

## MATHEMATICAL, PHYSICAL & LIFE SCIENCES DIVISION

### **Qualitative Descriptors of Classes for Computer Science, Mathematics, and Statistics<sup>1</sup> in the FHS of Computer Science, FHS of Computer Science and Philosophy, FHS of Mathematics, FHS of Mathematics and Computer Science, FHS of Mathematics and Philosophy, and FHS of Mathematics and Statistics**

The average USM ranges used in the classifications reflect the following descriptions:

- Class I** The candidate shows excellent skills in reasoning, deductive logic and problem-solving. He/she demonstrates an excellent knowledge of the material, and is able to use that in unfamiliar contexts.
- Class Iii** The candidate shows good or very good skills in reasoning, deductive logic and problem-solving. He/she demonstrates a good or very good knowledge of much of the material.
- Class Iiii** The candidate shows adequate basic skills in reasoning, deductive logic and problem-solving. He/she demonstrates a sound knowledge of much of the material.
- Class III** The candidate shows reasonable understanding of at least part of the basic material and some skills in reasoning, deductive logic and problem-solving.
- Pass** The candidate shows some limited grasp of at least part of the basic material.
- Fail** Little evidence of competence in the topics examined; the work is likely to show major misunderstanding and confusion, coupled with inaccurate calculations; the answers to questions attempted are likely to be fragmentary only.

#### **(for all subjects)**

- Class I** The candidate shows excellent problem-solving skills and excellent knowledge of the material over a wide range of topics, and is able to use that knowledge innovatively and/or in unfamiliar contexts.
- Class Iii** The candidate shows good or very good problem-solving skills, and good or very good knowledge of much of the material over a wide range of topics.
- Class Iiii** The candidate shows basic problem-solving skills and adequate knowledge of most of the material.
- Class III** The candidate shows reasonable understanding of at least part of the basic material and some problem solving skills. Although there may be a few good answers, the majority of answers will contain errors in calculations and/or show incomplete understanding of the topics.
- Pass** The candidate shows some limited grasp of basic material over a restricted range of topics, but with large gaps in understanding. There need not be any good quality answers, but there will be indications of some competence.
- Fail** The candidate shows inadequate grasp of the basic material. The work is likely to show major misunderstanding and confusion, and/or inaccurate calculations; the answers to most of the questions attempted are likely to be fragmentary

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<sup>1</sup> Philosophy may have its own qualitative descriptor of classes, published by that faculty.