

Examiners' Report: Final Honour School of Mathematics & Philosophy Part B Trinity Term 2015

November 4, 2015

Part I

A. Statistics

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

See Table 1, page 1.

Table 1: Numbers in each class

	Number					Percentages %				
	2015	(2014)	(2013)	(2012)	(2011)	2015	(2014)	(2013)	(2012)	(2011)
I	7	(7)	(7)	(9)	(8)	43.75	(46.67)	(43.75)	(39.13)	(33.33)
II.1	8	(5)	(8)	(13)	(15)	50	(33.33)	(50)	(56.52)	(62.50)
II.2	0	(3)	(1)	(0)	(1)	0	(20)	(6.25)	(0)	(4.17)
III	1	(0)	(0)	(1)	(0)	6.25	(0)	(0)	(4.35)	(0)
P	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
F	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	0	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Total	16	(15)	(16)	(23)	(24)	100	(100)	(100)	(100)	(100)

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

Not applicable.

- **Marking of scripts.**

All Philosophy scripts, essays and theses were double-marked, after which the two markers consult in order to agree a mark between them. If the two markers are unable after discussion to agree a mark, the mark is decided by a third examiner, within the range of the two initial marks. All Mathematics scripts were, as is the normal practice, single-marked according to carefully checked model solutions and a pre-defined marking scheme closely adhered to. A comprehensive independent checking procedure is also followed. (See the Mathematics Part B report for details). BEE extended essays and coursework for BO1.1 History of Mathematics were blind double marked.

B. New examining methods and procedures

The University had introduced new procedures for considering factors affecting performance of individual candidates, however no such applications were received by this examination board.

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

The Mathematical Institute's Teaching Committee is considering increasing the time allowed for the Mathematics exams from 90 minutes to 2 hours.

D. Notice of examination conventions for candidates

The candidates were given details of the examining conventions in the notices that were sent out by the examiners.

These are available on-line at

<http://www.maths.ox.ac.uk/members/students/undergraduate-courses/examinations-assessments/examination-conventions>

Part II

A. General Comments on the Examination

The examiners are very grateful to James Knight in the Philosophy Faculty and Helen Lowe, Waldemar Schlackow and Charlotte Turner-Smith in the Mathematical Institute for their enormous 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 essays of candidates in this examination.

The internal examiners are grateful to the external examiners Prof. Richard Thomas (Mathematics) and Prof. Walter Dean (Philosophy) for generously performing their special roles in this process.

There was a delay in the final Examiners' Meeting awaiting a third marker's adjudication. It would be appreciated if deadlines are met in future.

Prizes

The following prizes were awarded:

Gibbs Prize (performance in Mathematics papers): Nicholas Williams, Worcester College
Gibbs Prize (performance in Philosophy papers): Alexander Gilbert, St Anne's College.

B. Equal opportunities issues and breakdown of the results by gender

Table 2, page 3 shows percentages of male and female candidates for each class of the degree.

Table 2: Breakdown of results by gender

Class	Total		Male		Female	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
I	7	43.75	5	45.45	2	40
II.1	8	50	6	54.55	2	40
II.2	0	0	0	0	0	0
III	1	6.25	0	0	1	20
P	0	0	0	0	0	0
F	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	16	100	11	100	5	100

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

See Table 3, page 4 for the number of candidates taking each Mathematics paper, together with statistics for the raw marks (average and standard deviation), and USMs (average and standard deviation) attained on each paper by this cohort. It should be noted that the total raw marks for a unit are 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.

Table 3: Statistics by paper (Mathematics papers)

Paper	Number of Candidates	AvgRaw	StdevRaw	Avg USM	StdevUSM
B1.1	16	36.31	9.07	71.56	14.38
B1.2	16	33.56	10.17	66	15.89
B2.1	4	-	-	-	-
B3.1	7	31.29	6.68	67	5.72
B3.4	3	-	-	-	-
B3.5	10	35.2	7.93	66.3	12.18
B8.1	1	-	-	-	-
B8.3	2	-	-	-	-
B8.4	5	-	-	-	-
B8.5	8	28.88	5.87	62.25	7.29
C2.6	2	-	-	-	-
SB3a	3	-	-	-	-
SB3b	1	-	-	-	-
BO1.1 Exam	2	-	-	-	-
BO1.1 Essay	2	-	-	-	-
OCS1	1	-	-	-	-
OCS2	1	-	-	-	-

See Table 4, page 4 for the number of candidates taking each Philosophy paper, together with statistics for the USMs (average and standard deviation) attained on each paper by this cohort. In accordance with University guidelines, statistics are not given for papers where the number of candidates was five or fewer.

Table 4: Statistics by paper (Philosophy papers)

Paper	Number of Candidates	Avg USM	StDev USM
102 Knowledge and Reality	10	63.70	7.23
103 Ethics	2	-	-
104 Philosophy of Mind	2	-	-
107 Philosophy of Religion	1	-	-
108 The Philosophy of Logic and Language	6	61.33	8.62
109 Aesthetics and Philosophy of Criticism	1	-	-
112 The Philosophy of Kant	2	-	-
114 Theory of Politics	1	-	-
116 Aristotle: Nicomachean Ethics	1	-	-
117 Frege, Russell and Wittgenstein	3	-	-
118 The Later Philosophy of Wittgenstein	1	-	-
122 Philosophy of Mathematics	16	63.69	6.42
127 Philosophical Logic	2	-	-
129 Early Modern Philosophy	6	69.17	3.37

Section D: Comments on papers and individual questions

See reports from Mathematics Examiners and from Philosophy Examiners.

E. Comments on performance of identifiable individuals and other material which would usually be treated as reserved business

Removed from the public version of the report.

F. Names of members of the Board of Examiners

Prof. Walter Dean (external examiner)

Prof. Nigel Hitchin (chair)

Prof. Dominic Joyce

Prof. Ofra Magidor

Prof. James Studd

Prof. Richard Thomas (external examiner)