



Worried about failure?

[See your Tutor at once!](#)

Further information is in the Student Procedures and Guidance section on the College website:

<https://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/student-life/student-information/student-handbook/student-procedures-and-guidance/> and

Undergraduate Exam Arrangements: Information for Candidates:

<https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/your-course/examinations/undergraduate-exam-information> and

Graduate Exam Arrangements: Information for Candidates:

<https://www.cambridgestudents.cam.ac.uk/your-course/examinations/graduate-exam-information> and

Exam Arrangements, Before the Exams, During and After the Exams and Extenuating Circumstances: Information from CUSU:

<https://www.studentadvice.cam.ac.uk/academic/exams/>

What happens if I fail?

Examination failure is extremely rare in Cambridge, but it does occur, and is very serious. The College rules state: If in the yearly examination appropriate to her course a junior member fails to be classed, or fails to pass an examination which is not classed, she will not be allowed to continue her course and her status as a student of the College and any Licence agreement she may have with the College will automatically terminate [28] days (or such later time as the Council may determine) after she has received notification to her of such failure unless there has been special permission given by the Council.

The Senior Tutor will write to you formally with information of your examination failure, or your failure to be classed in a University Examination.

Contact your Tutor and Director of Studies as soon as possible. If they are away, contact the Tutorial and Admissions Office. There will be someone in the College to advise and support you, in the sense of taking you through the steps in College procedures and helping you think through your options.

The procedures the College follows in examination failure can be found at:

<https://www.newn.cam.ac.uk/student-life/student-information/student-handbook/student-procedures-and-guidance/>

Can I re-sit examinations I've failed?

No: University Regulations do not allow re-sits of Tripos Examinations.

[NB: the 2nd MB exams for medics and vets do allow re-sits, and a student who fails these at the first attempt, will automatically be entered for the next sitting of these exams. Normally only one re-sit is permitted.]

What if I was ill during the year?

If you were ill during the year, or had some other grave cause that prevented you from working, the College should already have evidence of this from a medical professional. Your Tutor and DoS should also have been made aware of this during the year.

Remember: it is your responsibility to make any difficulty known to your Tutor and DoS, and to ensure that medical evidence supports any claim that illness or other grave cause impeded your ability to prepare for the examination. There is very little that can be done if a medical condition, whether physical or psychological one, is made known to us only after your failure.

What if I have a disability?

All students are strongly encouraged to disclose any disability before coming into residence. This disclosure allows the College to make reasonable provision for the needs that arise from a disability.

If you have a disability, then you should contact the Disability Resource Centre (DRC) before coming in to residence or as soon as possible after you come into residence. For information, see <https://www.disability.admin.cam.ac.uk/>

You should ask for an assessment and a report to the College to alert us to any special provision the College and Department might reasonably provide to support you during your course. Remember: a disability does not affect the requirement to achieve specific academic standards or to follow the University course or abide by College and University rules.