



Assessments: Grades and Distinctions

Unless otherwise required by assessment types that attain the particular learning outcomes of a module, all examinations, tests and essays are graded according to the following scale.

70%+: Summa cum Laude / First Class Honours / A

Excellent: A comprehensive, highly structured, focused, concise, relevant, creative and effective use of material, demonstrating:

- An extensive and detailed knowledge of the material being assessed;
- An exceptional ability to organise, analyse and present the material;
- Evidence of extensive but relevant reading supported by reference / quotations.
- Demonstrating critical understanding, creativity and insight;
- A fluent, lucid, stimulating and original presentation with minimal spelling or grammatical errors.

60-69%: Magna cum Laude / Second Class Honours, Grade I / B

Very Good: A thorough and well-organised response to a question, demonstrating:

- A broad knowledge and understanding of the material with some original insight;
- A consistent ability to analyse, apply and organise the material to answer the question logically and convincingly;
- Evidence of substantial background reading;
- A clear presentation of contrasting arguments and viewpoints;
- Clear and fluent expression with few presentation errors.

50-59%: Cum Laude / Second Class Honours, Grade II / C

Good: A reasonable, adequate and competent answer to a question, demonstrating:

- An adequate and reasonable familiarity with, if not complete knowledge of, the relevant material;
- Clear presentation of statements, ideas and arguments with omission of some important elements of an answer or the appearance of a number of minor mistakes;
- A coherent presentation of the material with weaknesses in clarity and structure;
- Evidence of some background reading but not well supported by citation or quotation;
- Presentation and expression of sufficient quality to convey meaning with some lack in fluency and presentation errors (spelling and grammar).

45-49%: Third Class Honours / D

Satisfactory: A modest but acceptable response to the question, demonstrating:

- A basic grasp of the material but somewhat lacking in focus and structure;
- Main points covered but poor in detail with several minor errors or isolated but significant mistakes in fact or comprehension;
- Answer displaying only a basic capacity of understanding with limited or basic development of argument and independent thought;
- Little or no evidence of background reading;
- Satisfactory presentation with an acceptable level of presentation errors.

40-44%: Pass / E

Acceptable: A very basic and limited understanding of the material, demonstrating:

- Shows a basic grasp of the subject matter, poorly focused and structured contain irrelevant material;
- Demonstrated a minimum appreciation of the facts and basic concepts presented with some incoherence;
- Containing serious and several substantial errors;

- No evidence of background reading;
- Poor expression with the minimum acceptable standard of spelling and grammatical presentation.

35-39%: Fail / F

Marginal: An answer that does not meet the minimum acceptable standards or requirements of question asked, demonstrating:

- Little understanding even of class material;
- Answer displays major deficiencies in structure, relevance or focus;
- Replete with serious mistakes in fact or theory;
- Incomplete, incoherent and confused answer;
- Serious problems with presentation, spelling and grammar.

30-34%: Fail / G

Unacceptable: Demonstrating:

- Gross errors and major inaccuracies;
- Incomplete;
- Unacceptable standards of presentation, spelling and grammar.
- Copying / Plagiarism.

Below 30%: Fail / No Grade

Unacceptable: Demonstrating:

- Entirely irrelevant material to the question posed;
- No knowledge displayed relevant to the question posed.
- Extensive plagiarism / copying.
- Illogical.
- A few lines.