

### 23. GUIDELINES FOR AWARD CLASSIFICATION

23.1 The guidelines for award classification 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.

23.2 This programme uses Weighted GPA as a guide for helping to determine award classifications. The weighting given for Level 1 and Level 2 subjects is 2 and the weighting given for Level 3 subjects is 3. The weighting given for Practical Training is zero.

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  $W_i$  = weighting assigned according to the level of the subject.  
 $n$  = number of subjects counted towards the award as listed in Table 5.1 according to the Specified Progression Pattern (Section 5.2) (inclusive of failed subjects) taken by the student up to and including the latest semester. (For subjects that have been retaken, only the grade obtained in the final attempt will be included in the GPA calculation except those exclusions specified in Section 23.3.)

Same as GPA, Weighted GPA is capped at 4.0.

23.3 Any subjects passed after the graduation requirement has been met will not be taken into account in the grade point calculation for award classification.

23.4 The following are guidelines for the Board for Examiners' reference in determining award classifications:

Classification	Guidelines
Distinction	The student's performance/attainment is outstanding, and identifies him/her as exceptionally able in the field covered by the programme in question.
Credit	The student has reached a standard of performance/attainment which is more than satisfactory but less than outstanding.

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Guidelines</b>
Pass	The student has attained the 'essential minimum' required for graduation at a standard ranging from just adequate to just satisfactory.

- 23.5 Students who have committed academic dishonesty will be subject to the penalty of lowering the award classification by one level. 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.
- 23.6 The following is a set of indicators, for the Board of Examiners' reference, which can be used in helping to determine award classification:

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Weighted GPA</b>
Distinction	3.7 <sup>+</sup> – 4
Credit	3.2 <sup>+</sup> – 3.7 <sup>-</sup>
Pass	2.0 – 3.2 <sup>-</sup>

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

- 23.7 There is no requirement for the Board of Examiners to produce an award list which conforms to the guidelines in Section 23.6 above.