

Northumbria University 2023/24

For students currently studying
Levels 5 and 6

*How your bachelors degree is
classified*

This is simplified explanation – for more
detail see our [regulations](#)

Degree Classification: Method

- The calculation for the classification Degree (Hons) Programmes is based on:
 - **Either:**
 - the average mark of the best 200 graded credits (100 at Level 6 and 100 at Level 5) in levels 6:5 weighted 60%:40%
 - **or**
 - the average mark of the best 100 credits in Level 6
- We use whichever benefits you most and to recognise ‘exit velocity’ – i.e. if you get better results in your final year (Level 6) your classification will be based on Level 6 marks alone.
- Module size doesn’t matter, as the calculation breaks down each level of study into 1 credit ‘chunks’ (e.g. a 30 credit dissertation or project = 30 x 1 credit ‘chunks’) and removes the lowest 20 of these from each level.

Degree Classification: Worked Example

- Your Level 4, 5 and 6 modules are graded as follows:

	Module 1 (20 credits)	Module 2 (20 credits)	Module 3 (20 credits)	Module 4 (20 credits)	Module 5 (20 credits)	Module 6 (20 credits)
Level 4	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%	40%
Level 5	40%	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Level 6	40%	70%	70%	70%	70%*	

- Level 4 Modules are not included in the classification calculation.
- Lowest scoring 20 credits in Level 5 and Level 6 (Module 1 in this example) are not included in the classification calculation.
- Classification is based on method 1 or method 2 (whichever benefits the student):
 - Method 1: (L6:5 weighted 60%:40%) **62%**
 - Method 2: (L6 weighted 100%) **70%**
- Classification outcome: **First Class Honours (1)**

Degree Classification: Important Notes

- All level 5 and level 6 results are considered, whether you pass your modules/credits outright or whether you pass after a resit or are compensated. **
- Even though we use the best credits for degree classification YOU MUST still complete all credits.
- Also:
 - all grades for all modules will be listed on your transcripts.
 - In borderline cases all grades will be considered to make a final classification.

**Compensation is when you fail a module but, because you have passed other modules this 'compensates' for the fail and you don't have to do a resit.
Subject to ARTA regulations

Degree Classification: “Borderline” Cases

- You have to get 70%+ overall for a 1st class; 60%+ overall for a 2:1; 50%+ for a 2:2; 40%+ for a 3rd
- We look at anyone who is borderline – i.e. if your overall mark (based on the method described above) is within 2% of a class of degree class. You will be awarded the Higher classification:
 - if you have an average mark within 2% of a boundary and majority of the graded credits at level 6 are on or above the appropriate boundary.
 - if the majority of your marks at level 6 lie on or above the boundary.

Questions?

If you are a current Northumbria student please direct your enquiry via articles in the Help and Support section of your [Student Portal](#), where it will route to the relevant team for resolution.

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