

26. GUIDELINES FOR AWARD CLASSIFICATION

- 26.1 The guidelines for award classification of BSc(Hons) in Information Security award are stated in the following. In using these guidelines, the Board of Examiners shall exercise its judgement in coming to its conclusions as to the award for each student, and where appropriate, may use other relevant information.
- 26.2 This Programme uses Weighted GPA as a guide for helping to determine award classifications. A University-wide standard weighting are applied to all subjects of the same level, with a weighting of 2 for Level 1 and 2 subjects, a weighting of 3 for Level 3, 4 and 5 subjects.

Weighted GPA will be computed as follows:

$$\text{Weighted GPA} = \frac{\sum_n \text{Subject Grade Point} \times \text{Subject Credit Value} \times W_i}{\sum_n \text{Subject Credit Value} \times W_i}$$

where $W_i = 2$ for all Level 1 and Level 2 subjects, and

$W_i = 3$ for all Level 3, Level 4 and Level 5 subjects.

$n =$ number of subjects counted towards the award as listed in Table 4.1 according to the Specified Progression Pattern (Section 5) (inclusive of failed subjects) taken by the student up to and including the latest semester. (For subjects which have been retaken, only the grade obtained in the final attempt will be included in the GPA calculation except those exclusions specified in Section 26.3.)

Same as GPA, Weighted GPA is capped at 4.0.

- 26.3 Any subjects passed after the graduation requirement has been met will not be taken into account in the grade point calculation for award classification.
- 26.4 The followings are guidelines for the Board for Examiners' reference in determining award classifications:

Honours Degrees	Guidelines
1 st	The student's performance/attainment is outstanding, and identifies him/her as exceptionally able in the field covered by the programme in question.
2 nd (Division I)	The student has reached a standard of performance/attainment which is more than satisfactory but less than outstanding.
2 nd (Division II)	The student has reached a standard of performance/attainment judged to be satisfactory, and clearly higher than the 'essential minimum' required for graduation.
3 rd	The student has attained the 'essential minimum' required for graduation at a standard ranging from just adequate to just satisfactory.

26.5 Under exceptional circumstances, a student who has completed an Honours degree programme, but has not attained Honours standard, may be awarded a Pass-without-Honours degree. A Pass-without-Honours degree award will be recommended, when the student has demonstrated a level of final attainment which is below the 'essential minimum' required for graduation with Honours from the programme in question, but has nonetheless covered the prescribed work of the programme in an adequate fashion while failing to show sufficient evidence of the expected intellectual calibre of Honours degree graduates. For example, if a student in an Honours degree programme has a Grade Point Average (GPA) of 2.0 or more, but his/her Weighted GPA is less than 2.0, he/she may be considered for a Pass-without-Honours classification. A Pass-without-Honours is an unclassified award, but the award parchment will not include this specification.

26.6 Students who have committed academic dishonesty will be subject to the penalty of lowering the award classification by one level. For undergraduate students who should be awarded a Third class Honours degree, they will be downgraded to a Pass-without-Honours. The minimum of downgraded overall result will be kept at a Pass. In rare circumstances where both the Student Discipline Committee and Board of Examiners of a Department consider that there are strong justifications showing the offence be less serious, the requirement for lowering the award classification can be waived.

- 26.7 The following is a set of indicators, for the Board of Examiners' reference, which can be used in helping to determine award classification:

Honours Classification	Weighted GPA
1 st	3.7 ⁺ - 4
2 nd (Division I)	3.2 ⁺ - 3.7 ⁻
2 nd (Division II)	2.3 ⁺ - 3.2 ⁻
3 rd	2.0 - 2.3 ⁻

Note: "+" sign denotes 'equal to or more than'; "-" sign denotes 'less than'.

- 26.8 There is no requirement for the Board of Examiners to produce an award list which conforms to the guidelines in Section 26.7 above.