

# Exam Results



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These slides will be emailed to students

# Tomorrow you should get your results

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- 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 about

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- Interpreting the results
- The future

# Good results and bad

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- 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

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<b>Degree class</b>	<b>Average mark</b>	
First I	70+	
Upper second II/i	60+	
Lower second II/ii	50+	
Third III	40+	

# If you have done very badly

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- 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?

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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

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- 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

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- 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

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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?

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- 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?

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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

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- Semester 1 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

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- In the averaging 2<sup>nd</sup> year marks carry  $\frac{1}{2}$  **the weight** of 3<sup>rd</sup> 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

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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

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- 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 ...

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See the links (under Tutees) on my personal webpage

<http://www.economics.soton.ac.uk/staff/aldrich/aldrich.htm>



# Today!!!!

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



## Student Office—a reminder

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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.



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**Thanks**

**Any Questions?????**