FAQs for aegrotat and compassionate exam applications

Why was my application unsuccessful?

Senate did not have sufficient confidence that, under normal circumstances, you would have achieved a better or passing grade. There are several reasons that may apply:

- Coursework marks were not well above the minimum pass standard (normally understood to be at least a C+);
- Secure coursework marks, especially written test marks, were below a C+;
- The exam mark achieved was similar to the overall coursework mark or to test mark(s);
- To ensure fair treatment of all students, it is not University policy to allow an increase of a final grade to a higher level than you have proved you are able to achieve (for example, in written tests or on your overall academic record in the same subject area and at an equivalent level).

Why was my application unsuccessful when my overall coursework mark was better than a C+ and better than my final grade?

Whilst all coursework marks are considered, Senate pays particular attention to grades achieved in written tests. As tests are held under examination conditions, they are seen as the best indicator of final exam performance. Group assignments or projects and tutorial participation are not considered very secure indicators of individual exam performance.

Where the majority of students in the course have achieved higher coursework than exam marks, Senate will compare the final grades of students with similar coursework marks to yours when making their decision.

My course did not include any written tests. Was this the reason my application was declined?

No. Senate still fully considered your application and made the decision based on other individual forms of assessment (where appropriate and available).

I was also sick for the written test, and the weighting for the test was put on the final exam.

Senate must be confident that, under normal circumstances, students would have passed the course under consideration. This occasionally means that there is not sufficient coursework to allow Senate to award a change in grade.

How do I appeal this decision?

You must appeal this decision in writing within 4 weeks of being notified of the application outcome. Requests must include details of your coursework marks in each paper and indicate why you feel these marks meet the minimum requirements for a change in grade.

As University Health Services have accepted your application, it is not usually necessary to include further medical or other evidence.