

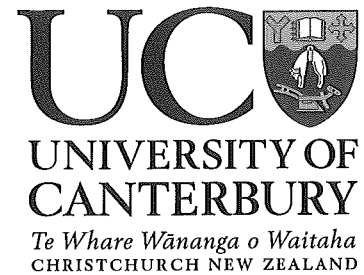
## Office of the Registrar

Information and Records Management

Tel: +64 3 364 2987 ext. 8889

Email: [records@canterbury.ac.nz](mailto:records@canterbury.ac.nz)

Web: [www.canterbury.ac.nz/irm](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/irm)



3 February 2012

Joshua Grainger

By e-mail: [requests@fyi.org.nz](mailto:requests@fyi.org.nz)

Dear Joshua

### **OFFICIAL INFORMATION ACT REQUEST 12/02**

I refer to your e-mail dated 22 January 2012.

Please find answers to your questions broken down below.

1. Can I please request under the Official Information Act a statistical breakdown of final grades for the course CHCH101, both for the course taught in Semester Two and during the first half of Summer School for the 2011/2012 period. I would also like to know if CHCH101 was graded on a curve.

The following is an overall summary of grade distribution for these two occurrences. Grades for both occurrences were determined on a student-by-student basis and not with regard to a curve or normal distribution. The assessment tasks were the same for each occurrence.

#### **CHCH101-11S2**

- a final grade of either "Pass" or "Fail" was earned by students depending upon their completion of the assessment tasks to a level of 50% in quality and quantity
- 102 students were enrolled
- 97 received a grade of "Pass"
- 5 received a grade of "Fail"
- the overwhelming majority of students receiving a grade of "Pass" did well beyond 50% in quality and quantity
- the majority of those receiving a grade of "Fail" did no assessment tasks

#### **CHCH101-11SU2**

- students were given the option of "Pass/Fail" or letter grade for their final grade
- letter grades were determined by using marks for each assessment task (please see Table 1 on next page) and the total number of marks equated to a letter grade using the newly adopted UC grading scale (please see Table 2 on next page)
- 54 students were enrolled

- 40 received a grade of A+
- 5 received a grade of A
- 2 received a grade of A-
- 1 received a grade of "Pass"
- 6 received a grade of "Fail"

It is important to note that because this course is a Special Topic and is still in a developmental phase, the most appropriate use of marks and grades as measurements of students' achievement of the intended learning outcomes is still under review, consideration, and revision. For instance, the bimodal distribution in each occurrence of students either doing all assessment tasks to a high level or students doing no assessment tasks suggests that this course is all or nothing for students, regardless of whether it is for a Pass or a letter grade.

Assessment Task	Learning Outcome Measured	% of Final Grade
Statement of Service & Pre-Course Survey	2. evaluate the impact of their own community engagement experiences	1.5%
Weekly contributions to face-to-face discussions or online forums	1. apply theory critically to analyse community engagement	20% (5% each)
4 Articulated Learning Statements after face-to-face or online discussions	2. evaluate the impact of their own community engagement experiences	20% (5% each)
Caring, Helping, and Connecting Statements	3. use a self-reflective approach to devising, developing, and presenting personally relevant assessment products	27% (9% each)
Final Assignment, Parts 1 & 2	3. use a self-reflective approach to devising, developing, and presenting personally relevant assessment products	30% (15% each)
Post-Course Survey	2. evaluate the impact of their own community engagement experiences	1.5%

Table 1. CHCH101-11SU2 Assessment Tasks and % of Final Grade.

Grade	GPA	Marks
A+	9	90 - 100
A	8	85 - 89
A-	7	80 - 84
B+	6	75 - 79
B	5	70 - 74
B-	4	65 - 69
C+	3	60 - 64
C	2	55 - 59
C-	1	50 - 54
D	0	40 - 49
E	-1	0 - 39

A pass is 50 marks and over.

Table 2. UC Grading Scale for 2012.

2. Can I also please request the average statistical breakdown for a 100 level course taught at Canterbury.

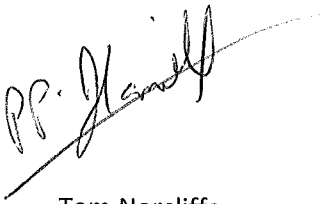
Percentage Grades for 100-level Courses:  
2009 to 2011

Grade	2009	2010	2011
A+	5%	5%	6%
A	7%	7%	8%
A-	9%	9%	10%
B+	11%	11%	12%
B	11%	11%	12%
B-	11%	11%	11%
C+	10%	10%	8%
C	8%	8%	7%
C-	3%	3%	2%
Pass	5%	5%	6%
Fail	17%	17%	13%
Incomplete	3%	3%	2%
Other	1%	1%	2%

Successful 100-level Course Completion Rates:  
2009 to 2011

2009	2010	2011
74.9%	75.4%	80.7%

Yours faithfully



Tom Norcliffe  
Information and Records Manager