



1 February 2024

By email: fyi-request-25211-7302f58f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe XW

I refer to your information request dated 17 December 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested mark and grade distributions for the MELS301, MELS302, MELS305 and MELS306 papers offered by the University of Otago in 2023.

Subject to the following comments, please see attached the mark and grade distribution for the 2023 MELS306 paper:

- the data is correct as at 1 February 2024.
- we note that the grade and mark distributions for the 2023 MELS301, MELS302 and MELS305 papers have not been finalised yet as the final grades for some students have not been confirmed. On that basis, we decline this part of your request pursuant to section 18(g) of the Act, as the information requested is not held by the University as at today's date. We would be happy to consider a new request from you at a later date if you still wish to receive this information – we expect that all student grades will be confirmed by late February 2024.
- on occasions where fewer than five students have failed a paper (i.e. received a grade of Fail D or Fail E), we have determined that it is necessary to withhold the marks and specific grades for these students to protect their privacy and wellbeing. We consider that withholding this information is necessary to protect against the identity of these students being determined or inferred, and their personal information (i.e. their marks) could be disclosed. We therefore withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

I trust that this information will be helpful.

In the above cases, we consider that good reasons exist for withholding information, and this is not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available. If you are not satisfied with our response to your information request, section 28(3) of the Act provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Ngā mihi

Kelsey Kennard
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator
Office of the Registrar