



13 February 2023

By email: [fyi-request-21564-2adc9df2@requests.fyi.org.nz](mailto:fyi-request-21564-2adc9df2@requests.fyi.org.nz)

Dear Nishanth

I refer to your information request dated 14 January 2023 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested mark and grade distributions for various Science papers offered by the University of Otago from 2019 – 2022.

Subject to the following comments, please see attached the information you have requested. Please note that there are four separate pages in the attached document (one for each year).

- we note that the grade and mark distributions for the Semester 2 2022 ANAT242, BIOC223, CHEM205, GENE222, GENE223, MICR222, MICR223, PATH201, PHAL221 and PHSL232 papers have not been finalised yet as there may be special examinations outstanding and the grades for some students have not been finalised. We are happy to grant your request but will release the grade and mark distributions for these papers once all student results have been confirmed – we anticipate that these will be finalised over the coming weeks.
- on occasions where fewer than five students have failed a paper (i.e. received a grade of Fail D, Fail E, Failed Compulsory Assessment or Failed Terms), we have determined that it is necessary to withhold the marks and specific grades for these students to protect their privacy and wellbeing. We consider that withholding this information is necessary to protect against the identity of these students being determined or inferred, and their personal information (i.e. their marks) could be disclosed. We therefore withhold this information pursuant to section 9(2)(a) of the Act.
- please note that not all papers were offered each year, therefore we have only provided mark and grade breakdowns for the years that the papers were offered.
- in the attached mark and grade distributions, students who withdrew from the papers or received an Aegrotat Pass grade (not a mark) are excluded from the data.

I trust that this information will be helpful. We will be back in touch once the mark and grade distributions for the remaining Semester 2 2022 papers have been confirmed and are available.

In the above cases, we consider that good reasons exist for withholding information and this is not outweighed by other considerations which would make it desirable, in the public interest, to make the information available. If you are not satisfied with our response to your information request, section 28(3) of the Act provides you with the right to ask an Ombudsman to investigate and review this response. However, we would welcome the opportunity to discuss any concerns with you first.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Kelsey Kennard', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kelsey Kennard  
Official Information and Compliance Coordinator  
Office of the Registrar