

25. Graduation and Degree Classification

25.1 Consideration for graduation

To be considered for the award of a bachelor's degree, a student shall have obtained grade D or better (or P where appropriate) in the courses required by the program, and have accumulated a minimum total number of 100-105 credits, as specified by the program. For students who are granted transfer credits, a minimum of one year's full-time study at HKUST and a minimum of 35 HKUST credits are required for consideration of a degree award. A student will be awarded a bachelor's degree only for the program in which the student has officially registered.

To be considered for completion of a minor program, a student must have officially registered in that minor program, and have attained the specified minimum grade average in courses taken within that minor program.

25.2 Policy on granting of dual program designation on a single degree

Notwithstanding 25.1 above, a student may be considered for the award of dual program designation on a single degree (for example, the BBA in Economics and Marketing) upon completion of the program requirements of two program designations (for example, Economics and Marketing) and upon approval by both departments offering the programs. In the case of a joint designation involving two schools, school level approval is necessary. The dual program designation will be awarded only for the programs in which the student has officially registered.

The number of program designations to be awarded is limited to two only and the programs that make up the dual designation must all lead to the same undergraduate degree (BBA or BEng or BSc). The student must complete the program requirements of both program designations within the normal period of study, i.e. three years for students admitted without credit transfer. (If approval has been granted to extend the period of study for reasons unrelated to pursuit of the dual program designation, this restriction will apply to the extended period).

25.3 Degree classification

a) All undergraduate programs are honors degree programs and the degrees are classified as follows:

- First Class Honors
- Second Class Honors, Division I
- Second Class Honors, Division II
- Third Class Honors
- Pass

b) The classification of a student's degree shall be based on the graduation grade average (GGA), the recommendation of the student's major department and the board of the school in accordance with the standards specified by the Senate. In the case of a joint option, the classification shall be agreeable to the schools jointly administering the program.

c) In addition to obtaining the required GGA, students being considered for the award of First Class Honors must also meet the additional requirement that they must not have any uncleared course failures (i.e. "Failure" (F) grades not subsequently converted into a passing grade) during their study at the University.

d) In determining the class of honors for a degree with dual program designation, the requirements of both programs will be given equal weight, for example, by including in the calculation of the graduation grade average (GGA) the grades in all courses required by both programs. Surplus courses may be excluded from the GGA only by agreement of both programs, and the class of honors to be awarded must be jointly recommended.

e) The final decision on the degree classification is made by the University Senate.