

18 December 2024

By email: [fyi-request-29112-a2662861@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-29112-a2662861@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Tēnā koe James

I refer to your information request dated 22 November 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested mark and grade distributions for all 300-level POLS papers offered by the University of Otago in Semester 2 2024.

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

- the data is correct as at 18 December 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.
- please note that the papers offered by the University can differ from year to year. We have provided the mark and grade distributions for all 300-level POLS papers offered in Semester 2 2024.
- 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



Kelsey Kennard  
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