Standardising Assignment, Test and Exam Marks

Information for Students

1. Introduction

This document explains the method used by some courses for standardising course assignment, test and exam marks. For details of departmental policies regarding course grades, please read the document *UC Business School Student Handbook* which is available at https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/media/documents/business-school/UC-Business-School-Student-Handbook.pdf

2. Standardised Assignment / Test / Exam Marks

In some courses the marks for assessment items maybe standardised to ensure a fair translation between marks and grades. In these courses, for each assessment the raw mark percentages are standardised to a given mean and standard deviation.

For converting your mark to your standardised mark for any assessment, first convert your mark and class mean and class standard deviation marks into percentages and use the following formula which assumes that the marks are standardised to a mean of 65 and a standard deviation of 18.

$$Your\ standardised\ mark\ (\%) = 65 \left(\frac{your\ raw\ mark\ (\%) - class\ mean\ (\%)}{class\ standard\ deviation\ (\%)} \right) \times 18$$

Suppose your raw mark for an assessment was 26 out of 40, and the class mean and standard deviations were 23 and 6 out of 40, respectively, then

your raw mark	= 28 / 40	= 70%,
class mean	= 23 / 40	= 57.5%,
class standard deviation	= 6 / 40	= 15%, and

$$your\ standardised\ mark = 65 + \left(\frac{70 - 57.5}{15} \right) \times 18 = 80\%$$

Please note that not all courses follow the marking and grading schedule described above. Check the individual course outlines for the marking and grading details.