

G08 LAW SCHOOLS GRADE DISTRIBUTION and SCALING

SYDNEY

All final results in each unit of study will be scrutinized by the Committee of Examiners in the week before results are due to be finalized, in order to achieve a **recommended minimum rate of 5% of marks of the grade High Distinction and a recommended minimum rate of 15% marks with the grade of distinction in each Unit of Study**. These minimum rates should be applied flexibly when the number of students in a particular Unit of Study is small.

Further to this, the Faculty's Committee of Examiners resolved in 2002 that there be a maximum of 80% HD and D grades for any unit of study. A justification from the convenor must be submitted for any departure from this maximum rate.

MELBOURNE

Melbourne Law School does not have a formal grade distribution requirement.

MONASH

1. The presumptive quotas in the Faculty of Law are as follows:

Grade	Minimum	Maximum
HD	5%	10%
D	10%	20%
C	25%	35%
Total	40%	65%

2. They continue to apply to all undergraduate units with enrolments of 100 or more.
3. The presumptive quotas apply to the final results returned in all units with an enrolment of 100 or more.
4. They do not apply to individual streams, nor to forms of continuing assessment (assignments or class tests) since it is accepted that justifiable variations may occur in streams within the unit, or in relation to individual assessable exercises.
5. They are not a direction to standardise marks, but an indication of the faculty's general expectation in relation to the distribution of final grades in relation to units with large enrolments.
6. They are not intended to suppress the proper recognition of high quality in the work of students and are not to be applied rigidly.
7. It is understood that upward departures from presumptive quotas in elective units unit to them may be justified because students have selected for those units on the basis of a special interest and commitment.
8. The faculty recognises the need for flexibility in utilizing each of the honours level grades.

The Board of Examiners will be more concerned to enquire why the suggested overall minimum percentage of honours level grades has not been attained (i.e. 40%), or why the overall maximum (65%) has been significantly exceeded, than why the distribution of results between the three honours grades does not fall with the range of percentages suggested.

ADELAIDE

Scaling is only applied in core subjects (where the class size is greater than 30) when results are significantly out of line with the Bell Curve. In this case, the scaling is as follows: 3-5% HD; 20-25% D; 35% P

QUEENSLAND

Grade % Criteria

Policy goes across the board and is not dependent on numbers

- 1 1+ **Serious Fail**: You failed to satisfy most or all of the basic requirements of the course.
- 2 20+ **Fail**: You failed to satisfy some of the basic requirements of the course.
- 3 48+ **Pass Conceded**: You fell short of satisfying all of the basic requirements for Pass but you were granted a concession for the deficiencies through: being close to satisfactory overall, or having compensating

strengths in some aspects of the course, or having compensating strengths in other courses, or other mitigating considerations.

4 50+ Pass: You satisfied all of the basic learning requirements for the course, such as knowledge of fundamental

concepts and performance of basic skills; and you demonstrated sufficient quality of performance to be considered satisfactory or adequate or competent or capable in the course.

5 65+ Credit: You demonstrated an ability to use and apply fundamental concepts and skills of the course, going

beyond mere replication of content knowledge or skill to show an understanding of key ideas, awareness of their

relevance, some use of analytical skills, and some originality or insight.

6 75+ Distinction: You demonstrated awareness and understanding of the deeper and subtler aspects of the course, such as the ability to identify and debate critical issues or problems, the ability to solve non-routine problems, the ability to adapt and apply ideas to new situations, and the ability to invent and evaluate new ideas.

Final grade

A grade of 3 in a postgraduate course is not recognised as a pass. Postgraduates must obtain a grade of 4 or above to successfully complete the course.

7 85+ High Distinction: You demonstrated imagination, originality or flair, based on proficiency in all of the learning objectives for the course; your work was interesting or surprising or exciting or challenging or erudite.

Grading The 'cut-offs' that will be used in converting a student's aggregate percentage mark to a numbered grade will be:

A mark of or exceeding 85% will result in a grade of '7'; a mark between 75% and 84%, a '6'; a mark between 65% and 74%, a '5' ; a mark between 50% and 64%, a '4'; a mark between 48% and 50%, a '3'; a mark between 20% and 47%, a '2'; and a mark between 1% and 19%, a '1'.

MURDOCH

In 1996 a grading standard was adopted at Murdoch and LLB units should comply with the following grade distribution:

High Distinction - 2-12%

Distinction & High Distinction - combined 10-35%

UNSW

No information provided by UNSW.

QUT

The "guidelines" for distribution of grades adopted by Law Academic Board are as follows:

Grade of '7' = High distinction = 85% = 4-7% of students

Grade of '6' = Distinction = 75 to 84% = 13-16% of students

Grade of '5' = Credit = 65 to 74% = 27-32% of students

Grade of '4' = Pass = 50 to 64% = 35-40% of students

Grade of '3' = Low Pass = 47 to 49% = 0-5% of students

Grade of '2' = Fail = 25 to 46% = 0-20% of students

Grade of '1' = Low Fail = 1 to 24% = 0-20% of students