

**Medical and Veterinary Sciences Tripos Part IB
MARKING AND CLASSING SCHEME 2016**

The following marking and classing scheme has been approved by the Faculty Board of Biology for MVST Part IB in 2016.

MARKING

1. The maximum marks allocated under Regulation 22 (*Statutes & Ordinances 2015*, page 361) to each subject are:

Biology of Disease (BOD)	100
Mechanisms of Drug Actions (MODA)	100
Neurobiology with Animal Behaviour (NAB, Vets)	100
Neurobiology with Human Behaviour (NHB, Medics)	140
Human Reproduction (HR, Medics)	80
Veterinary Reproductive Biology (VRB, Vets)	80
Comparative Vertebrate Biology (CVB, Vets)	80
Head and Neck Anatomy (HNA, Medics)	40
Total	460

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

Exam	Section I	Section II	Section III
BOD	MCQs	Practical	Three essays
	30	20	50
MODA	MCQs	Data analysis: two questions	Three essays
	30	20	50
HR	MCQs	Practical	Two essays
	30	20	50
VRB	MCQs	Practical	Two essays
	30	20	50
NAB	Short answers	Practical	Two essays
	25	25	50
NHB	Short answers	Practical	Three essays
	30	20	50

CVB	Short answers	Practical	Two essays
	25	25	50
HNA	Combined MCQ and Practical		Short answers
	30		30

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:

Maximum subject mark		100	80
Class I	70%	70	56
Class II.i	60%	60	48
Class II.ii	50%	50	40
Class III	40%	40	32

4. Under normal circumstances the following is the expected distribution of candidates between classes in individual subjects:

Class	Number of candidates taking the paper	Range (% of candidates)
I	201 and above	15.0 – 25.0
	51-100	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. These will scale marks between certain boundaries; marks below 40% will not be scaled. 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. Senior Examiners are urged to use the full range of marks available.
6. In drawing up a provisional mark book for the Tripos, the following class boundaries will be applied (see note):

	Aggregate mark
I	70%+ 322.00+
IIi	60-69% 276.00 – 321.99
IIii	50-59% 230.00 – 275.99
III	40-49% 184.00 – 229.99

Fail <40% <183.99

The Final Meeting of Examiners for 2015 will retain discretion in considering the class of individual candidates at the boundaries.

7. The actual mark boundaries for classes applied in previous years were:

<u>Class</u>	<u>Minimum Total (Out of 460)</u>							
	<u>2005 - 2007</u>	<u>2008 and 2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>
I	313.00	315.00	317.00	315.00	311.50	314.00	319.00	320.00
II.1	276.00	276.00	276.00	276.00	275.00	276.00	274.00	275.50
II.2	230.00	230.00	229.00	230.00	230.00	230.00	230.00	230.00
III	184.00	184.00	184.00	184.00	184.00	184.00	184.00	184.00

8. The percentage distribution between classes for MVST IB over the last 19 years may also be taken into account:

Year	I	II.1	II.2	III	Fail	No of candidates classed
1997	18.2	47.4	30.7	2.7	0.9	329
1998	17.8	47.6	28.2	5.7	0.7	298
1999	18.5	45.2	32.5	3.2	0.6	314
2000	17.7	44.1	32.8	4.5	0	311
2001	17.7	42.0	36.5	3.2	0.6	345
2002	20.6	34.3	40.8	4.0	0.3	321
2003	15.9	49.9	31.3	2.0	0.9	345
2004	16.4	50.3	29.1	4.2	0	330
2005	17.3	45.5	30.4	6.0	0.9	336
2006	16.9	43.3	36.5	2.0	1.2	353
2007	20.5	46.4	29.2	2.1	0	333
2008	17.9	53.1	25.8	2.1	1.2	341
2009	18.8	47.5	31.6	1.9	0.3	320
2010	16.7	56.3	24.7	2.3	0	348
2011	15.2	55.4	26.2	3.0	0.3	335
2012	17.4	48.5	29.7	2.3	2.0	344
2013	19.3	42.8	32.5	4.5	0.9	332
2014	15.8	54.0	26.1	3.7	0.6	324
2015	17.6	56.9	23.6	1.6	0.3	313