Categorizing student performance levels

GEOL0001 Earth Materials

"Excellent" is the performance expected of students gaining a First class honours (BSc or MSci). "Typical" is the performance currently expected of students at the Lower/Upper Second class boundary (BSc or MSci). "Threshold" is the minimum performance currently required to gain an honours degree (BSc or MSci).

Definitions	Excellent performance	Typical performance	Threshold performance
Intellectual	Knowledge base extending	Knowledge of the directly	Knowledge based on the
skills -	beyond the directly taught	taught programme and some	directly taught programme.
knowledge and	programme (e.g. reference	evidence of enquiry beyond	
understanding	to research papers).	that (e.g. key texts).	
	Thorough understanding of	Understanding of	Basic understanding of
	elementary crystallography	elementary crystallography	elementary crystallography
	and crystal chemistry.	and crystal chemistry.	and crystal chemistry.
	Thorough understanding of	Understanding of the way in	Basic understanding of the
	the way in which light	which light propagates	way in which light
	propagates through	through anisotropic minerals	propagates through
	anisotropic minerals and of	and of the methods used in	anisotropic minerals and of
	the methods used in	polarised-light microscopy.	the methods used in
	polarised-light microscopy.		polarised-light microscopy.
	Thorough knowledge of	Knowledge of the structures	Basic knowledge of the
	the structures and	and properties of the major	structures and properties of
	properties of the major	rock forming minerals.	the major rock forming
	rock forming minerals.		minerals.
Practical skills	Outstanding ability to: (i)	Ability to: (i) find the	Basic ability to: (i) find the
	find the lattice, symmetry	lattice, symmetry and planes	lattice, symmetry and
	and planes and directions	and directions in a crystal;	planes and directions in a
	in a crystal; (ii) recognise	(ii) recognise minerals in	crystal; (ii) recognise
	minerals in hand specimen	hand specimen (iii) identify	minerals in hand specimen
	(iii) identify minerals in	minerals in thin section on	(iii) identify minerals in
	thin section on the	the polarising microscope.	thin section on the
Comminati	polarising microscope.		polarising microscope.
Communication skills	Ability to write critically,	Ability to write efficiently	Ability to write effectively.
	efficiently and effectively.	and effectively.	Ability to coloulate with
Numeracy and C & IT skills	Highly developed ability to calculate e.g. bond	Ability to calculate e.g. bond distances, radius ratios	Ability to calculate, with assistance, e.g. bond
	distances, radius ratios for	for packing etc.	distances, radius ratios for
	packing etc.		packing etc.
	Ability to use web	Ability to use web browsers	Ability to use web
	browsers to access e.g.	to access e.g. mineral	browsers to access e.g.
	mineral databases.	databases.	mineral databases.
	mineral Galabases.	uatavases.	mineral databases.