

Alternate weightings related to Covid for Student who studied during 2020/1

During the 2020/1 academic year, the University made a change to the way that degrees would be calculated for those students registered in that year in order to account for impact of Covid-19. That change will continue to impact students degree classifications until all students who studied during that year have completed their awards.

The explanation of that policy, as published at the time, is below:

Reweighting second or final year's marks for students in second year and above in 2020/1, so that the most successful year can be weighted higher in the calculation of overall degree performance.

We do know that things are more challenging than in a normal academic year and if your marks in 20/21 are badly affected by Covid-19 in ways that can't be covered by Exceptional Circumstances (ECA) we want you to be confident that your results will reflect your accomplishments. To do this, we are implementing a system to consider your results in **multiple ways**.

We're going to calculate two weightings for each student, and we will use the better one. So we'll still apply the 'normal' degree weighting (eg 2:3 for a Bachelor's degree), but we'll also look at an alternative weighting that reduces the impact of this year (2020/21).

Each student's degree classification will be based on the better of these two. The same principle is applied to the weightings for Integrated Masters degrees.

This means that a student who does better in their second year than their third will have a bigger part of their award mark based on their second year grades. A student who does better in their third year will have a bigger part of their award marks based on their third year grades.

In addition, the grades of the entire cohort will be compared to those of cohorts in previous years to check if further adjustments need to be explored.

This means that, depending on your current year of study, the alternative weighting would be:

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Programme	Year of Study in 2020/21		
	2nd	3rd	4th
BA/BSc	1:3	4:3	
Integrated Masters	1:3:3	4:3:6	4:6:3

Description of the table above

- For a BA/BSc student in their 2nd year in 2020/21, the additional alternative weighting would be 1:3.
- For a BA/BSc student in their 3rd year in 2020/21, the additional alternative weighting would be 4:3.

The same principle is applied to the weightings for **Integrated Masters** degrees:

- For an Integrated Masters student in their 2nd year in 2020/21, the additional alternative weighting would be 1:3:3.
- For an Integrated Masters student in their 3rd year in 2020/21, the additional alternative weighting would be 4:3:6.
- For an Integrated Masters student in their 4th year in 2020/21, the additional alternative weighting would be 4:6:3.

The alternative weighting protects those students whose work this year isn't as strong as other years because of the impacts of covid, but the standard weighting will still be used for students who have been less affected, or who have managed to maintain (or increase) their grades notwithstanding the impacts of covid.