Calculation of WAM

The academic performance of each student enrolled in an undergraduate Engineering, and Surveying, program offered by the Faculty is measured by reference to a cumulative Weighted Average Mark (WAM). The final cumulative WAM determines the level of Honours awarded for those students upon completion of award.

The WAM is calculated from the results of all courses that are counted towards the degree in which a student is enrolled, in the following manner:

$$\text{WAM} = \frac{\Sigma (m \, v \, w)}{\Sigma (v \, w)}$$

Where:

m = the mark as defined below;
v = the unit value of the course concerned
w = the weighting of the course concerned as set out below.

The value of 'm' is defined as follows:

- where the result in a course is given in the range 50 to 100 inclusive, 'm' is equal to that percentage mark;
- where the result in a course is a failing grade, in the range 45 to 49 inclusive, 'm' is equal to that percentage mark;
- where the result in a course is a failing grade, in the range of 0 to 44 inclusive, or is given as a FF (Fail) without any mark, 'm' is equal to a mark of 44;
- where the result in a course is a passing grade (rather than a percentage mark), the mark denoted as “m” will be deemed to be the relevant number listed below:

Grade	m
HD	93
D	80
C	70
P	58
UP	58

The weighting for each course is indicated by the course code. The first number of a course code indicates the level at which the course is offered regardless of the year of study in which it is undertaken and, in relation to undergraduate Engineering, Surveying and Computer Science students, also indicates the weighting of the course in terms of the Weighted Average Mark (WAM) calculation. For example, if the course INFO1010 is taken in the fourth year of study, it is still considered a 1000 level course and the weighting will be 1.

The following will be taken into account when calculating the WAM:

- students re-enrolling after leave of absence will retain their previous WAM as the basis of future calculations;
- if a student transfers from one Engineering specialisation to another, the current WAM will also be transferred and will apply in the new specialisation, provided the credit granted towards the new specialisation is the same as the units completed in the previous specialisation;
- in all other cases, students admitted to a program shall commence calculation of their WAM from the year of their admission or re-admission, whether they are granted credit or not.
- if grades of 'Incomplete' (I) or 'Special Consideration' (S) are awarded to a student, the WAM will remain uncalculated until final marks are awarded.

The annual WAM is the weighted average mark of the results of courses taken in a particular calendar year.

WAM calculation for award of Honours for Combined degree students is based ***only*** on the 320 units of courses contributing directly towards each single degree qualification and not the total number of courses completed of the combined program.

The WAM When Repeating Courses

Students are required to repeat prescribed courses in which they received a failing grade. In the case of elective courses, the student is permitted to either repeat the course in which they received a failing grade or select an appropriate alternative course.

In such cases:

- the course originally taken remains part of the student's academic record and continues to be included in the calculation of the WAM;
- the repeated course is included in the WAM calculations of the year in which it is taken;
- if the student is awarded a failing grade in the repeated course, the failure is treated in the same way as if the course were attempted for the first time and the course must be repeated. In this case, both failures will remain in the WAM calculation.

Note: Students will not normally be permitted to repeat courses in which they were awarded a final result of a passing grade. Special permission must be requested from the Pro Vice Chancellor. The new grade will be recorded, but will not necessarily increase the calculated WAM.