

This information is taken from p. 69 of the Student Handbook

Academic Appeals

Academic appeals must be submitted directly to your validating university, the University of Kent, for consideration, before the deadline published by the University.

The University of Kent states that an academic appeal is:

“A request for a review of a decision of an academic body charged with making decisions on student progression, assessment and awards.”

All of your results on your courses (whether they be ‘pass/fail’ or a graded module mark) must be ratified by a Board of Examiners before they become confirmed. Marks/results that you receive before the Board of Examiners has approved them are provisional and may change.

You can request that the Board of Examiners review its confirmed decision via the academic appeals procedure. You cannot appeal simply because you disagree with an assessment result (this is known as ‘disagreement with academic judgement’).

‘Academic judgement’ is a judgement that is made about a matter where only the opinion of an academic expert is sufficient. There are specific grounds under which an academic appeal can be made, and you can make an appeal under any one or more of the stated grounds below:

4.2.1 where there is reasonable ground supported by objective evidence to believe that there has been administrative, procedural or clerical error of such a nature as to have affected the recommendation of the Board of Examiners¹; and/or

4.2.2 where there is evidence of illness or other circumstances beyond the student’s control that have impacted negatively on academic performance and which the student was, for good reason, unable to submit by the published deadline; and/or

4.2.3 Where there is evidence of prejudice or bias or the perception of prejudice or bias against the student.

What will not be considered

Appeals that are based on extenuating circumstances, which, without good reason, were not brought to the attention of the Board of Examiners through mitigation procedures at the appropriate time. As indicated above, appeals based on a disagreement with academic judgement of the examiners will not be considered.

Where the outcome to an appeal sought by a student goes beyond what the University of Kent (and by extension your School and the Conservatoire) can reasonably provide, you will be advised in writing as soon as possible.

¹ Where the appeal is that evidence relating to illness or other circumstances beyond the student’s control submitted under mitigation procedures within the prescribed time limit (see 4.2.2. above) was not properly considered by the Board of Examiners, this will be treated as a procedural error.

If, following the official publication of your results, you feel you may have grounds for appeal, you may submit an academic appeal to the University of Kent for consideration.

The relevant procedure and guidance can be found at the links below:

University of Kent Academic Appeals Procedure:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/creditinfoannex13.html>

University of Kent Guidance:

<https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/collaborative/validation/studentinfo.html>