

Categorising student performance levels

GEOL0039 Earth and Planetary System Science

Excellent is the performance expected of students gaining a First class honours (MSci) or Distinction (MSc). Typical is the performance currently expected of students at the Lower/Upper Second class boundary (MSci) or 60% (MSc). Threshold is the minimum performance currently required to gain an honours degree (MSci) or masters degree (MSc).

Definitions	Excellent performance	Typical performance	Threshold performance
Intellectual skills -knowledge and understanding	Knowledge base extending well beyond the presented material. Wide reference to research papers beyond those given.	Knowledge based on the presented material. Reference to key research papers beyond those given.	MSci level: Knowledge based on the presented material. MSc level: Knowledge based on the presented material and some evidence of enquiry beyond that (e.g., key texts).
	Thorough understanding of a wide variety of Earth science topics including palaeoceanography, mineral physics, seismology, micropaleontology and planetary science.	Good understanding of palaeoceanography, mineral physics, seismology, micropaleontology and planetary science. Thorough understanding in student's chosen field(s) of specialism	Basic understanding of palaeoceanography, mineral physics, seismology, micropaleontology and planetary science. MSc level: In addition to the above, good understanding in student's chosen field(s) of specialism
	Highly developed ability to integrate lines of evidence from a variety of resources both within the literature and from the scientific community. Evidence of critical and original thought.	Ability to integrate lines of evidence from a variety of resources both within the literature and from the scientific community. Evidence of critical thought.	Basic ability to integrate lines of evidence from a variety of resources both within the literature and from the scientific community.
Communication skills	Ability to write critically, efficiently and effectively. Ability to give a presentation fluently, effectively and knowledgeably. Ability	Ability to write efficiently and effectively. Ability to give a presentation fluently and effectively. Ability to lead a scientific discussion.	Ability to write effectively. Ability to give a presentation effectively. MSc level: In addition to the above, the student

	to lead and stimulate a scientific discussion.		displays an ability to contribute meaningfully to a scientific discussion.
--	--	--	--