

**Final Honour Schools of Computer Science,
Computer Science & Philosophy and
Mathematics & Computer Science**

Part A Examination 2019

**Notice to Candidates
from the Examiners in Computer Science**

Purpose of this notice

Full particulars of the examinations are given in the *Examination Regulations* 2018, and Examination Conventions for 2018/19 can be found at

<http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/examconventions/bacompsci.html>

This notice is addressed only to candidates in the Honour Schools of Computer Science, Computer Science & Philosophy and of Mathematics & Computer Science. If you are a candidate from another school (for example Mathematics) then you should refer for information to notices circulated by the Chairs of Examiners in those schools.

The marking and classification scheme for finals is described in the Examination Conventions.

Independence of Examiners

Please note that you are not allowed to contact the examiners directly about matters relating to the content or marking of papers. Any communication must be via the Senior Tutor of your college, who will contact the Proctors if appropriate. The Proctors will in turn communicate with the Chair of Examiners.

Conduct of the examination

You will be required to produce your University card at the start of each examination session.

The marking of the examination - including practical work - is conducted anonymously. This means:

Scripts: You will be provided with an examination number, and all work handed in must be attached to a cover sheet marked with that number. Even if you submit no written work for an examination which you attend, you should submit a cover sheet. Neither your name nor your college should appear anywhere on the script.

Practicals: Each separate report of practical work should be conspicuously labelled with your candidate number only, and not with your name or college. Please also ensure that each report clearly indicates the subject and number of the exercise, e.g. Concurrent Programming practical exercise 2. See also the section on "Practical work". Please download and complete a cover sheet for each practical, and attach it to your report. You can find it here:
<http://www.cs.ox.ac.uk/teaching/courses/2018-2019/practicals/>

Calculators: There are no papers this year for which a calculator is allowed.

Rough work: All work, including rough work, must be submitted on the paper provided, and must be handed in at the end of the examination. You may not bring your own paper.

Legibility: Illegible scripts, if they are to be considered by the examiners, will be typed at your expense.

Handing in: You are responsible for handing in your scripts, appropriately bundled according to the instructions (if any) on the examination paper. Each bundle must have a completed cover sheet. You should hand in an empty cover sheet for those sections of a paper from which you have attempted no questions.

Timetable

The detailed timetable for the Examination has yet to be finalised. You will receive your individual timetable in Student Self Service in due course.

Composition of papers

The details below are confined to Computer Science papers; similar details for papers under the control of other schools should be sought from those schools.

Computer Science papers

Paper	Which Honour Schools?	Number of questions	Maximum number of questions to be answered	Marks per question	Duration of exam
Algorithms	CS, CS&P, MCS	3	2	25	2 hours
Compilers	CS only	3	2	25	2 hours
Concurrent Programming	CS only	3	2	25	2 hours
Models of Computation	CS, CS&P, MCS	3	2	25	2 hours

On all Computer Science papers there will be an indication of how many marks out of the total available are allocated to each part of each question. This is intended as a guide to candidates in allotting time and effort.

On 2 hour papers candidates may answer up to 2 questions.

Practical work

Handing in Practical Reports: Candidates must hand these reports in to the Chair of Examiners **at the Department of Computer Science** by noon on Friday of week 5 of Trinity Term. Details of the hand-in procedure will be sent to you in due course.

Presentation of Practical Work: The practical work must be bound together in a single file (or packed in a single envelope) addressed to the Chair of Examiners in Computer Science (or Computer Science & Philosophy or Mathematics and Computer Science as the case may be) and must be marked clearly on the outside with your name, candidate number, and the Honour School in which you are being examined (either Computer Science, Computer Science & Philosophy or Mathematics and Computer Science). (The academic admin team will remove the envelope, to ensure examiners won't be able to connect your name with your candidate number.) Please include the declaration form included in this notice, with which you will declare that the work is your own, in the envelope with your practical report (s). Please don't bind it together with your practicals report(s). A separate arrangement will be made for handing in group practical reports. This will be communicated to you in due course.

Assessment of Practical Work: The examiners will determine a mark for the practical work associated with each computer science paper, taking into account the provisional mark assigned by the demonstrator and their own assessment of the work submitted.

The group design practical forms an additional component of the practical course for all students. Each team must submit a group report of their team's work on this exercise, together with a one-page summary of each individual's own contribution. You must pass the group design exercise in order to pass the practical component in Part A.

Practicals do not contribute to the classification of candidates but each candidate must pass the practical course in order to pass the examination.

The detailed procedure for assessing practical work is set out in the Examination Conventions but, broadly speaking, a candidate will pass the practical course if they have completed adequately (at Grade S) slightly more than half the practical work for the papers they have chosen as well as the group practical component.

Mitigating Circumstances Notices to Examiners

Candidates who would like the examiners to be aware of any mitigating circumstances that may have affected their performance before or during an examination are advised to discuss their circumstances with their college and consult the Examination Regulations (Part 13). The board of examiners will use the following procedure for the consideration of medical and other special circumstances:

- a) A subset of the board will meet to discuss the individual applications and band the seriousness of each application on a scale of 1-3 with 1 indicating minor impact, 2 indicating moderate impact, and 3 indicating very serious impact. When reaching this decision, examiners will take into consideration the severity and relevance of the circumstances, and the strength of the evidence. Examiners will also note whether all or a subset of papers were affected, being aware that it is possible for circumstances to have different levels of impact on different papers.
- b) The banding information will be used at the final Board of Examiners meeting to adjudicate on the merits of candidates;
- c) A brief, formal record will be kept confirming (i) the fact that information about special circumstances has been considered by the examiners, (ii) how that information has been considered, and (iii) the outcome of the consideration with the reasons for the decisions reached.

Further information on how to make an application for consideration of mitigating circumstances in an examination is available at <http://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams>

The examiners in Part A may adjust the marks of a candidate in some papers in the light of this evidence, but will in any case pass on the evidence to the Part B examiners in the following year. The examiners in Part B will consider evidence relating to a candidate's performance both in Part A and in Part B. They also may adjust the marks for certain papers, and may in addition deviate in a candidate's favour from the usual relationship between average marks and degree classes, particularly when there is medical evidence relating to Part A, and the candidate's performance in Part B is markedly improved.

Results

The final examiners meeting is scheduled to be held on Friday 12th July and the examiners hope to be able to publish results shortly after.

Difficulties

Any candidate who encounters difficulties with any of the above should discuss the matter with his or her tutor without delay.

Prof. A. Abate
Chairman of Examiners
Final Honour Schools of Computer Science
Computer Science & Philosophy and
Mathematics & Computer Science
(Hilary Term 2019)

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Part A Examination 2019

Declaration Form for Practical Work

This form is to be handed in with practicals. The form must be signed.

I declare that the reports on practicals which I have handed in are all my own work except for marks and comments by demonstrators, and other material clearly indicated.

Name

College

Candidate no.

Honour school

Signature:

Date: