



EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT FORM 2024

External examiner name:	Mark Blyth		
External examiner home institution:	University of East Anglia		
Course(s) examined:	Mathematics		
Level: (please delete as appropriate)	Undergraduate		
Year of term of office: (please delete as appropriate)	First year		

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

Part B

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?*

On the whole the academic standards achieved by students at Oxford are above those at other UK institutions of which I have experience.

- 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).*

Student performance is on the whole of high quality, and in some cases of exceptionally high quality compared to other UK institutions. Students are evidently being taught to a high standard and are being enabled to perform to a high standard.

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.

I found the whole process to be very rigorous. There are layers of checking of exam papers with which faculty are clearly engaging and taking very seriously. The level of attention to detail, and mechanisms in place for picking up errors and ensuring that examination content is pitched at an appropriate level is impressive. The Examiners' Meeting was conducted with a high degree of professionalism and with great concern that equitable outcomes should be achieved for all students, particularly in cases where extenuating circumstances were in operation.

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?

None.

B4. Good practice and enhancement opportunities

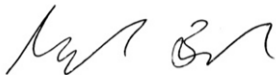
*Please comment/provide recommendations on any **good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment**, and any **opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities** provided to students that should be noted and disseminated more widely as appropriate.*

None.

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.

My only comment/request would be a more streamlined approach to the way the papers are provided to externals via the shared OneDrive folder. If it is possible to parcel off old versions of papers (into a sub-folder, perhaps) so that it is more readily apparent which is the latest version to be reviewed, that would be helpful. Standardising filenames would also be helpful. It may also be worth considering introducing a form for each module to be populated by setters/checkers/externals to provide a coherent paper trail of each paper's history.

Signed:	
Date:	21.07.24

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.