CORK INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
INSTITIÚID TEICNEOLAÍOCHTA CHORCAÍ

TEACHING & LEARNING UNIT

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MATHEMATICS

Statistical terminology used in the Exam Marks Statistics Calculator

- **Mean**: A measure of the average student mark.

- **Median**: The middle student mark, when marks are ordered. Also, known as a cut-point, which states that 50% of student marks lie below that statistic and 50% of student marks lie above that statistic.

- **Standard Deviation (SD)**: States how on average marks deviate from the mean. If the marks are normally distribution then:

  o 68% of measurements lie within [*Mean ± 1*SD*];

  o 95% of measurements lie within [*Mean ± 1.96*SD*];

  o 99% of measurements lie within [*Mean ± 2.58*SD*].

- **Normally distributed**: The frequencies (from the frequency distribution table) start low, proceed to one or two high frequencies, then decrease to a low frequency – i.e., the frequency distribution is approximately symmetric.

- **1st quartile**: A cut-point, which states that 25% of student marks lie below that statistic and 75% of student marks lie above that statistic;

- **3rd quartile**: A cut-point, which states that 75% of student marks lie below that statistic and 25% of student marks lie above that statistic;

- **Minimum**: Minimum mark obtained by a student(s);

- **Maximum**: Maximum mark obtained by a student(s).