

Examiners' Report

Final Honour School of Mathematics and Philosophy Part C

Trinity Term 2026

Part I

A. STATISTICS

- **Numbers and percentages in each class.**

See Table 1, page 1 and Table 2, page 2.

- **Numbers of vivas and effects of vivas on classes of result.**

Not applicable.

- **Marking of scripts.**

Typically, all Philosophy scripts, essays and theses are double marked, as are Mathematics dissertations and mini-projects.

As with normal practice, all Mathematics examination scripts were single-marked according to carefully checked model solutions and a pre-defined marking scheme that is closely adhered to. A comprehensive independent checking procedure is also followed; see the Mathematics Part C report for details.

Table 1: Numbers in each class

	Number								
	2026	(2025)	(2024)	(2023)	(2022)	(2021)	(2020)	(2019)	(2018)
I	6	(10)	(10)	(5)	(7)	(6)	(6)	(6)	(8)
II.1	4	(5)	(5)	(8)	(4)	(4)	(2)	(2)	(3)
II.2	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)	(0)	(0)	(0)
III	2	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(0)
F	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Total	12	(15)	(15)	(13)	(12)	(12)	(8)	(9)	(11)

Table 2: Percentages in each class

	Percentages %								
	2026	(2025)	(2024)	(2023)	(2022)	(2021)	(2020)	(2019)	(2018)
I	50	(66.67)	(66.67)	(38.46)	(58.33)	(50)	(75)	(66.67)	(72.73)
II.1	33.33	(33.33)	(33.33)	(61.54)	(33.33)	(33.33)	(25)	(22.22)	(27.27)
II.2	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(16.67)	(0)	(0)	(0)
III	16.67	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(11.11)	(0)
F	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(8.33)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Total	100	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)

B. Changes in examining methods and procedures currently under discussion or contemplated for the future

The examiners are aware of the planned change in classification conventions planned for implementation in the 2028 examinations. Students will be classified on a Distinction/Merit/Pass/Fail scheme. This change will bring the MMathPhil in Mathematics and Philosophy in line with the MMath in Mathematics and other joint schools.

C. Notice of examination conventions for candidates

All notices for 2026 are available online at:

<https://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/undergraduate-courses/teaching-and-learning/part-c-students/examinations-and-assessments/part-c-and-omms>

The examination conventions for 2026 are available online at:

<https://courses.maths.ox.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=6514>

Part II

A. General Comments on the Examination

The examiners are very grateful to the academic administration teams across the Philosophy Centre and Mathematical Institute for their help at all stages in the conduct of this examination. We are grateful also to examiners and assessors in Philosophy and in Mathematics who set papers and marked scripts and theses of candidates in this examination and all those involved in the mark-checking process of the Mathematics papers.

The internal examiners are grateful to the external examiners Prof Roger Moser (Mathematics) and Dr Eleanor Knox (Philosophy) for generously performing their special roles in this process.

Prizes

The following prizes were awarded:

- Gibbs Prize for Mathematics and Philosophy: Pedro De Oliveira Lengruber Lack, University College
(performance in mathematics papers)
- Gibbs Prize for Mathematics and Philosophy:
Oliver Taylor, Christ Church College
Beatrice Bannister, Merton College
(performance in philosophy papers)

B. Equality Diversity information: breakdown of the results by gender

Table 3, page 4, shows percentages of male and female candidates for each class of the degree.

Table 3: Breakdown of results by gender. Breakdown by numbers and by percentages.

Class	Gender	Number						Percentage					
		I	II.1	II.2	III	F	Total	I	II.1	II.2	III	F	Total
2026	Female	2	3	0	1	0	6	33.33	50	0	16.67	0	100
	Male	4	1	0	1	0	6	66.67	16.67	0	16.67	0	100
	Total	6	4	0	0	0	12	50	33.33	0	16.67	0	100
2025	Female	3	2	0	0	0	5	60	40	0	0	0	100
	Male	7	3	0	0	0	10	70	30	0	0	0	100
	Total	10	5	0	0	0	15	66.67	33.33	0	0	0	100
2024	Female	1	1	0	0	0	2	50	50	0	0	0	100
	Male	9	4	0	0	0	13	69.23	30.77	0	0	0	100
	Total	10	5	0	0	0	15	66.69	33.33	0	0	0	100
2023	Female	0	3	0	0	0	3	0	100	0	0	0	100
	Male	5	5	0	0	0	10	50	50	0	0	0	100
	Total	5	8	0	0	0	13	38.46	61.54	0	0	0	100
2022	Female	3	1	0	0	0	4	75	25	0	0	0	100
	Male	4	3	0	0	0	7	57.14	42.86	0	0	0	100
	Total	7	4	0	0	0	11	63.64	36.36	0	0	0	100
2021	Female	2	2	1	0	0	5	40	40	20	0	0	100
	Male	4	2	1	0	0	7	57.14	28.57	14.29	0	0	100
	Total	6	4	2	0	0	12	50	33.33	16.67	0	0	100
2020	Female	2	1	0	0	0	3	66.67	33.33	0	0	0	100
	Male	4	1	0	0	0	5	80	20	0	0	0	100
	Total	6	2	0	0	0	8	75	25	0	0	0	100

C. Detailed numbers on candidates' performance in each part of the exam

See Table 4, page 5 for the number of candidates taking each Mathematics paper, together with statistics for the raw marks (average and standard deviation), and the University Standardised Marks (USMs, average and standard deviation) attained on each paper by this cohort. All papers listed are single units, except the Mathematics Dissertation, which is a double unit. The total maximum raw mark for a unit is 50 whilst the USMs are scaled to a maximum of 100. In accordance with University guidelines, statistics are not given for papers where the number of candidates was five or fewer in the public version of this report.

See Table 5, page 6 for the number of candidates taking each Philosophy paper, together with statistics for the USMs (average and standard deviation) attained in the examination and the extended essay for each subject by this cohort.

Table 4: Statistics by paper (Mathematics papers)

Paper	Number of Candidates	AvgRaw	StdevRaw	Avg USM	StdevUSM
C1.1	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C1.2	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C1.3	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C1.4	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C2.2	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C2.7	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C3.10	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C3.4	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C3.6	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C3.7	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C3.8	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C8.3	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C8.4	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C8.7	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C2.3	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C2.6	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C5.4	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
C6.5	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)
CCD	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)	(-)

D. Recommendations for Next Year’s Examiners and Joint Committee for Mathematics and Philosophy

The examiners raised concerns regarding the use of AI. Namely the fairness of comparing students with a higher proportion of coursework assessments to written examinations, considering the growth of generative AI. In particular, the examiners expressed apprehension with the University’s current ability to identify where AI has been used outside of the permitted bounds set by departments. It was noted that students undertaking a philosophy thesis receive 8 hours of contact time with their supervisors and provide supervisors with drafts throughout. This provides supervisors with increased oversight on student progress and production of the final thesis, a practice that the examiners feel would be helpful for the mathematics dissertation.

E. Comments on sections and on individual questions

See reports from the Mathematics examiners and from the Philosophy examiners.

Table 5: Statistics by paper (Philosophy papers)

Paper	Number of Candidates	Avg USM	StDevUSM
101 Early Modern Philosophy Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
101 Early Modern Philosophy Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
103 Ethics Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
103 Ethics Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
104 Philosophy of Mind Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
104 Philosophy of Mind Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
108 The Philosophy of Logic and Language Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
108 The Philosophy of Logic and Language Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
109 Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Criticism Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
109 Aesthetics and the Philosophy of Criticism Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
Theory of Politics Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
Theory of Politics Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
The Later Philosophy of Wittgenstein Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
The Later Philosophy of Wittgenstein Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
124 Philosophy of Science Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
124 Philosophy of Science Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
127 Philosophical Logic Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
127 Philosophical Logic Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
128 Practical Ethics Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
128 Practical Ethics Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
137 Plato on Knowledge, Language and Reality Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
137 Plato on Knowledge, Language and Reality Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
132 Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
132 Aristotle, Nicomachean Ethics Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
140 Philosophy of Social Science Exam	(-)	(-)	(-)
140 Philosophy of Social Science Essay	(-)	(-)	(-)
PT Thesis in Philosophy	(-)	(-)	(-)

F. Comments on performance of identifiable individuals

1. Mitigating Circumstance Notices to Examiners

The examiners did not receive any notices for consideration.

G. Names of members of the Board of Examiners

Mathematics

Prof. Philip Maini (Chair)

Prof. Massimiliano Gubinelli

Prof. Roger Moser (External Examiner)

Philosophy

Dr. Oliver Pooley

Prof. James Studd

Dr. Eleanor Knox (External Examiner)