

## About My Grades - Explained

When you log in to pro-portal, click on **Information** and select **Enrolments**. You will see your courses and a grade under the grade field - below, this one is shown as D\*.

Course Code	Course Name	Group Code	Completion Status	Grade	Outcome	Start Date	Expected End Date	Actual End Date	Reason for Leaving
6A301-C/1	Access to Higher Education Diploma: Social Science	SS1	Completed	D*	Achieved (non AS-Level)	23/9/2019	26/06/2020		
6AS00-T/1	AS Tutorial (Year 1 A Levels)		Continuing			03/9/2019	26/06/2020		

### **So now you know how to find your grade, what does it mean?**

Different qualifications have different methods of ranking qualifications, some of the most popular methods of ranking are shown below. Remember if you are not happy with the grade you achieved, please speak with your course tutor, as you may have opportunities to improve your grades by re-sitting and or re-taking your qualification.

### **Entry level qualifications**

Entry level courses such as some ESOL, Employability and Functional Skills qualifications are graded based on the level of the entry qualification you have achieved. There are 3 gradings possible, with E1 being the lowest and E3 being the highest:

**Entry level 1 = E1**

**Entry level 2 = E2**

**Entry level 3 = E3**

**FL = Fail**

*\*For Edexcel Functional skills, see BTEC qualifications.*

### **Level 1 qualifications**

**Pass only grades**

Some qualifications can only be given a pass grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification, but they don't rank students highest to lowest in performance. This often is the case with vocational qualifications.

Possible grades:

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

*\*For BTEC, see BTEC qualifications.*

### **Level 2 qualifications**

**GCSE**

**9 to 1** = Grade 9 is the highest grade and 1 is the lowest. Most students would like to achieve a grade 4 or above. A grade 'U' may be awarded, this is where the paper or overall grade has been considered ungradable.

## **Level 2 Pass only grades**

Some qualifications can only be given a pass grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification, but they don't rank students highest to lowest in performance. This is often the case with vocational qualifications.

Possible grades:

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

Some boards that use this method are **VTCT, City and Guilds, NOCN, Open Awards, UAL and RSL.**

## **City & Guilds Technical qualifications at Level 2 and Level 3**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest-grade being Distinction star and the lowest grade Pass.

Possible grades:

**DS\* = Distinction star**

**DS = Distinction**

**ME = Merit**

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

*\* For BTEC, see BTEC qualifications.*

## **Level 3 qualifications**

### **A-level and CACHE/NCFE (at level 3)**

**A\* to E** = Grade A\* is the highest grade and E is the lowest grade. A grade 'U' may be awarded, this is where the paper or overall grade has been considered ungradable.

### **Level 3 Pass only grades**

Some qualifications can only be given a pass grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification, but they don't rank students highest to lowest in performance. This often is the case with vocational qualifications.

Possible grades:

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

Some boards that use this method are **VTCT, City and Guilds, NOCN, Open Awards, UAL and RSL.**

## **BTEC qualifications - All levels**

BTEC qualifications have different gradings depending on the level of the BTEC qualification you have studied:

**Entry Level BTEC** - Entry level BTEC courses such as Functional skills, are graded based on the level of the entry qualification you have achieved. There are 3 gradings possible, with E1 being the lowest and E3 being the highest:

**Entry level 1 = E1**

**Entry level 2 = E2**

**Entry level 3 = E3**

**FL = Fail**

**BTEC Functional Skills Maths and English Level 1 and 2** - Functional skills at level 1 and 2 are usually taken as an exam; and for English, also a speaking and listening assessment. You can only achieve pass or fail grades for Level 1 and 2 Functional Skills Maths and English:

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

**At Level 1 BTEC** - some qualifications can only be given a pass grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification, but they don't rank students highest to lowest in performance.

Possible grades:

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

**At Level 2 BTEC** - some qualifications are given a ranked grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest in performance. BTEC Level 2 qualifications will vary, depending on the type of level 2 qualification you have studied. The highest grade being Distinction star and the lowest grade a Pass.

Possible grades:

**DS\* = Distinction star**

**DS = Distinction**

**ME = Merit**

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

**At Level 3 BTEC Subsidiary Diploma level – Single award e.g. D**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification, and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest grade being Distinction star and the lowest grade Pass.

Possible grades:

**DS\* = Distinction star**

**DS = Distinction**

**ME = Merit**

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

### **At Level 3 BTEC Diploma and 90 credit – Double award e.g. DD**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest grade being double Distinction star and the lowest grade double Pass. Students may achieve a combination of grades e.g. MP. In all cases, the letters in your grade will be made up of a combination of the grades below, e.g. MP would be Merit Pass.

**D\* = Distinction star**

**D = Distinction**

**M = Merit**

**P = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

### **At Level 3 BTEC Extended Diploma – Triple graded e.g. DDD**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest grade being triple Distinction star and the lowest grade triple Pass. Students may achieve a combination of grades e.g. DDM. In all cases, the letters in your grade will be made up of a combination of the grades below, e.g. DDM would be Distinction, Distinction, Merit. If you achieve a triple Distinction star your grade would be \*\*\*.

**\* = Distinction star**

**D = Distinction**

**M = Merit**

**P = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

## **Higher Education Qualifications**

### **HND/C**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the awarding body recognises that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest grade being Distinction star and the lowest grade Pass.

Possible grades:

**DS\* = Distinction star**

**DS = Distinction**

**ME = Merit**

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

### **Foundation Degree**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the university has recognised that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest grade being Distinction, and the lowest grade Pass.

Possible grades:

**DS = Distinction**

**ME = Merit**

**PA = Pass**

**FL = Fail**

### **Degree**

This type of qualifications is given a ranked grade, this is because the university has recognised that the student has achieved the qualification and recognises highest to lowest levels in performance. The highest grade being First 1<sup>st</sup> class and the lowest grade a Third 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Possible grades:

**FI = First 1<sup>st</sup> class**

**SU = Upper Second 2:1**

**SL = Lower Second 2:2**

**TH = Third 3<sup>rd</sup>**

**FL = Fail**