

MSc Marking Criteria

1. MSc Marking Criteria

80-100% (Brilliant Distinction)

Work of exceptional quality (*publishable in the case of a dissertation*), based on a comprehensive knowledge (both historical and conceptual) of the topic producing an analysis of such originality as to potentially change some conventional understanding about the subject treated.

70-79% (Distinction)

Outstanding work showing convincing command of the relevant literatures (both historical and conceptual) and which provides sufficient depth of analysis *to develop original insights or arguments*.

60-69% (Merit)

Work of high quality, that displays substantial (if not comprehensive) knowledge and understanding of the historical and conceptual materials, that engages seriously with the questions to offer coherent arguments and analysis but does not generally go beyond the existing literature.

50-59% (Pass)

Work which shows reasonably solid knowledge and understanding of the historical and conceptual materials, and demonstrates some ability to marshal the materials and arguments, but which is not fully convincing in its use of evidence and theories. Work which is unbalanced in quality embodying elements of merit and others that are flawed.

40-49% (Condonable Fail)

Work which shows some knowledge of historical and conceptual materials, and shows some ability to make arguments and handle evidence, but which remains in some respects inadequate to answer the question asked (or address the chosen research question, for a dissertation).

0-39% (Bad Fail)

Work which is clearly flawed in respect of knowledge of the historical and conceptual materials, and shows inability to handle arguments and evidence on the topic. Work which does not address the topic.