

**Policy Title: Weighted Average Mark and Grade Point Average**

**Policy Owner: Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor**

**Keywords: GPA, WAM, Academic progress, Academic merit**

**Policy Code: PL294**

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**1. INTENT**

- 1.1 To define the method of calculation, publication and usage of Weighted Average Marks and Grade Point Averages.

**2. ORGANISATIONAL SCOPE**

- 2.1 All Staff and Students.

**3. DEFINITIONS**

- 3.1 The [University Glossary](#) and the following definitions apply to this Policy:

TERM	DEFINITION
GPA (Grade Point Average)	The average Grade a Student receives in their nominated Course, weighted by each Unit's Credit Point value, where each Grade is assigned a numerical value. The University recognises both a four (4) and seven (7) point basis of calculation.
SIMO	The University's Student Information Management Online system, used by Students to enrol and view results and other enrolment related information.
WAM (Weighted Average Mark)	The average mark a Student achieves in their nominated Course, weighted by each Unit's Credit Point value.

**4. POLICY CONTENT**

- 4.1 The University calculates WAMs and GPAs to provide:
- 4.1.1 individual Students and the University with an indicator of academic performance and progression; and

- 4.1.2 other institutions, professional bodies or prospective employers with an indicator of a Student’s academic performance.
- 4.2 For each Student enrolled in a Course, the University will calculate the following performance measures:
  - 4.2.1 Progression Period WAM - calculated for all completed Units at the end of each Progression Period;
  - 4.2.2 Course WAM – calculated for all completed Units in a Course at the end of each Progression Period and on Course completion; and
  - 4.2.3 Course GPA – calculated for all completed Units in a Course at the end of each Progression Period and on Course completion.
- 4.3 The University will publish performance measures in accordance with the following:

**Table 1 - Publication of Performance Measures**

Measure	Publication
Progression Period WAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Academic Transcript</li> </ul>
Course WAM	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIMO</li> <li>• Academic Transcript</li> </ul>
Course GPA (4-point scale)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• SIMO</li> <li>• Academic Transcript</li> </ul>
Course GPA (7-point scale)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• On request</li> </ul>

- 4.4 Calculation
  - 4.4.1 Subject to 4.4.3, a WAM is calculated using the following method:

$$\frac{\sum(\textit{unit credit points} \times \textit{mark} \times \textit{weighting})}{\sum(\textit{unit credit points} \times \textit{weighting})}$$

**Where:**

**Unit Credit Points:** The number of Credit Points ascribed to the Units enrolled in by the Student in the relevant Progression Period or Course.

**Mark:** The numeric mark recorded as the assessment outcome for each Unit a Student has studied. Units assessed without a numeric mark value will not be included in the calculation.

**Weighting** (WAM Weighting Value): This is a value assigned to a Unit to ‘weight’ different level Units. Unless otherwise stated, the weighted value for all Units will be 1.00.

4.4.2 Subject to 4.4.3, a GPA is calculated using the following method:

$$\frac{\sum(\text{grade value} \times \text{unit credit points})}{\sum(\text{unit credit points})}$$

**Where:**

**Unit Credit Points:** The number of Credit Points ascribed to the Units enrolled in by the Student in the relevant Progression Period or Course.

**Grade Value:** The numeric value assigned under Table 2 below to the Grade recorded as the assessment outcome for each Unit a Student has studied. Only Units assessed under Grading Schema 1 (see the Assessment, Examination and Moderation Procedures) will be included in the calculation. Units assessed without a numeric mark value will not be included in the calculation.

**Table 2 – Numeric values for purposes of calculating Grade Values**

<b>Grade</b>	<b>4-Point Scale Grade Value</b>	<b>7-Point Scale Grade Value</b>
High Distinction	4	7
Distinction	3.5	6
Credit	3	5
Pass	2	4
Pass (Conceded)	1	4
Pass (Supplementary)	1	4
Fail*	0	0
Withdrawn Fail	0	0

\* Recorded for any reason

4.4.3 A Student's historical academic record, when reproduced in print, electronically or on a University system, will calculate the WAM or GPA in accordance with the paragraphs 4.4.1 and 4.4.2, notwithstanding what may have been previously recorded or produced.

## 5. ACCOUNTABILITIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- 5.1 The Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor has overall responsibility for the content of this policy.
- 5.2 The Director, Student Administration is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Policy.

## 6. RELATED DOCUMENTS:

- 6.1 Other documents which are relevant to the operation of this policy are as follows:
- [Admission, Enrolment and Academic Progress Rules](#)
  - [Academic Progression Policy](#)
  - [Assessment Policy](#)
  - [Assessment, Moderation and Examination Procedures](#)

## 7. CONTACT INFORMATION

For queries relating to this document please contact:

Policy Owner	Senior Deputy Vice-Chancellor
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## 8. APPROVAL HISTORY

Policy Approved by:	Vice-Chancellor
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