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Understanding your results - 2019/20

To confirm for students how results were considered by Boards of Examiners in 2019/20.

This guidance relates to results for the 2019/20 academic year. Separate guidance is available to [understand your results in the current academic year](#).

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Overview

This page provides information to students on taught programmes about:

- how results were considered in 2019/20 under the University's no-detriment measures
- answers to common questions you may have about your results

When are results released?

The 2019/20 results for postgraduate students will be released on Monday 23 November 2020.

On the day you will receive an email from the University with the academic decision about your progression or award. You will be able to view your full results via SAMIS. If you have further assessment (supplementary or deferred) you will also receive an email from your

- How were my results determined?
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department with further details.

to my classification?

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What are the no-detriment measures?

In response to COVID-19, the University has taken a broad range of actions as part of its no-detriment measures, all of which are intended to mitigate the impact of COVID-19 disruption on your assessment, and your academic outcomes.

Full details of the agreed no-detriment measures, including the classification safety-net calculations are provided in the guides available at [COVID-19: No-detriment measures for taught student outcomes](#). The [FAQs](#) on no-detriment, teaching, and assessment may also be helpful to your understanding of how academic decision-making took place this year.

Through these measures, and by building on our existing regulations, we have sought to give you the best chance to complete 2019-20, and where appropriate, to gain your award, while maintaining the standards of a Bath degree.

How were my results determined?

Your results were considered through our normal processes, supplemented by no-detriment decision-making.

Marking your assessments

Your department marked and moderated assessments as normal using agreed criteria/marketing schemes.

Confirming your results (Board of Examiners)

Boards of Examiners performed their normal role of exercising academic judgement and using evidence to make decisions in line with the regulations and, this year, with our no-detriment measures.

For some measures to be applied, such as the classification safety-net, there were certain eligibility criteria. These are set out in the [COVID-19 No-Detriment Measures For Taught Student Outcomes - Student Explainer](#).

The Boards of Examiners considered results as follows:

Assessment and unit marks - Boards of Examiners for Units (BEU)

As normal, each BEU was responsible for ensuring the academic standards of the units under its authority. They ensured that all assessments provided an appropriate level of academic

challenge, and that the marks awarded were accurate reflections of the standards achieved by students.

The BEU reviewed an evidence-base to make sure that the impact of COVID-19 disruption was mitigated in the overall marks for the unit. For example, where appropriate, this included a review of the average outcome for the student cohort against the average outcomes of the previous three cohorts for the appropriate year group. Where this benchmark was not available, or not appropriate, it used appropriate alternatives in its consideration.

Awards and progression - Boards of Examiners for Programmes (BEP)

As normal, BEPs were responsible for determining decisions about individual students (progression, re-assessment, award and classification). These decisions were made according to the relevant regulations for your programme using the cumulative, weighted academic achievements derived from each finalised unit.

This year, in addition to its normal decision-making processes, BEPs implemented specific no-detriment measures, which included considering all student outcomes in light of the availability of the limited discretion normally associated with Individual Mitigating Circumstances (IMCs). The BEPs were provided with additional, relevant data to help assist in their decision-making. If you had specific IMCs claimed and accepted for particular units, these

were taken into account by the BEP in its overall consideration of your performance.

The BEP considered performance and award in line with the no-detriment measures set out as follows:

- Undergraduate (and Honours Year) - Finalist
- Undergraduate - Non-finalist
- Postgraduate Taught (PGT) – Finalists
- Postgraduate Taught (PGT) – Non-finalist

Boards of Studies (BoS)

The BoS considered the recommendations of the BEP and confirmed the award of a degree, or a progression decision.

What are AD grades?

- AD stands for 'Assessment Deferred' and indicates that you did not complete all the assessment for that unit.
- A deferred attempt means that you are permitted to attempt an item of assessment that would normally have been taken earlier. Your attempt will be as if for the first time, and our rules for first attempts will apply and you will receive a new mark for the assessment.
- If you have a unit with a grade of AD, you can take the outstanding deferred assessment as a first attempt in the 2020/21 academic year.

However no-detriment measures will no longer apply during the 2020/21 academic year.

- Your results email, and information on your results page on SAMIS, will confirm if you are eligible for a deferred attempt at any unit assessment.
- If you are eligible, your department will also be in touch to confirm the detail of what assessment will be set.

I have an AD grade, should I attempt my deferred assessment?

- For some students, attempting deferred assessment may be necessary in order to progress, or to gain an award. Your results email will contain a decision which will tell you if you are able to progress or have an award.
- If you have not yet met the requirements for your award or to progress, you should seek advice from your Director of Studies about the significance of deferred assessment attempts in your academic circumstances.
- If you have a fail mark for a unit with an AD grade then, unless you have been awarded a degree, you will have to take the deferred assessment during the next available assessment period in the 2020/21 academic year. Please seek advice

from your Director of Studies if this applies to you.

- If the fail mark for a non-DEU unit with an AD grade is in the condonable range (35-39), whether it can be condoned will depend on your overall profile of results. Please seek advice from your Director of Studies if this applies to you.
- If you have a pass or condonable mark for a unit with a grade of AD, you may also wish to consider eligibility for the degree classification safety-net calculation. For example, the undergraduate classification safety-net eligibility requires you to
 - (i) have been, in 2019/20, a non-final-year undergraduate in a year that counts towards your degree classification calculation;
 - (ii) have taken all the assessments that were set in that year; and
 - (iii) have obtained the same number of credits as would normally have been required to progress from that year and to contribute to obtaining the award of your degree. Full UG and PGT eligibility criteria is explained in the no-detriment guidance documents.
- Taking the deferred assessment will mean having marks for all your assessment. This may be useful when applying for future opportunities in employment or study.
- No-detriment measures may have already raised your degree classification to the higher class. Where that is the case, attempting deferred

assessment might improve your marks but may not improve your classification.

- If you do not attempt a deferred assessment at all then your mark will remain the same, and you will be awarded the credit.
- If you wish to take the outstanding deferred assessments you must tell your Programme Administrator. The timing of assessments will depend on when the units are run in 2020/1 so you will need to find out from your Programme Administrator the exact timing of each outstanding assessment and its requirement.
- If you choose to do deferred assessment, we will issue you with new documentation that takes this new information into account if you are a graduating student. We will let you know the process for this if it applies to your situation after the supplementary assessment period. Results will be available on SAMIS after the supplementary Board of Examiners.

I have a degree, can I attempt a unit again to improve the mark?

- If you have been awarded a degree, you can only take deferred assessment if the unit has a grade of AD. See 'What are AD grades?'

- If the unit does not have a grade of AD then the answer is no, as the assessment regulations do not normally allow you further attempts for failed/condoned units when you have gained 42 final-year credits and an award has been made to you. This has not changed under no-detriment measures.

I have a condoned unit, can I be reassessed to improve my marks?

- Only if that unit has a grade of AD. See 'What are AD grades?'
- If the unit does not have a grade of AD then the answer is no, as the assessment regulations do not normally allow you to undertake further assessment for condoned units and you have met the requirements to progress to the next stage of the programme. This has not changed under no-detriment measures.

I must do assessment to get an award/progress - what should I do?

- Your department will be in touch with you and you should talk through your options with your Director of Studies.

What will happen with ceremonies, certificates and transcripts?

Award ceremonies in 2020 have been postponed because of the COVID-19 disruption. The University will post your certificate and transcript to the address you have provided to the Graduation Team.

Please read Getting your Certificate for further details, including how to update the address you want your certificate and transcript sent to in SAMIS.

COVID-19 and your Record of Assessment and Transcript

Your Record of Assessment will contain a brief note to confirm that, as a result of the disruption and move online, some of your assessments may have been delivered slightly differently during 2019/20. Additionally, your transcript will provide a link to a webpage with further information about academic decision making during 2019/20, which will include a section to explain our COVID-19 no-detriment approach to those outside the University.

Changes to your certificate or transcript after the supplementary period

If you chose to do your deferred assessments in the supplementary period, we will then issue you with

new documentation that takes this new information into account. We will let you know the process for this if it applies to your situation after the supplementary assessment period.

How can I make an academic appeal?

As normal, you will be able to appeal a decision of the Board of Studies (for example, regarding your progression or classification), within normal timescales. Our processes will take the COVID-19 disruption into account.

You can find information about academic appeals and sources of support in the guide [Appealing against an academic decision](#).

How was no-detriment applied to my classification?

If you met the [requirements for the degree classification safety net](#), and it justified the award of one class higher, your classification decision would have been made on the basis of the safety-net.

The classification safety-net calculation is only one part of our no-detriment measures. If you weren't eligible, or if the safety-net calculation didn't automatically justify a higher classification, then the Board of Examiners considered your classification

using the no-detriment extension of decision-making powers that are normally only used when you have IMCs. Such decisions were made using academic judgement about your overall performance, including before the COVID-19 disruption.

As well, you can be assured that each unit result was carefully considered in light of no-detriment to make sure that it reflected the standards your cohort had achieved. This means that your results for 2019/20 had the disruptive effects of COVID-19 mitigated where that was needed.

A note on your transcript links to a website explaining to employers and others external to the University how your results were agreed, and that award standards were assured.

Further advice and support

- Your Director of Studies
- Your Personal Tutor
- You can contact your Programme Administrator in the following ways:
 - Students in departments in the Faculty of Engineering & Design should log into the self-service portal

- Students in departments in the Faculty of Humanities & Social Sciences should consult the contacts web page
<https://www.bath.ac.uk/teams/faculty-of-humanities-social-sciences-taught-programmes-team/>
- School of Management students - undergraduate students should email bsc@management.bath.ac.uk and MSc students should consult the contacts web page
<https://www.bath.ac.uk/teams/school-of-management-msc-team/>
- Students in departments in the Faculty of Science should consult the contacts web page
<https://www.bath.ac.uk/teams/faculty-of-science-taught-programmes-team/>
- The SU Advice and Support Centre
- Student Services

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