

**Physics Department
Warwick University**

**Action points arising from the meeting of the
Student Staff Liaison Committee on 9th May 2019**

First year matters

- Additional typed notes (e.g. for PX120, PX148) are appreciated, especially during the revision period.
We expect lecturers to direct students to material beyond what they cover in lectures. While some lecturers prepare extended typed notes, others prefer students to use books and other resources.
- Could students be encouraged to revise some Further Maths material before arriving at Warwick?
Some Physics students arrive with Further Maths and some without. Therefore we teach the required material from the beginning, so that everyone has covered the same material, and has covered it in the same way. We therefore do not ask students to revise this material before arriving.
- Some students reported that the marking of lab books was inconsistent.
We will pass this comment back to the module leaders. No student is currently disadvantaged however, because everyone does all of the experiments, and therefore gets one mark from each demonstrator.
- Is there a formula booklet provided for exams?
No. Some examination questions require students to use formulae to explain or predict some observation, while other questions may require the derivation of a formula. Where the derivation of the formula or memory of its exact form are not tested, it would normally be included in the rubric or the question.
- Some students commented that the demonstrators in Electronics Workshop could have more experience with the experiments.
We will pass this comment back both to the module leader for 18/19, and the incoming module leader for 19/20.

Second year matters

- The new system whereby students write their name on a board is a good way of queuing for help from demonstrators.
We will pass this comment back to the academic running that laboratory.
- There was some confusion over seat allocations for the PX266X exam.
We reported this issue at the time to the Exams Office, and we understand that this problem did not recur during the main season exams. Apparently the Senior Invigilator resolved the confusion reasonably efficiently, and the exam started only a few minutes late.
- Could all assessed marks be put on Moodle?
Around five years ago the Department did not use Moodle at all, and it is now used to host all module pages, and to store the majority of assessment marks. We anticipate moving more assessed coursework marks onto Moodle.

Third year matters

- PX384: Some students felt that the examiner's report and marks scheme can be critical of the submissions for the essay-based question on the exam. They would like more guidance on answering this type of question well.

We do not recognise the point that the reports are critical of these submissions. The 2018 report notes that the students taking this question were not scoring systematically less than on their other question. The 2017 report makes a similar point: 'Overall the marks for different questions by same student were gratifyingly correlated.' The report and model solution for the essay question for both years are quite detailed and thus indicate what is expected.

Fourth year matters

- There are no lecture notes for PX416 online.
18/19 is the last year in which this module will run. The lecturer does not provide online notes for this module.
- Will the PX402 marks be moderated?
Marks for PX402 are subject to moderation. However, moderation of the individual components occurs shortly after the award of the marks and before their release. It is unusual for marks to be changed after that.

Mathematics matters

- The notes for Probability A and Probability B were released after the Easter vacation. Could they be released earlier?
We will pass this comment back to the Department of Statistics for next year.