

Categorizing student performance levels

GEOL0044 Palaeoceanography

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 directly taught programme. Reference to key research papers.	Knowledge based on the directly taught programme and some evidence of enquiry beyond that (e.g., key texts).	Knowledge based on the directly taught programme.
	Highly developed ability to integrate lines of evidence from micropalaeontology, sedimentology and geochemistry.	Ability to integrate lines of evidence from micropalaeontology, sedimentology and geochemistry.	Basic ability to integrate lines of evidence from micropalaeontology, sedimentology and geochemistry.
	Thorough understanding of observational methods, micropalaeontological and geochemical proxies, chronology of oceanic events.	Understanding of observational methods, micropalaeontological and geochemical proxies, chronology of oceanic events.	Basic understanding of observational methods, micropalaeontological and geochemical proxies, chronology of oceanic events.
	Highly developed ability to critically evaluate ocean history from the geological record.	Ability to critically evaluate ocean history from the geological record.	Basic ability to critically evaluate ocean history from the geological record.
Practical skills	Ability to make observations and interpret different types of palaeoceanographic datasets with flair.	Ability to make observations and interpret different types of palaeoceanographic datasets in a logical manner.	Basic ability make observations and interpret different types of palaeoceanographic datasets with guidance.
Communication skills	Ability to write critically, efficiently and effectively.	Ability to write efficiently and effectively.	Ability to write effectively.
Numeracy and C & IT skills	Highly developed ability to manipulate, plot and interpret numerical data and basic equations.	Ability to manipulate, plot and interpret numerical data and basic equations.	Ability to manipulate, plot and interpret numerical data with guidance and basic equations.