

## BACHELOR OF LAWS

The LLB programme includes three parts, Year One, Year Two and Year Three. Each part is examined in the Summer Term; if the examiners require candidates to be re-examined these resits will take place in the School's In Year Resit and Deferred Assessment Period (IRDAP).

At the discretion of the School, and with the permission of the other college concerned, arrangements may be made for students to take courses at other colleges of the University in legal subjects not taught at LSE.

## CLASSIFICATION SCHEME FOR THE BACHELOR OF LAWS FOR ALL STUDENTS FROM THE 2019/20 ACADEMIC YEAR

This Classification Scheme is approved by the School Board of Examiners for BA/BSc Degrees.

*Last updated: August 2020*

This classification scheme must be read in conjunction with the [Regulations for First Degrees](#), the [LLB degree regulations](#), the relevant [online undergraduate course guides](#), the [Code of Good Practice for Undergraduate, Diploma and Postgraduate Programmes: Teaching, Learning and Assessment](#) and the [Addendum - Regulations for 2020/21 updated in response to COVID-19](#).

### 1. Award of Marks

The examiners for each course will determine a numerical mark for each candidate based on the following scale:

First Class Honours	70 - 100
Upper Second Class Honours	60 - 69
Lower Second Class Honours	50 - 59
Third Class Honours	45 - 49
Pass	40 - 44
Fail	0 - 39

### 2. Eligibility for Award of Degree

2.1 In order to be considered for a degree, a candidate must have attempted and completed every component of assessment for all courses required by the programme regulations.

2.2 In order to be eligible for the award of a degree, a candidate must have passed the Year One Examination, and must have then satisfied the examiners by passing Year Two of the Degree and thereafter have satisfied the examiners by passing Year Three of the Degree.

2.3 All LSE undergraduate students are enrolled on course LSE100. However, LSE100 is not counted for the purposes of classification.

### 3. Treatment of half units

For the purpose of determining classification marks only, the marks obtained for each pair of half-unit courses should be combined and averaged (with the resulting average mark being rounded to the nearest whole mark). Half-unit courses should be paired using the following criteria in the order set out below:

3.1 according to the stage of the degree: half-units taken in the same year should be paired;

3.2 according to the marks awarded for each half-unit: the two half-units with the highest marks, then those with the next highest marks should be paired.

### 4. Classification Marks

The classification and aggregate of each candidate shall be based on all eight marks of the full subjects taken for Years Two and Three of the Degree. In all cases, the marks shall be based on the mark obtained by the candidate at the latest attempt of the examination for each course.

5. **Classification Guidelines**

A candidate who is eligible for the award of a degree and who has achieved the minimum requirement for the award of an honours degree of a particular class or division, or a pass degree as set out in sub-paragraphs 5.1 to 5.5 below shall be classified in that class, division or pass grade, subject to (A) and (B) below:

(A) a candidate whose marks include fail marks, but who has otherwise achieved the minimum requirement for the award of an honours degree as set out in 11(A) and 11(B), should normally be classified in that class, division or pass grade next below that determined in accordance with sub-paragraphs 5.1 to 5.4.

(B) a candidate who has marks of a higher class than that for which he is being considered shall have those higher marks regarded as some compensation in determining whether the aggregate mark is near enough to the 'normal aggregate'.

5.1 **For first class honours:**

5.1.1 Four first class marks; or

5.1.2 Three first class marks and an aggregate mark which is near the 'normal aggregate' of 540.

5.2 **For upper second class honours:**

5.2.1 Four upper second marks (or above); or

5.2.2 Three upper second marks (or above) and an aggregate mark which is near the 'normal aggregate' of 480.

5.3 **For lower second class honours:**

5.3.1 Four lower second marks (or above); or

5.3.2 Three lower second marks (or above) and an aggregate mark which is near the 'normal aggregate' of 400.

5.4 **For third class honours:**

5.4.1 Four third marks (or above); or

5.4.2 Three third marks (or above) and an aggregate mark which is near the 'normal aggregate' of 360.

5.5 **For a pass degree:**

5.5.1 Eight pass marks (or above); or

5.5.2 Six pass marks (or above), of which at least two are third class (or above) and the 'normal aggregate' of 320.

5.6 **For candidates registered from 2011/12 onwards:**

A candidate whose marks include a mark gained in a non-Law course and who would normally be classified in a particular class, division or pass grade under rule 5.1.2., 5.2.2, 5.3.2, 5.4.2, or 5.5.2 [the "normal aggregate" rules] will not be so classified where the examiners consider that it would be inequitable to do so.

6. **Appeals and Offences**

Appeals against decisions of LLB Board of Examiners will be handled according to the Appeals Regulations. Assessment offences will be handled according to Regulations on assessment offences: plagiarism or Regulations on assessment offences: offences other than plagiarism. All Regulations are published in the School Calendar.

7. **Exceptional Circumstances**

It is open to the LLB Board of Examiners to depart from this Scheme if, in their judgement, this would be equitable for any individual student as a direct result of a formal exceptional circumstances submission to the Student Services Centre. Such circumstances would need appropriate supporting evidence and must be extraneous to the normal assessment process and would apply to that student only. The following conditions will also normally be taken in to account:

7.1 that the student is very close to the next higher classification boundary (within 3 marks in a single paper); and

7.2 that the student has marks in the higher classification range; and

7.3 that the student has demonstrated that the assessment or set of assessments in question were significantly and negatively affected by exceptional circumstances that were sudden, unforeseen, out of the student's own control and proximate to the assessment(s) in question; and

7.4 that the student's performance in the affected assessment(s) was significantly out of line with his / her performance in other, unaffected assessments.

## PASS, COMPENSATION AND FAIL RULES FOR YEAR THREE

### 8. Compensation Rules

A candidate shall pass Year Three and be considered for an award if they have passed all courses taken in the year or achieve pass marks in at least two or three units and meet the conditions for compensating those fail marks as set out below:

- (A) A candidate shall pass if she/he passed in three subjects and in the fourth attained a mark of at least 30, provided she/he has 1 mark over an aggregate of 160 for every mark by which her/his mark in the fourth subject falls short of 40;
- (B) A candidate shall pass, though she/he failed in two subjects, provided she/he attained not less than 38 in each of these subjects, and provided also that she/he has 3 marks over an aggregate of 160 for every mark by which each fail mark falls short of 40.
- (C) Students who are eligible for an award with fail marks will not be given the opportunity to resit any failed assessments

### 9. A Fail

9.1 A candidate who fails one or more courses and cannot be compensated must resit those failed elements provided they have not run out of attempts to do so. They must resit the failed subjects at the next available opportunity which will be either during the IRDAP for students who fail Summer Term exams, or the following Summer Term for candidates who fail during the IRDAP. Students must achieve the compensation rules at Paragraph 8 or achieve pass marks to be eligible for the award of the degree.

9.2 If a candidate passed the re-sit(s) the mark(s) achieved will be capped at a Pass mark of 40 for the purposes of classification. However, both the actual mark achieved at resit and the mark obtained in first instance will be included on the official transcript.

9.3 A candidate cannot resit an exam in which they have received a Pass mark

### 10. The number of attempts at the Year Three examinations

Candidates who are eligible to resit Year Three examinations are entitled to a total of 3 attempts.

## PASS AND PROGRESSION RULES FOR YEAR TWO

### 11. Pass and Progress

11.1 A candidate shall progress to year three if they have passed all courses taken in the year or achieved pass marks in at least two or three units and meet the conditions for compensating those fail marks as set out below:

(A) A candidate shall pass if she/he passed in three subjects and in the fourth attained a mark of at least 35, provided she/he has 1 mark over an aggregate of 160 for every mark by which her/his mark in the fourth subject falls short of 40; Or

(B) A candidate shall pass, though she/he failed in two subjects, provided she/he attained not less than 38 in each of these subjects, and provided also that she/he has 3 marks over an aggregate of 160 for every mark by which each fail mark falls short of 40.

11.2 Any candidate with one or two compensated fail marks will be given one opportunity in the IRDAP, if they wish, to re-sit the relevant examination(s). If the candidate fails the re-sit(s), the original fail mark(s) will be reinstated. If they pass the re-sit(s) the mark(s) achieved will be entered on their official transcript, however, for the purposes of classification of the law degree after the completion of the Year Three examinations the mark(s) of 40 will be considered to be the mark(s) that they attained.

12. **A Resit**
- 12.1 A candidate who fails one or more courses and does not meet the compensation requirements set out above must resit the failed components of assessments for any failed courses at the next available opportunity which will be either during the IRDAP for students who fail Summer Term exams, or the following Summer Term for candidates who fail during the IRDAP. If they pass the re-sit(s) the mark(s) achieved will be capped at a Pass mark of 40 for the purposes of classification. However, both the actual mark achieved at resit and the mark obtained in the first instance will be included on the official transcript.
- 12.2 A candidate who is required to resit and either fails to achieve a pass mark at resit or fails to meet the compensation requirements at Paragraph 8 cannot progress and must resit again at the next available opportunity provided they still have attempts remaining.
- 12.3 A candidate cannot resit an exam in which they have received a pass mark.
13. **A Fail**
- 13.1. Candidates who receive a Fail mark in a Year Two subject are entitled to a total of 3 attempts at the Year Two Examinations.
- 13.2 Candidates who fail to achieve the progression requirements at Paragraphs 11 and 12 above fail the degree. There is no opportunity for an interim award.

## SCHEME OF PASS AND COMPENSATION RULES FOR THE LLB YEAR ONE EXAMINATION

14. **Award of Marks**  
The examiners for each course will determine a numerical mark for each candidate based on the following scale:
- |                            |          |
|----------------------------|----------|
| First Class Honours        | 70 - 100 |
| Upper Second Class Honours | 60 - 69  |
| Lower Second Class Honours | 50 - 59  |
| Third Class Honours        | 45 - 49  |
| Pass                       | 40 - 44  |
| Fail                       | 30 - 39  |
| Bad Fail                   | 0 - 29   |
15. **Eligibility for Passing the First Year**
- 15.1 In order to be considered for the Year One Examination, a candidate must have attempted and completed every element of the First Year of the LLB degree.
- 15.2 In order to pass Year One, a candidate must have satisfied the examiners by passing all 5 examinations that make up the Year One Examination.
16. **Compensation Rules**  
A candidate who fails in fewer than two subjects may be compensated in those failed subjects only provided that she/he has at least 30 marks in each of them. (NB: Property 1 and Introduction to the Legal System count as half subjects for this purpose).
17. **A Fail**  
A candidate who fails in two or more subjects and cannot be compensated by the rules set out at Paragraph 16, fails the Year One Examination and must re-sit all subjects at the next available opportunity.
18. **A Bad Fail in One Subject**  
A candidate who fails to achieve at least 30 marks in one subject fails the Year One Examination and must re-sit all subjects at the next available opportunity.
19. **The IRDAP for Year One examinations**
- 19.1 Candidates who are compensated are entitled to re-sit all failed subjects during the IRDAP.
- 19.2 A candidate cannot resit an exam in which they have received a Pass mark
20. **The number of attempts at Year One examinations**  
Candidates who are eligible to sit Year One examinations are entitled to a total of 3 attempts.



21. **General Proviso**

It is also open to the LLB Board of Examiners to depart from this Scheme if, in their judgement, this would be equitable for any individual student as a direct result of a formal exceptional circumstances submission. Such circumstances would need to be extraneous to the normal assessment process and would apply to that student only.

---

See the [Calendar](#) for further information about Programme Regulations, Course Guides, School and academic Regulations.