

Taxonomy of Assessment Domains

A Guide to Student Continuation,
Completion and Success



July 2015



LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR TAUGHT COURSES

Domains	The student is able to Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7
TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES	Choose and use appropriate tools and techniques for the accomplishment of set tasks.	Choose and develop the application of appropriate tools and techniques to accomplish set tasks.	Select and effectively apply a range of tools and techniques to existing and novel situations to achieve reasoned solutions/appropriate outcomes.	Select and effectively apply a range of complex tools and techniques to novel situations to achieve innovative solutions.
ORGANISATION AND PLANNING	Organise self and prioritise tasks (under supervision, if appropriate); organise and plan own studying patterns.	Organise self and plan tasks independently; negotiate outcomes and process.	Work autonomously to complete significant extended academic tasks and be able to accept responsibility for the process and outcomes.	Set, negotiate and meet own objectives and deadlines, collaborating effectively with others to work towards identified objectives and standards.
COMMUNICATION	Communicate in a clear and concise way, through a range of formal and informal tasks (using technology as appropriate) taking account the audience/ any fellow participants.	Communicate, in a clear and concise way, using a range of academic styles and modes appropriate to the context and taking account of the audience/any fellow participants.	Communicate in a clear and concise way, in formal styles, in relation to major pieces of academic work appropriate to the context, taking into account the audience/any fellow participants.	Select, use and modify appropriate styles and modes of communication for a wide range of tasks and purposes taking account of the audience/fellow participants.

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR TAUGHT COURSES

Domains	The student is able to Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7
GROUP/ INTER-PERSONAL	Operate effectively and in groups and with individuals taking into account the needs and behaviour of others with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture.	Operate effectively in groups and on an individual basis with due consideration of roles, leadership and group dynamics and with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture.	Work collaboratively in groups and with individuals from a range of settings, with a broad and self-critical awareness and with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture.	Work collaboratively and constructively with individuals and groups in varied settings, with a self-critical awareness of process and outcomes and with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture.
INFORMATION/ DATA COLLECTION	Gather and organise information/data from recommended and appropriate sources.	Select, gather and organise information/data independently from a wide range of primary and secondary sources.	Select, gather, critically evaluate, prioritise and organise information/data from an extensive range of primary and secondary sources.	Work autonomously to select, devise, apply and critically evaluate appropriate methods and tools for data and information collection for an extended piece of research.
THEORY AND PRINCIPLES	Demonstrate a fundamental knowledge of key theories and principles.	Demonstrate knowledge of key theories and principles, with an understanding of their relationships to alternative themes and relevance to different contexts.	Combine knowledge, theories and principles in the analysis and solution of issues/problems.	Select, critique and apply relevant theory and /or strategies and methodologies for investigating/solving complex issues and research questions.

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR TAUGHT COURSES

Domains	The student is able to Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7
ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	Explain in detail and make sense of simple situations and problems by breaking information into parts and identifying the relevant motives, causes and main inherent issues.	Examine more complex situations and problems/ issues to illuminate relevant factors/emergent findings. Justify the validity of the analytical process, seeking evidence to offer and support interpretations.	Interpret a range of situations and adopt a critical approach to explore problems /issues from a range of different viewpoints/theoretical standpoints.	Examine problems and issues critically and in detail using the main theoretical perspectives of the cognate area and the appropriate research methods and strategies, seeking evidence to offer and support valid interpretations.
APPLICATION	Use learned theory, principles and techniques in different ways to address straightforward situations and problems.	Use appropriate clusters of principles, knowledge and techniques to make sense of ambiguous situations /practice settings and reflect on the process of what has been learned.	Apply knowledge, techniques and theoretical principles in the identification and judgement of a range of valid solutions to new, problems/issues and reflect on the appropriateness of the outcomes.	Use theories, methodology, techniques and strategies in new situations in informed and valid ways, demonstrating empirical/experimental rigour in the identification of solutions to new situations/ problems.

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR TAUGHT COURSES

Domains	The student is able to Level 4	Level 5	Level 6	Level 7
REFLECTION	Give deliberate thought to situations and problems and systematically reflect on the issues and how they affect self and others.	Apply ongoing reflective theory and thinking to a range of situations and evaluate possible solutions and outcomes.	Critically reflect on a range of different issues, information and events: plan and evaluate a range of valid, informed solutions and/or actions.	Give deliberate thought to the critical consideration of issues from a range of diverse settings and the methods, process and outcomes by which new solutions or actions emerge and can affect self and others.
SYNTHESIS AND EVALUATION	Organise, justify and make connections about subject information, the validity of ideas or the quality of work based on a set of criteria.	Organise, connect and make informed judgements about information and its relation to its underpinning knowledge and principles.	Bring together different elements of theory and practice; Critically evaluate outcomes and propose new solutions.	Critically evaluate and justify existing information and methodologies. Create new connections between theoretical perspectives, methods and the strategies applied.
CREATIVITY	Identify and consider the original aspects of/perspectives on the subject area.	Develop a personal standpoint through the exploration of new perspectives relating to the knowledge, issues and solutions within the subject area.	Express informed personal views and identify new perspectives on existing knowledge for the solution of issues/problems and/or the transfer of knowledge into new contexts.	Propose alternative solutions and modifications by combining different sources of information in new patterns. Identify new areas for investigation/new problems /new methodological approaches.

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR RESEARCH DEGREES

Domains	Level 7 Research	Level 8
TECHNICAL CAPABILITIES	Select/adapt/combine/create/apply tools and techniques appropriate to novel situations to achieve innovative solutions.	Select/adapt/combine/create/apply tools and techniques appropriate to novel situations to achieve original solutions.
ORGANISATION AND PLANNING	Negotiate, set and meet own objectives and deadlines over extended periods of time with a high level of autonomy involving risk management and the sensitivity and ethical organisation of others, with appropriate reference to their cultural/social/political backgrounds and contexts.	
COMMUNICATION	To communicate effectively in a wide range of formal styles appropriate to and consistent with the chosen cognate area and audience, maximising the potential to influence policy and practice.	
GROUP/ INTER-PERSONAL	Interact effectively and ethically with individuals and groups in varied settings and with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture, to achieve an identified research activity.	Interact effectively and ethically with individuals and groups in varied settings and with sensitivity to equality, diversity and culture, to achieve an identified research activity. Collaborate effectively across networks to develop ways of coping and operating in novel settings with novel groups/groupings.
	Clearly delineate negotiate and subscribe to agreed parameters of responsibility in group/ team settings and ventures.	

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR RESEARCH DEGREES

Domains	Level 7 Research	Level 8
INFORMATION/ DATA COLLECTION	Carry out a systematic literature search, identifying and critiquing sources relevant to the field of research.	Carry out an exhaustive search, critical review and appraisal of all literature and primary sources of relevance to the research study.
	Make reasoned judgements regarding the appropriateness of a range of typologies of methods and instruments for data/information collection.	
	Adapt and apply methods and instruments appropriately to novel situations/contexts with due concern for matters of reliability and validity.	Devise and design novel methods and instruments for application in novel situations and/or contexts with a clear and critical perspective on the levels of reliability and validity achieved.
THEORY AND PRINCIPLES	Identify, critique and apply appropriate subject-specific theories, methods and strategies for the investigation and solution of identified issues/problems.	Identify, critique, apply and contribute to appropriate subject-specific theories, methods and strategies for the investigation and solution of identified issues/problems.
ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION	Critically analyse problems and issues in detail using the main theoretical perspectives of the cognate area and use robust research methods and strategies in the investigation.	Critically analyse problems and issues in detail using the main theoretical perspectives of the cognate area and use robust and novel research methods and strategies in the investigation.

LEEDS BECKETT UNIVERSITY TAXONOMY OF ASSESSMENT DOMAINS FOR RESEARCH DEGREES

Domains	Level 7 Research	Level 8
APPLICATION	Apply knowledge, theory, methodology and strategies in informed and valid ways, demonstrating experimental/research rigour in finding new solutions to identified issues/problems.	Apply knowledge, theory, methodology and strategies in informed and valid ways, demonstrating experimental/research rigour in identifying new solutions to complex and significant issues/problems.
REFLECTION	Give deliberate thought to the critical consideration of issues from a range of diverse settings and the methods, process and outcomes by which new solutions or actions emerge and can affect self and others.	Reflect objectively on all aspects of the study - knowledge, theory, methods, processes, outcomes, and on the implications for the wider context within which the study is located.
SYNTHESIS AND EVALUATION	<p>Critically evaluate outcomes and relate them to existing knowledge structures and methodologies.</p> <p>Review the validity of theoretical perspectives, methods and strategies applied suggesting further topics for research.</p>	Critically review and reappraise knowledge and the validity of theoretical perspectives and methodology in the wider context and propose areas for research that will further explore these and other related fundamental issues.
CREATIVITY	<p>Propose novel solutions and modifications by combining different sources of information in new patterns.</p> <p>Generate, critique and apply new areas for investigation.</p>	