WAM calculation for the determination of UG Honours

The School of SSIS’s procedure for the calculation of the Average Weighted Mark (WAM) for the determination of honours for graduates of our Bachelor of Engineering degrees is outlined below.

The general principles are:
- The WAM calculation should be transparent and straightforward.
- The weighting reflects the fact that marks in the later years of the B.E. program are a better indicator of a student's performance and potential than the early years.
- The weighting is related to a course’s units of credit (UoC).
- The formula should have minimal influence on a student's choice of elective courses.

The WAM calculation is similar to the NSS cumulative average mark, with an additional weighting factor (WF) applied:

$$WAM = \frac{\sum UoC \times M \times WF}{\sum UoC \times WF}$$

where UoC and M are the units of credit and final mark for the first attempt at a particular course, respectively.

The following rules apply:
- The WF for each course is determined by the year at which the course appears in the official program, and regardless of course number or the actual session in which the course is taken.
- Courses listed in stage one have a WF of 1. Courses listed in stages 2 & 3 of the program have a WF of 2 and stage 4 courses have a WF of 3.
- All General Education courses have a WF of 1.
- The mark attained at the first attempt for all courses is the only one counted.
- Exemptions are not included in the calculation.
- Substitutions taken for equivalent courses at UNSW are counted.
- Additional courses, or courses outside the student's program, are not included in the calculation.
- Marks of SY and NF are not included in the calculation.

Honours Class 1 are awarded for WAM greater than or equal to 75, Honours Class 2 Division 1 are awarded for WAM greater than or equal to 70 but less than 75, and Honours Class 2 Division 2 are awarded for WAM greater than or equal to 65 but less than 70.

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