

Section 3: Annex 3C Level 7 Marking Conventions

Grade	Percentage Mark	Level of Performance	Level of outcomes achieved and demonstrated at, beyond or below the threshold	Masters Degree Standard <sup>1</sup>
A	70 and above	Excellent	<p>Achieved all their course learning outcomes and consistently demonstrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a systematic and exceptional understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.</li> <li>• a comprehensive and exceptional understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship.</li> <li>• exceptional originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline</li> <li>• exceptional conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.</li> <li>• advanced ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non- specialist audiences.</li> <li>• self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.</li> <li>• exceptional ability to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.</li> <li>• the exceptional qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility - decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</li> </ul>	Distinction
B	60-69	Good	<p>Achieved all their course learning outcomes and consistently demonstrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a systematic and sophisticated understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice</li> <li>• a thorough and comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship</li> <li>• high level of originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline</li> <li>• thorough conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and</li> </ul>	Merit

<sup>1</sup> Where regulatory requirements for the award, all course outcomes at threshold and beyond the threshold are achieved and meet the applicable national standards in the FHEQ.

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			<p>advanced scholarship in the discipline - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non- specialist audiences</li> <li>• self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level</li> <li>• the ability to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.</li> <li>• the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility - decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</li> </ul>	
C	50-59	Satisfactory	<p>Achieved all their course learning outcomes and demonstrated:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice</li> <li>• a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship</li> <li>• originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline</li> <li>• conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.</li> <li>• the ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non- specialist audiences</li> <li>• self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems, and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level</li> <li>• the ability to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.</li> <li>• the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: -the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility - decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</li> </ul>	Pass
F	0-49	Not successful	<p>Did not achieve the required course learning outcomes and did not demonstrate the required award threshold standards. Did not demonstrate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• sufficient or a systematic understanding of knowledge, and a critical awareness of current problems and/or new</li> </ul>	Fail

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			<p>insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the forefront of their academic discipline, field of study or area of professional practice.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• a comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to their own research or advanced scholarship.</li> <li>• originality in the application of knowledge, together with a practical understanding of how established techniques of research and enquiry are used to create and interpret knowledge in the discipline.</li> <li>• conceptual understanding that enables the student: - to evaluate critically current research and advanced scholarship in the discipline - to evaluate methodologies and develop critiques of them and, where appropriate, to propose new hypotheses.</li> <li>• ability to deal with complex issues both systematically and creatively, make sound judgements in the absence of complete data, and communicate their conclusions clearly to specialist and non- specialist audiences.</li> <li>• self-direction and originality in tackling and solving problems and act autonomously in planning and implementing tasks at a professional or equivalent level.</li> <li>• ability to continue to advance their knowledge and understanding, and to develop new skills to a high level.</li> <li>• the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring: - the exercise of initiative and personal responsibility - decision-making in complex and unpredictable situations - the independent learning ability required for continuing professional development.</li> </ul>	