

15 July 2024

By email: fyi-request-27411-f246fe1f@requests.fyi.org.nz

Tēnā koe B,

I refer to your information request dated 27 June 2024 made under the Official Information Act 1982 (the Act). You have requested mark and grade distributions for the 2022 and 2023 AGRI221, GENE222, BIOC223, APPS201, RELS227 and RELS239 papers offered by the University of Otago.

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

- the data is correct as at 8 July 2024
- 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.
- on occasions where fewer than ten students are enrolled in a paper, we determine that it is necessary to withhold the mark and grade distributions for these papers. As there were fewer than ten enrolments in the 2022 APPS201 and the 2023 APPS201 and RELS239 papers, we have withheld the mark and grade distributions for these papers to protect students' 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 and grades) 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. We note that RELS227 and RELS239 were not offered in 2022, and RELS227 was not offered in 2023.
- in the attached grade and mark distributions, we note that students who withdrew from the papers are excluded from the data.

I trust that this information will be helpful.

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.

Ngā mihi



Jo Pearson
Official Information Act Administrator
Office of the Registrar