

1 November 2024

By email: fyi-request-28821-612aace7@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe Mary

I refer to your information request dated 19 October 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested mark and grade distributions for all 200- and 300-level SPEX papers offered by the University of Otago in 2021, 2022 and 2023.

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

- the data is correct as at 22 October 2024.
- 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) being 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 2021 SPEX380 paper and the 2022 SPEX311 paper, 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) being disclosed. We therefore withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
- please note that not all papers were offered each year, therefore we have only provided mark and grade breakdowns for the years that the papers were offered.
- in the attached grade and mark distributions, we note that students who withdrew from the papers or received an Aegrotat Pass (not a grade or mark) 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

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelsey Kennard', with a long, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Kelsey Kennard

Policy Analyst

Office of the Registrar and Secretary to the Council