Exam Results

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These slides will be emailed to students
Tomorrow you should get your results

- You will get an email saying that your results are available through SUSSED.

- You will **not** get an official letter from the university **unless** you have done very badly (see below)
Today I want to talk bout

- Interpreting the results
- The future
Good results and bad

- A **first** or **upper second** is the usual requirement for admission to a Master’s course.

- A **fail** is a mark <40. (Visiting students get **no** credit for modules they fail)

- A **bad fail** is a mark <25. DipHE and 2+2 students **must resit** badly-failed papers or withdraw from the programme.
UK expressions and what they mean in Soton

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree class</th>
<th>Average mark</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>First I</td>
<td>70+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Upper second II/i</td>
<td>60+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lower second II/ii</td>
<td>50+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Third III</td>
<td>40+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
If you have done very badly

- You will get a letter from the university in about a week’s time. It will explain the consequences for you.

- The letter is important. So study it and keep it.

- In addition I will arrange a meeting with you.
Can I resit to improve my marks?

Basically No!

- The university decides whether you have to resit a paper.
- It will tell you to resit if you have done badly enough.
- Your mark on the resit is capped at 40. So however good your effort, the best you can get is 40%.
Further details

- The regulations governing results appear under Progression, Determination & Classification of Results on http://www.southampton.ac.uk/socscinet/ug/forms.html

(This is not an easy read and you will probably never need to look at it.)
Making sense of your results I

- Read the Exam feedback for the courses you have taken
  http://www.soton.ac.uk/socscinet/ug/examfeedback/index.htm

- Here the lecturers report on how well students have done individual questions
Making sense of your results II

You can ask to see your script.

- This is an opportunity to see why you got the mark you did.

- It is **not** an opportunity to argue for a higher mark.

- It is **individual feedback on your performance** **not** part of the assessment.
Is it worth seeing your script?

- Usually it is **not** because all you learn is that you did not answer the questions well enough.

- Knowing why exactly your answer to a particular question is unsatisfactory will **not** usually help you in your future work.
When is it worth seeing your script?

When you can learn something useful

- If your marks are very different from your expectations—say you get an average of 40% and you expect 80%—you need to find out what is going wrong.

- If you have to retake the exam because you have a mark <25, it is worth looking at your script. You will be taking a very similar exam.
Looking ahead: for everybody

- Semester I and Semester 2 results carry equal weight.
- The Semester 1 exams are the first ones you have done in Southampton.
- You **should be better** prepared for the Semester 2 exams just because you will be more used to the system here.
Looking ahead: for 2+2 students

- In the averaging 2nd year marks carry \(\frac{1}{2}\) the weight of 3rd year marks.

- So it is possible to improve on a bad performance this year by a good one next year.

- Equally it’s possible to spoil a good performance this year by a bad one next year.
2+2s: applying for Master’s courses

For a Master’s course in 2016/17 students will usually apply in semester 1 of 2015/16.

The university you are applying to wants to know

- How well you have done in Southampton
- How good your English is
So now

- get the best marks you can in your courses (the only results available when you apply)
- work to improve your English
- talk to third years about their experience in applying for Master’s courses.
If you want more information …

See the links (under Tutees) on my personal webpage

http://www.economics.soton.ac.uk/staff/aldrich/aldrich.htm
Today!!!!

- You are invited to a buffet on level 1 of the Murray Building at 6pm
Student Office—a reminder

At certain times the Student Office is very busy writing letters on behalf of students.

You can speed the flow for yourself and other students by

- making sure that all your details are correct
- by not returning to ask for the same letter to be rewritten.
Thanks

Any Questions???????