

Marking Guideline

Fail (0-59): The student has failed to meet most or all of the academic standards for a dissertation. There is no evidence that the student has put any effort in producing an interesting piece of research work. (see section above on what is being assessed in a dissertation)

Pass (60-74): The student has not failed to meet the requirements and has produced a piece of work that shows that he or she has the ability to think about an interesting problem, can review the literature and discuss his/her findings as well as drawing some conclusions. The dissertation is well written

Good (75-89): The student has produced a good piece of work that shows that the student can think critically and independently about a research problem. The student shows that he or she understands the importance of the problem and that is reflected in the way in which he or she has (i) described the problem (ii) presented the arguments (iii) critically reviewed the literature (iv) described the methodology and has applied it correctly (v) discussed the findings logically and in relation to previous work. Overall, the dissertation should be very well written and there are only minor flaws in terms of structure and organization.

Distinction (90-100): The piece of work is significantly better than “good”. The research problem is interesting or novel and perhaps new data and insights are generated from research. It is even possible that with some changes, the findings may get published in an academic journal.