

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

Part A Examination 2020

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

Purpose of this notice

Full particulars of the examinations are given in the *Examination Regulations* 2019, and Examination Conventions for 2019/20 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

Examinations will be conducted via open-book examinations. The start time for your examination will depend on time zone and whether you have any alternative arrangements in place. Please see the advice on pages 6-7 of The Open Book Exams “Guidance for Candidates”

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxford/Open%20Book%20Exam%20Guide%20for%20Candidates.pdf>

It is important that you understand that your exam time will start as soon as you click on the link to your examination paper, this is the equivalent of an invigilator saying “You may turn over the exam paper now”.

Please note the following during the exam:

Candidates will have access to book and online resources during their exams. However, any disclosure of the exam contents to anyone else via private message or public postings will not be permitted. Similarly, seeking advice from another person during the exam will be forbidden.

Candidates are responsible for submitting their own work. They should not receive assistance in the process; whether downloading, photographing scripts, or uploading.

Queries during the examination:

It will not be possible to query the content of the exam paper during the exam. If you think that there is an error or mistake in your exam paper then you should state what you consider the error or mistake to be at the start of your answer for that question and if necessary, you should

state your understanding of the question. You should then try to complete the paper as best you can.

Legibility: Please write legibly, in blue or black pen (not pencil). Illegible scripts, if they are to be considered by the examiners, will be typed at your expense. Please make sure that you retain a copy of your original submission in case you are required submit a second copy.

Timetable

The detailed timetable for the Examination can be found at <https://www.ox.ac.uk/students/academic/exams/timetables>. 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.

On each Computer Science paper you will see in the bottom right of the page “NEXT PAGE” where there is a following page. The final page of the exam paper has “LAST PAGE” printed on it. Please make sure you have seen all pages of the paper.

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.

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	2.5 hours
Compilers	CS only	3	2	25	2.5 hours
Concurrent Programming	CS only	3	2	25	2.5 hours
Models of Computation	CS, CS&P, MCS	3	2	25	2.5 hours

Open-Book Exams: Penalties for lateness

Penalties will be applied if you submit your exam response later than expected (including later than specified in agreed alternative arrangements).

Please see page 8 of the Open Book Exams “Guidance for Candidates”

<https://www.ox.ac.uk/sites/files/oxford/Open%20Book%20Exam%20Guide%20for%20Candidates.pdf>

If you experience any technical problems on the day, you must contact the support desk immediately at the point of the difficulty.

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.

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

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 meetings are scheduled to be held in week 9 of Michaelmas term 2020 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. T. Melham
Chairman of Examiners
Final Honour Schools of Computer Science
Computer Science & Philosophy and
Mathematics & Computer Science
(Michaelmas term 2020)