

EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT FORM 2021

External examiner name:	Jelena Grbic		
External examiner home institution:	University of Southampton		
Course(s) examined:	PART A Mathematics		
Level: (please delete as appropriate)	Undergraduate		

Please complete both Parts A and B.

Part A				
	<i>Please (✓) as applicable*</i>	Yes	No	N/A / Other
A1.	Are the academic standards and the achievements of students comparable with those in other UK higher education institutions of which you have experience? <i>[Please refer to paragraph 6 of the Guidelines for External Examiner Reports].</i>	✓		
A2.	Do the threshold standards for the programme appropriately reflect the frameworks for higher education qualifications and any applicable subject benchmark statement? <i>[Please refer to paragraph 7 of the Guidelines for External Examiner Reports].</i>	✓		
A3.	Does the assessment process measure student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s)?	✓		
A4.	Is the assessment process conducted in line with the University's policies and regulations?	✓		
A5.	Did you receive sufficient information and evidence in a timely manner to be able to carry out the role of External Examiner effectively?	✓		
A6.	Did you receive a written response to your previous report?	✓		
A7.	Are you satisfied that comments in your previous report have been properly considered, and where applicable, acted upon?	✓		
* If you answer "No" to any question, you should provide further comments when you				

complete Part B.

Part B

In your responses to these questions, please could you include comments on the effectiveness of any changes made to the course or processes in response to the COVID-19 pandemic where appropriate.

B1. Academic standards

- a. How do academic standards achieved by the students compare with those achieved by students at other higher education institutions of which you have experience?*

The academic standards achieved by students are very high. Despite the pandemics, there was no indication of standards being lowered in any way.

- b. Please comment on student performance and achievement across the relevant programmes or parts of programmes and with reference to academic standards and student performance of other higher education institutions of which you have experience (those examining in joint schools are particularly asked to comment on their subject in relation to the whole award).*

Despite all disruption caused by COVID 19, student performance and achievement in Part A were high and of a consistent level in comparison to previous year. A one percent of increase in the first class performance is most likely do to an open book type exam. This is very commendable to the staff who prepared the exams as most other education institutions that I am aware of had a bigger discrepancy.

B2. Rigour and conduct of the assessment process

Please comment on the rigour and conduct of the assessment process, including whether it ensures equity of treatment for students, and whether it has been conducted fairly and within the University's regulations and guidance.

Every effort was taken to ensure equity of treatment for students. As this year exams were done remotely, online which presented a host of technical challenges for the University and students. Nevertheless, the rigour and fairness of the process were not compromised. The university made exceptional effort to inform students about the University's regulations and guidance. This was particular tough this year as students had to be fully informed in particular of any changes caused by the pandemic. At the same time the University was very open minded when implementing the changes.

B3. Issues

Are there any issues which you feel should be brought to the attention of supervising committees in the faculty/department, division or wider University?

I am completely satisfied and impressed with the whole process this year. I would like to encourage the University that if in the future the examination has to be done remotely that the system used provides (email) notification to students when they submit the work. The current system did not provide that feedback and I am worried that that could have caused a lot of anxiety.

B4. Good practice and enhancement opportunities

*Please comment/provide recommendations on any **good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment**, and any **opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities** provided to students that should be noted and disseminated more widely as appropriate.*

I'd like to commend the effort put in setting open book exams making sure that all students had equal opportunity.

B5. Any other comments

Please provide any other comments you may have about any aspect of the examination process. Please also use this space to address any issues specifically required by any applicable professional body. If your term of office is now concluded, please provide an overview here.

I would like to thank School of Mathematics for being very organised, proactive and helpful whenever any issues (mostly IT related) I raised.

Signed:	
Date:	9 July 2021

Please ensure you have completed parts A & B, and email your completed form to: external-examiners@admin.ox.ac.uk and copy it to the applicable divisional contact set out in the guidelines.