 70 – 74 | A | 4.0 | Pass | First Class | |
| 65 – 69 | B+ | 3.5 | Pass | Upper Second Class | |
| 60 – 64 | B | 3.0 | Pass | Upper Second Class | |
| 55 – 59 | C+ | 2.5 | Pass | Lower Second Class | |

| | | | | | |
|---------|----|-----|------|--------------------|--|
| 50 – 54 | C | 2.0 | Pass | Lower Second Class | |
| 45 – 49 | D+ | 1.5 | Pass | Third Class | |
| 40 – 44 | D | 1.0 | Pass | Third Class | Where a capped resit has been granted the maximum mark which can be achieved is 40. |
| 30 – 39 | CP | 0.0 | Pass | n/a | Compensated pass |
| 0 – 39 | F | 0.0 | Fail | --- | Marks between 30 and 39 are Fail marks unless a compensated pass is agreed by the Examination Committee. |

- iii. Final Grades at level 7 or above for students outside the Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme (see Regulation A3.14.5.ii below).

| Percent Range | Grade | Pass / Fail | Classification Equivalent | |
|---------------|-------|-------------|---------------------------|---|
| 70 – 100 | DIST | Pass | Distinction | |
| 60 – 69 | MERT | Pass | Merit | |
| 50 – 59 | PASS | Pass | Pass | Where a capped resit has been granted the maximum mark which can be achieved is 50PR. |
| 0 – 49 | FAIL | Fail | | |

- iv. Final Grades at level 7 or above for students within the Grade Point Average (GPA) scheme (see Regulation A3.14.5.ii below).

| Percent Range | Grade | Grade Point | Pass / Fail | Classification Equivalent | Notes |
|---------------|-------|-------------|-------------|---------------------------|---|
| 75 – 100 | A+ | 4.5 | Pass | First Class | |
| 70 – 74 | A | 4.0 | Pass | First Class | |
| 65 – 69 | B+ | 3.5 | Pass | Upper Second Class | |
| 60 – 64 | B | 3.0 | Pass | Upper Second Class | |
| 55 – 59 | C+ | 2.5 | Pass | Lower Second Class | |
| 50 – 54 | C | 2.0 | Pass | Lower Second Class | Where a capped resit has been granted the maximum mark which can be achieved is 50. |
| 0 – 49 | F | 0.0 | Fail | --- | |

- v. Final Grades at any level. Attempts at any module which result in one of the Final Grades listed in this table are excluded from the GPA calculation (see A3.14.5.v below).

| Grade | Meaning | Percentage Range |
|-------|--|------------------|
| S | An Ungraded Pass where assessment is based on pass/fail only. On acceptable modules Honours classification will be taken over fewer modules. | Ungraded |

| | | |
|----|--|---------------------|
| XC | Transferred credit. Equivalent learning has been achieved elsewhere. The module (and marks if any) may be used to satisfy the requirements of an award. An XC grade without marks is an ungraded credit. | 0 – 100 or Ungraded |
| XF | Transferred failed credit. Equivalent learning has been failed elsewhere. The credit will count against total number of modules taken. | 0 – 39 or Ungraded |
| DR | Module take disregarded: a grade showing that the subsequent take of the module will stand and this take will not count toward the requirements of an award. | 0 – 99 |
| CP | Compensated Pass. Indicates that the pass mark for the module has not been met, but that the student has been allowed to progress to the next stage of study in accordance with programme regulations | 30 - 39 |

A3.14.3. Provisional Grades

- i. All Provisional Grades may be used for modules at any level of study.
- ii. The following are Provisional Grades that must be resolved to one of the final grades by the Examination Committee following the resit opportunity, i.e. by the final Examination Committee within the take of a module.

| Grade | Meaning | Percentage Range |
|-------|---|------------------|
| IC | Incomplete: a grade showing that the Examination Committee has yet to finalise the grade/mark for technical/procedural reasons, including problems with placement providers. This grade is not used in relation to exceptional circumstances. | Ungraded |

- iii. The following Provisional Grade must be resolved to one of the Final Grades by a date set by the Examination Committee at which the grade is awarded.

| Grade | Meaning | Percentage Range |
|-------|---|------------------|
| DD | Deferred Disciplinary: the module grade and all further Examination Committee decisions are deferred pending the outcome of the disciplinary process. | Ungraded |

A3.14.4. ECTS Grade Equivalence

- i. When a European transfer is agreed, the other institution should provide a transcript in which the study is specified as ECTS credits. These units are twice the size of the units used in the UK so that 7.5 ECTS credits correspond to one module credit at Brookes. If the results are reported as ECTS grades (A, B, C, D, E) then a mark should also be transferred as specified on form M8 Euro using Schedule 4 below. Institutional grades may only be transferred with marks if a complete schedule has been recommended by the relevant Faculty Academic Enhancement and Standards Committee.
- ii. This column labelled “Incoming ECTS Grade Percentage Equivalence” shows the mark that will be awarded at Brookes when a student has been awarded a grade within the range specified at another institution.

| Percent Range | ECTS Grade | Incoming ECTS Grade Percentage Equivalence |
|---------------|------------|--|
|---------------|------------|--|

| | | |
|----------|---|---------|
| 70 – 100 | A | 74 |
| 60 – 69 | B | 65 |
| 55 – 59 | C | 58 |
| 47 – 54 | D | 51 |
| 40 – 46 | E | 44 |
| 30 – 39 | F | 30 – 39 |
| 0 – 29 | F | 0 – 29 |

A3.14.5. Grade Point Average

- i. The Grade Point Average (GPA) is the mean average of a student's performance over a group of modules. This group of modules may vary, e.g. it may be all the modules taken by a student during their time at Brookes, all modules taken to date, or only those modules taken in a given academic year. The rules for deriving the GPA, however, remain the same in all cases. Unless otherwise qualified, the GPA refers to a student's performance on all the modules taken as part of their programme according to the rules herein described.
- ii. Students included within the GPA scheme (whether full- or part-time) are those on a programme leading to an award at Level 6 or below with a commencement date as follows:
 - entering Stage 1 (year 1) of their programmes on or after 1 September 2013; or
 - entering Stage 2 (year 2) of their programmes on or after 1 September 2014 provided no credit will be counted towards their programme which was awarded before 1 September 2013; or
 - entering Stage 2 (year 3) of their programmes on or after 1 September 2015 provided no credit will be counted towards their programme which was awarded before 1 September 2013.

All students who started Stage 1 before 1 September 2013 will continue under the grading scheme in force at the time they entered their programme and will be outside the GPA.

- iii. The calculation of the degree classification is entirely independent of the calculation of the GPA. Rules concerning the classification of degrees are contained in the relevant Specific Regulations for the programme concerned.
- iv. The GPA is a mean average with each module counting equally according to its credit value, i.e. 1 credit carries equal weighting irrespective of level, subject, when taken etc. This means that, for example, at level 4, 5, or 6 a single module (15 credits) counts once in the calculation of the GPA, a double module (30 credits) counts twice and so on.
- v. Unless specifically exempted, all attempts at a module count in the classification of the GPA. Only attempts at a module which result in the award of one of the Final Grades listed in the table at A3.14.2.v above are specifically excluded from the GPA calculation.
- vi. All repeated attempts at a module will count towards the GPA each time the module is attempted (unless exempted for one of the reasons specified in A3.14.5.v above). Failed attempts, for example, count as a zero in the GPA calculation; they are not excluded from the calculation.
- vii. The GPA is calculated to two decimal places and although a simple mean average, the maximum GPA is capped at 4.00. Eligibility to receive an award is not dependent in any way upon a student's GPA and a student may therefore graduate with any GPA up to and including 4.00.
- viii. The GPA is printed on a student's degree certificate along with their degree classification.

For further information about these regulations, please contact the Academic Registrar.

Approved by: Academic Board, 11 July 2013

Last updated:

- Academic Enhancement & Standards Committee, 4th Dec 2013 (update to 3.14.2.iv and 3.14.3.ii)
- Academic Enhancement & Standards Committee, 28th Jan 2015 (update to 3.14.2.iv and 3.14.3.ii)
- Academic Enhancement & Standards Committee, 14 September 2016 (A3.14.4.i amended to remove reference to Combined Studies Examination Committee)
- Academic Enhancement & Standards Committee, 24 May 2017 (amendments to A3.14.2 Final Grades)