Medical Sciences Tripos Part IA
Marking and Classing Scheme 2022

The following marking and classing scheme has been approved by the Faculty Board of Biology for MedST Part IA in 2022.

MARKING

1. The maximum marks allocated to each subject under Regulation 16 (*Statutes and Ordinances 2020,* page 391) are as follows:

Homeostasis (HOM)	100
Molecules in Medical Science (MIMS)	100
Functional Architecture of the Body (FAB)	100
Total	**300**

2. Within these totals the allocation of marks will be:

Examination	Section I	Section II	Section III
FAB	Combined MCQ and practical paper		2 essays
	50		50
HOM	Short answers, incl. MCQs	Practical and Notebooks	2 essays
	30	**20**	**50**
MIMS	MCQs	Practical	3 essays
	25	**25**	**50**

The mark book will show each section and the marks shown for each section should be out of the total shown above.

CLASSING

3. The minimum percentages and marks for various classes within a subject shall be:

Class I	70%	70
Class II.i	60%	60
Class II.ii	50%	50
Class III	40%	40
Maximum subject mark		100

4. It is normally expected that the distribution of candidates between classes in individual subjects should be in the following ranges. For subjects in which medical and veterinary students take the same exam, these ranges apply to the combined medical/veterinary cohort:

Class	Number of candidates taking the paper	Range (% of candidates)
I	51 and above	15.0 – 25.0
IIi	>25	32.5 – 65.0
IIii	>25	20.0 – 57.0
III & Fail	>25	0.0 – 17.0

5. Where scaling of marks is necessary to meet the expected distribution, and to allow examiners to combine exam sections with substantially different distributions, it is expected that examiners will use the method of linear scaling introduced in 2008. Senior Examiners should use the spreadsheets and instructions provided by the Faculty Office to carry out the scaling. The spreadsheets will scale marks between certain boundaries. If Senior Examiners are unable to scale subject marks to an appropriate distribution using the default boundaries, they may need to amend the boundaries used. Senior Examiners may be asked to justify their marking at the Final Meeting of Examiners.

6. In drawing up a provisional mark book for the Tripos, the following class boundaries will be applied (see note):

		Aggregate mark
I	70%+	210+
IIi	60-69%	180 – 209
IIii	50-59%	150 - 179
III	40-49%	120 - 149
Fail	<40%	<120

It will remain the case that at the Final Meeting of Examiners discretion will be exercised in considering the class of individual candidates at the boundaries.

7. The actual mark boundaries for classes applied in previous years for the combined Medical and Veterinary Sciences Tripos were:

Class	**Minimum Total (Out of 300)**								
	2003-2006	**2007-2008**	**2009**	**2010**	**2011-2012**	**2013, 15, 17, 18 & 2019**	**2014**	**2016**	**2021**
I	205	207	209	209	210	210	207	206	207
II	150	150	150	149	150	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
II.1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	180	180	180	178
II.2	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	150	150	150	150
III	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120	120

NB: A divided second class was introduced in 2013.