Quality Handbook

Worked Example of Foundation Degree Classification Calculations

All degree classifications are calculated using the Academic Regulations

1) Any modules which are not given a percentage mark (for example, pass/fail modules) will not be included in the calculation (modules that are marked but which receive a mark of 0% are included). The calculation will use the credits available, even if these fall below 100. In that case the credit-weighting stage divides by the number of credits used (e.g. the totalled marks are divided by 80, rather than 100).
2) SITS will round the final total to two decimal places. There will be no rounding during the earlier calculations.
3) As specified in the Academic Regulations (section 6.3.3), borderline marks are those final calculations which lie within 2% of the next highest classification boundary, i.e. 58-59.99%, and 68-69.99% in the credit-weighted Stage 2 average. There are no borderlines to borderlines.

The classification bands

70-100%	Distinction
60-69%	Merit
40-59%	Pass

Calculation Process
A Foundation Degree is awarded for the achievement of 240 credits at Stage 1 and Stage 2. A classification is awarded on the **weighted mean average of the module marks obtained at Stage 2 for the best 100 credits.**

Stage 2 best 100 credits

DEG203 (20 credits)	DEG202 (20 credits)	DEG206 (20 credits)	DEG204 (20 credits)	DEG201 (20 credits)	DEG205 (20 credits)
67%	71%	73%	72%	66%	62%
20 credits	40 credits	60 credits	80 credits	100 credits	NOT USED

Finding the Mean average
1. Each module mark is multiplied by the number of credits for that module, and the results added together:
2. (20x67)+(20x71)+(20x73)+(20x72)+(20x66) = 6980
3. That total is then divided by 100 (the total number of credits) to give the **weighted mean average**:
   6980/100 = **weighted mean average**

The degree classification
The final classification result is 69.8%
This is a Merit classification.

70-100%	Distinction
60-69%	Merit
40-59%	Pass

What are 'borderlines'?
A final classification is 'borderline' if it is within 2% of the classification boundary, i.e:

58.0%-59.99%
68.0%-69.99%

What happens to borderlines?
It means that the Assessment Board will move the student into the higher classification if sixty or more credits at stage 2 fall into the higher classification level.

Using the above calculation methodology you can see that final classification result is 69.8, which falls into the borderline classification. The example modules which the student scored in the higher classification level were DEG202 (20 Credits), DEG206 (20 Credits) and DEG204 (20 Credits). Therefore as the student received 60 credits in the higher classification level, they satisfy the criteria for conferment of a higher award classification of Distinction.

What does the Board consider?
- The overall profile of module results, including the range and spread of both higher and lower marks
- Any module of particular significance, e.g. a project or professional placement
- Any professional body requirements.