

24 September 2024

By email: fyi-request-28275-0902e6bb@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mary,

I refer to your information request dated 1 September 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested mark and grade distributions for all 2021-2023 Summer School papers offered by the University of Otago.

Subject to the following comments, please see attached the information you have requested.

- the data is correct as at 24 September 2024.
- we note that the grade and mark distributions for 2021 HUMS401 and LAWS498 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 currently do not have a timeline for when these results will be complete, however we would be happy to consider a new request from you at a later date if you still wish to receive this information.
- on occasions where fewer than five students have failed a paper (i.e. received a grade of Fail D, Fail E, Failed Compulsory Assessment or Failed Terms), 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.
- on occasions where fewer than ten students are enrolled in a paper, we determine that it is necessary to withhold the mark and grade distributions for these papers. As there were fewer than ten enrolments in the following papers:
 - **2021:** ACFI299, COMP111, HUMS301, HUMS311, HUMS401, LAWS352, LAWS480, MUSI260 and RELS306
 - **2022:** BSNS250, ENGL323, HUMS301, HUMS401, LAWS480, LAWS498, RELS302 and RELS337
 - **2023:** BSNS250, COMP101, ENGL323, HUMS301, LAWS480, MINS415, PAST323, RELS306, RELS337 and TOUR350

we have withheld the mark and grade distribution for this paper to protect students' 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 and grades) could be disclosed. We therefore withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act.

- we note that the data includes papers where only either a pass or fail result is given (i.e., students do not receive a percentage mark score). These papers are COSC326 and LAWS498.
- in the attached grade and mark distributions, we note that students who withdrew from the papers, received an Aegrotat Pass or a Compensation Pass (where no grades or marks are awarded) or deferred, are excluded from the data.

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



Jo Pearson
Official Information Act Administrator
Office of the Registrar