

Examples of How to Zero-Weight Elements of Coursework due to Extenuating Circumstances

Here are a couple of examples of how to re-calculate coursework marks when an assignment has been zero-weighted due to extenuating circumstances.

EXAMPLE 1

Module has 4 items of coursework with the following weightings and marks:

Assignment	Weighting	Mark
1	20%	44.0
2	30%	54.0
3	20%	62.0
4	30%	Not submitted
Total	100%	37.4

New calculation:

Ignore assignment 4, and calculate on the basis of the other marks as follows:

(weighting x mark)

$$\begin{aligned}
 &20 \times 44 \\
 &+ 30 \times 54 \\
 &+ 20 \times 62 \\
 &= 3740 \text{ (the total weighted mark)}
 \end{aligned}$$

divide by 70 (total weight, 20+30+20) to get new mark of 53.4

EXAMPLE 2

This is a case which includes a participation mark which must remain at 5% of the total coursework mark.

Assignment	Weighting	Mark
1	20%	44.0
2	30%	54.0
3	15%	62.0
4	30%	Not submitted
5	5%	50.0
Total	100%	36.8

We want a total weight of 100: If assignment 5 is going to weigh 5, and assignment 4 is to be zero-weighted, then that leaves 95 to be divided up between items 1-3, and we must do that in proportion to their existing sizes.

So currently items 1-3 together have a weight of 65 (20+30+15) - and we want to 'inflate' that weight to 95, making it 95/65ths bigger, and that means making each item's weight 95/65 bigger:

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{item 1 } &20 \times 95/65 = 29.23 \\
 \text{item 2 } &30 \times 95/65 = 43.85 \\
 \text{item 3 } &15 \times 95/65 = 21.92
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{array}{r}
 \text{Sum} \qquad \qquad \qquad 95 \\
 \text{Plus item 5} \qquad \qquad 5 \\
 \hline
 \text{Total weight} \qquad \qquad 100
 \end{array}$$

So the calculation will be done in the normal way, with a total weight of 100, as follows:

New weighting x mark

$$\begin{aligned} & 29.23 \times 44 \\ + & 43.85 \times 54 \\ + & 21.92 \times 62 \\ + & 5 \times 50 = 5263.06 \end{aligned}$$

divide by total weight 100 to get 52.6

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