

EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT FORM 2019

External examiner name:	Michal Branicki	
External examiner home institution:	University of Edinburgh	
Course(s) examined:	Mathematics, Part B	
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?	V		
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 6 of the Guidelines for External Examiner Reports].</i>	V		
A3.	Does the assessment process measure student achievement rigorously and fairly against the intended outcomes of the programme(s)?	V		
A4.	Is the assessment process conducted in line with the University's policies and regulations?	V		
A5.	Did you receive sufficient information and evidence in a timely manner to be able to carry out the role of External Examiner effectively?	V		
A6.	Did you receive a written response to your previous report?		V	
A7.	Are you satisfied that comments in your previous report have been properly considered, and where applicable, acted upon?		V	
<i>* If you answer "No" to any question, you should provide further comments when you complete Part B. Further comments may also be given in Part B, if desired, if you answer "Yes" or "N/A / Other".</i>				

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?*

The academic standards are satisfactorily high. The classification statistics is similar to other Schools I'm familiar with (Edinburgh, Bristol, Cambridge) but the exams are, on average, more demanding than those in Edinburgh and Bristol.

- 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).*

As already stated above, the classification stats are similar to the ones I have seen at other UK institutions but the level of difficulty of exam papers is higher. Thus, the Oxford maths students perform very well, on average.

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 am satisfied with the rigour and conduct of the assessment process. I have not noticed any issues with the lack of equality or fairness.

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?

No significant issues arose this year.

B4. Good practice and enhancement opportunities

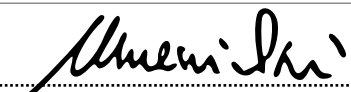
*Please comment/provide recommendations on any **good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment**, and any **opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities** provided to students that should be noted and disseminated more widely as appropriate.*

Based on the material I had access to, I think the programme is already excellent, and I do not want to be unnecessarily critical.

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.

It would be useful to have a brief legend attached to the candidate ranking papers with a list of courses and their abbreviations. This would help the externals to assess performance of candidates across various streams (e.g., pure vs applied). I think this would be helpful when awarding prizes, and when discussing borderline cases, and FAPs.

Signed:	
Date:	03.10.2019

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.