Understanding your Class of Honours Guidance Document: Integrated Master's Degrees

Classification of your Honours degree

The regulations about how the Open University determines degree classification for Integrated Master's Degrees are in the OU Academic Regulations (Taught Courses), and in the OU Academic Regulations (Apprentices). These regulations can be found online at https://help.open.ac.uk/documents/policies/academic-regulations.

This document has been written to provide you with worked examples of Honours degree classification. If you have queries about working out your class of honours for your degree, please contact your Student Support Team who can help you to contact the Qualifications Centre at the Open University.

Honours Degrees Classifications

Honours degrees are awarded a classification from the following, First Class, Upper Second Class (2:1), Lower Second Class (2:2), Third Class.

Credit used in Classification

Classification is calculated when all the appropriate credit required for a qualification has been completed.

Classification credit can only come from graded OU modules or from graded Collaborative credit modules at Level 2 and above. Level 1 OU modules, ungraded credit and RPL credit (credit transfer) are not used in classification.

Graded undergraduate OU modules and collaborative credit modules award credit as one of Distinction (1; the highest grade), Pass grade 2, Pass grade 3, or Pass grade 4.

Graded postgraduate OU modules award credit as one of Distinction, Merit and Pass. The postgraduate modules in an Integrated Master's degree will have their grades converted to undergraduate grades for the purpose of Honours classification as follows: Distinction (Pass grade 1), Merit (Pass grade 2) and Pass (Pass grade 4).

If you have completed more valid classification credit than is required for your qualification, your best grades will be used. If you have the same grade for several modules, we start with the earliest. If you have more than one module with the same grade awarded at the same time, we take them in alpha-numeric order of their module code.

Calculation of Weighted Grade Credit Score

For Integrated Master's degrees, 240 credits will be used in classification, of which 120 will be Postgraduate level and 120 will be OU Level 3. All credit is single weighted in the classification of Integrated Master's degrees. All Integrated Master's degrees have a maximum of 240 credits of RPL permitted, so all students will have 240 credits of OU Level 3 and Postgraduate level credit on which to be classified.

Integrated Master's degrees Weighted Grade Credit Score Thresholds (240 credits)

Classification	Weighted Grade Credits range
First Class	420 or less
Upper Second Class (2:1)	Between 421 and 600
Lower Second Class (2:2)	Between 601 and 780
Third Class	Between 781 and 960

Worked Example

This is a worked example of an Integrated Master's Degree, where the postgraduate module grades have been converted to undergraduate grades for classification, and all of the Level 3 and postgraduate credit is single-weighted. The Weighted Grade Credit total is 630, which means that the classification is Lower Second Class (2:2).

Module	Stage	OU Level	Credits	Grade	Weighting	Total single-weighted grade credit value for module (Credits x Grade)
T192	1	1	30	3	Not counted towards classification	0
T193	1	1	30	3	Not counted towards classification	0
T176	1	1	30	2	Not counted towards classification	0
T194	1	1	30	4	Not counted towards classification	0

T271	2	2	30	1	Not counted towards classification	0
T272	2	2	30	1	Not counted towards classification	0
T276	2	2	30	2	Not counted towards classification	0
T212	2	2	30	3	Not counted towards classification	0
T312	3	3	30	2	Single-weighted	30 x 2 = 60
T356	3	3	30	3	Single-weighted	30 x 3 = 90
T367	3	3	30	4	Single-weighted	30 x 4 = 120
T848	3	PG	30	Distinction converted to grade 1	Single-weighted	30 x 1 x = 30
T460	4	3	30	3	Single-weighted	30 x 3 = 90
M815	4	PG	30	Merit converted to grade 2	Single-weighted	30 x 2 = 60
T849	4	PG	30	Pass converted to grade 4	Single-weighted	30 x 4 = 120
T885	4	PG	30	Merit converted to grade 2	Single-weighted	30 x 2 = 60
TOTAL			**480**			**630**

Classification	Weighted Grade Credits range
First Class	420 or less
Upper Second Class (2:1)	Between 421 and 600
Lower Second Class (2:2)	Between 601 and 780
Third Class	Between 781 and 960