Commentary on Undergraduate Transcript for Paul Withers

My undergraduate education and transcript do not follow the typical US pattern, so I have written this commentary to try to anticipate any problems you have with it. Please contact me if you have any difficulties.

Classes at Cambridge were not graded individually. The end-of-year exams each covered several classes. Roughly speaking, a grade of 67% was required to obtain a First Class, or A, grade. There is no general education requirement. Students only take classes that are related to their major.

At the end of my first year, my exams were grouped into four categories of equal weight, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, and Materials Science. All my grades in these four categories were the equivalent of an A.

At the end of my second year, my exams were grouped into two categories of unequal weight, Physics (2/3 weight) and Mathematics (1/3 weight). Both my grades in these categories were the equivalent of an A.

At the end of my third year, all my exams were in one category, Physics, and my grade in this was the equivalent of an A.

This completed my Bachelors' degree.

I have also included a letter regarding my Masters' degree. This was phrased by Cambridge to facilitate the transfer of some credits from Cambridge to the University of Arizona, hence the different style. Several minor courses are not included. As the letter states, my grade for the entire year's work was the equivalent of an A.

Academic Transcript for Paul Withers

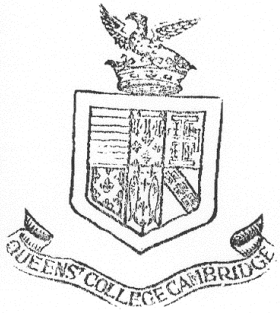
Pre-University Exams

5 A levels - all grade A
Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry, General Studies
Highest Chemistry mark in the country

Queens College, Cambridge University

1st year exams
Overall mark - First Class
Mathematics 82%
Physics 75%
Chemistry 74%
Materials 74%
11th out of year of 600 students

2nd year exams
Overall mark - First Class
Double Physics 153/200
Mathematics 71/100
19th out of year of 600 students

3rd year exams
Overall mark - First Class
Physics 79%
7th out of year of 100 students

A separate (unofficial) commentary sheet is supplied discussing the interpretation of these marks.