

Assessment grading criteria: Level 6

[illegible]

CRITERION	100-80 Excellent	79-70 Very good	69-60 Good	59-50 Sound	49-40 Satisfactory	39-20 Fail	19-0 Fail
Attention to purpose	Addresses the purpose of the assignment comprehensively and imaginatively.	Addresses the full purpose of the assignment with some creativity.	Addresses the main purpose of the assignment effectively.	Addresses the main purpose of the assignment.	Some of the work is focused on the aims and themes of the assignment.	Mostly fails to address the task set.	Fails to address the task set.
Referencing	Sources used are acknowledged in the text and reference list and used fluently to support discussion. Referencing follows a systematic approach, appropriate to the discipline. All elements of individual references are present.	Sources used are acknowledged in the text and reference list and used effectively to support discussion. Referencing follows a systematic approach, appropriate to the discipline. All elements of individual references are present.	Sources used are acknowledged in the text and reference list and used to support discussion. Referencing follows a systematic approach, appropriate to the discipline. All elements of individual references are present.	Sources used are acknowledged in the text and reference list. Referencing follows a systematic approach, appropriate to the discipline. Most elements of individual references are present.	Sources of information acknowledged but integration between text and reference list is inconsistent. Attempts to follow systematic approach, appropriate to the discipline. Some elements of individual references may be incomplete and/or absent.	Some sources of information acknowledged but links between text and reference list unclear. Referencing does not follow a systematic approach. Elements of individual references are incomplete and/or absent.	Little or no acknowledgement of sources of information in text and/or reference list.
Clarity of objectives and focus of work	Defines appropriate objectives in detail and addresses them comprehensively and imaginatively.	Defines appropriate objectives in detail and addresses them comprehensively.	Defines appropriate objectives and addresses them coherently throughout the work.	Outlines appropriate objectives and addresses them in a manner which gives a focus to the work.	Uses generalised objectives to provide adequate but limited focus to the work.	Objectives are not appropriate and/or clearly identified.	No objectives are identified and lacks focus.
Addressing the question(s)	Addresses the purpose of question(s) comprehensively and with originality.	Addresses the purpose of the question(s) in detail and with some creativity.	Addresses the purpose of the question(s) clearly.	Makes a sound attempt at addressing the question(s).	Makes an adequate attempt at addressing the question(s), but with some digression.	Some knowledge displayed but not clearly linked to the question(s).	Does not address the question(s).
CONTENT AND KNOWLEDGE							
Content and range of knowledge displayed	Demonstrates an exceptionally comprehensive, detailed and in-depth knowledge base, the capacity to integrate theoretical and substantive knowledge, and a developed understanding of the limits to knowledge.	Demonstrates a detailed, systematic, in-depth, theoretically informed knowledge base, with a clear appreciation of the provisional nature of knowledge.	Demonstrates a comprehensive, well-organised theoretical and/or substantive knowledge base, and a developing appreciation of the limits of knowledge.	Demonstrates a sound factual and/or conceptual knowledge base and uses appropriate terminology.	Evidence of adequate knowledge of topic and use of appropriate terminology.	Some relevant and/or required knowledge missing or confused and/or significant misuse of terminology.	Little or no relevant knowledge included.

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Use of literature / evidence of reading	Demonstrates exceptionally broad and/or in-depth independent reading from appropriate sources. Choice of sources clearly enhances fulfilment of the assignment objectives. Clear, accurate, systematic application of material with well developed and/or integrated critical appraisal.	Evidence of broad and/or in-depth independent reading from appropriate sources. Rationale for choice of sources clear. Clear, accurate, systematic application of material, with consistent, thorough critical appraisal.	Evidence of independent reading from a wide range of appropriate sources. Clear, accurate, systematic application of material. Shows developing ability to appraise material critically.	Evidence of independent reading from an appropriate range of sources. Sound application of literature.	Limited evidence of independent reading. Literature is presented in a descriptive way.	Very limited evidence of independent reading and/or inappropriate sources used and/or engagement with the literature very superficial.	Little or no evidence of engagement with relevant literature.
Quality of sources used	Exceptional use made of primary sources, in conjunction with high quality secondary sources. Draws upon current research and / or advanced scholarship.	Significant use made of primary sources in conjunction with high quality secondary sources. Draws upon current research and / or advanced scholarship.	Uses a balanced combination of primary and higher quality secondary sources.	Some sound use of primary sources, but generally reliant on secondary sources.	Mostly relies on secondary sources. Use of primary sources limited.	Some use of secondary sources, but also draws upon unreliable and / or inappropriate sources. Negligible use of primary sources.	Uses unreliable and / or inappropriate sources.
Knowledge and application of theory	Knowledge and understanding of theory is exceptionally detailed and sophisticated. Appreciation of the limits of theory demonstrated throughout the work. Approach to assessment task is clearly, appropriately and consistently theoretically informed.	Demonstrates a detailed, accurate, systematic theoretical understanding. Appropriately selected theoretical knowledge is integrated into the overall assessment task.	Shows a systematic and accurate understanding of key theories, which are appropriately applied within the context of the assessment task.	Sound descriptive knowledge of key theories with some appropriate application.	Selection of theory is satisfactory but application and/or understanding limited.	Knowledge of theory inaccurate and/or incomplete. Choice of theory inappropriate. Application and/or understanding very limited.	Absence of relevant theoretical content and/or use of theory.
THINKING / ANALYSIS / CONCLUSION							

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Conclusions	Conclusions exceptionally well developed and show considerable originality. They form an integrated part of the overall argument and/or discussion, reflecting commanding grasp of theory and/or evidence and/or literature and appropriate forms of conceptualisation.	Conclusions well developed, analytical, and show some originality. They are thoroughly grounded in theory and/or evidence and/or literature and use appropriate forms of conceptualisation, forming an integrated part of overall argument and/or discussion.	Conclusions show some development and critical insight, and relate clearly and logically to evidence and/or theory and/or literature.	Sound conclusions are drawn which are clearly derived from evidence and/or theory and/or literature.	Adequate conclusions are drawn which are derived from limited understanding of evidence and/or theory and/or literature.	Limited or ineffective attempt to draw together arguments.	Lack of conclusions, or unsubstantiated and/or invalid conclusions drawn.
Analysis	Demonstrates a command of relevant analytic techniques, and the ability to apply these to new and/or abstract information and situations. Shows an exceptional appreciation of the limits and/or appropriate uses of particular analytic approaches.	Makes very good use of a range of relevant analytic techniques, and applies these to new and/or abstract information and situations. Shows well developed ability to compare alternative theories and/or analytic approaches (where relevant).	Makes good use of established techniques of analysis relevant to the discipline. Shows developing ability to compare alternative theories and/or analytic approaches (where relevant).	Makes fair and/or conventional use of established techniques of analysis, relevant to the discipline.	Makes satisfactory but limited use of established techniques of analysis, relevant to the discipline.	Attempts at analysis ineffective and/or uninformed by the discipline.	Lacks any analysis.
Critical reasoning	Sophisticated, critical evaluation of theories and/or concepts and/or assumptions and/or data which informs the overall approach taken to the assignment. Arguments are clear, coherent, tenable, and demonstrate originality.	Well developed, theoretically and/or conceptually informed critical thinking is consistently integrated into the work. Arguments demonstrate the ability to evaluate theories and/or concepts and/or assumptions and/or data.	Demonstrates good critical insight and ability to contrast alternative positions through the use of theory.	Demonstrates conventional critical insight and ability to contrast alternative positions.	Demonstrates limited critical insight. Recognises alternative positions.	Critical thought and/or analysis very limited and/or incoherent.	No evidence of critical thought.

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Selecting research methods (Relationship between method chosen and the nature of the inquiry)	Convincing, self-determined choice of methodology enables the successful collection and recording of self-determined information and/or data.	The process and rationale for selection of one from several methodologies is thoroughly explored enabling the effective collection of information and/or data.	Methodology selected is effective and appropriate to the aims and objectives of the task and a good rationale for its selection is provided.	Methodology chosen is appropriate to the task and attention given to the selection of a methodology from the range of prescribed ones.	Methodology used is appropriate to the task and brief rationale offered makes reference to established guidance.	Choice of methodology and relationship to information and/or data being collected is confused and unhelpful.	Issue of methodology not addressed and/or inappropriate methodology used and/ or little planning used to complete the task.
Applying / theorising	Information and/or data is synthesised to construct emergent ideas which seek to answer self-identified gaps in own or others' knowledge.	Information and/or data is organised using self-selected structures and processes to construct emergent knowledge and/or ideas which address existing question(s).	Information and/or data is organised using structures and processes provided to reorganise existing knowledge in standard formats to answer given question(s).	Information and/or data is organised using structures and processes provided to answer given question(s).	Information and/or data is collected and analysed to form valid conclusion(s).	Incomplete attempt to formulate conclusion(s) based on the information gathered.	Information and/or data is poorly organised and is not analysed to develop conclusion(s) or generate valid ideas
Evaluation of process and the quality of information / data developed	Successfully evaluates information and/or data and the inquiry process comprehensively using appropriate criteria that are largely self-determined.	Evaluates information and/or data and the inquiry process comprehensively using appropriate criteria some of which are self-determined.	Effectively evaluates information and/or data and the inquiry process, including critique of the techniques used.	Effectively evaluates information and/or data and the inquiry process using prescribed guidelines.	Shows basic evaluation of the inquiry methodology and information and/or data generated.	Evaluation of process and the information and/or data is incomplete.	Limited or no attempt to evaluate either process or outcomes.
PRACTICAL / INTERPERSONAL SKILLS							
Work within a framework of professional values / code of conduct	Develops specific, achievable objectives which show creativity. Objectives are fully consistent with professional values and/or code of conduct and appropriate to the clientele.	Develops specific objectives which are achievable, consistent with professional values and/or code of conduct and appropriate to the clientele.	Develops objectives which are consistent with professional values and/or code of conduct and appropriate to the clientele.	Develops objectives which are consistent with professional values and/or code of conduct and generally appropriate to the clientele.	Uses objectives which are consistent with professional values and/or code of conduct but are set by the clientele. Limited consideration of appropriateness and practicability.	Inadequate attempt to ascertain needs of clientele and develop a workable brief. Limited use of professional values and/or code of conduct frameworks.	No attempt to ascertain needs of clientele and develop a workable brief. Fails to work within the prescribed professional values and/or code of conduct framework.

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Information gathering / processing	Uses initiative to seek out new sources of information, evaluates their validity against existing information and organises them effectively	Selects highly relevant information. Demonstrates understanding of the complexity of the information and processes it effectively.	Selects appropriate information and processes it effectively.	Selects mostly appropriate information and processes it adequately.	Selects some appropriate information, and processes some of it adequately.	Random information gathering. Inappropriate use of processing tools.	Fails to collect appropriate data in any systematic way.
Creative process	Demonstrates strikingly innovative creative imagination to create a piece of work/performance art which reaches near professional levels in its application of creative methods and techniques, resulting in material which is consummately well-crafted.	Creative work shows highly-developed technique in the service of a lively imagination. Processes involved are handled with assurance to achieve innovative results. Personal style consistently marked in work which builds on models with originality, flair and style.	Creative work shows well-developed imagination and technique. Processes involved are manipulated to achieve creative results. Builds on models and moulds influences with originality and distinctive personal style.	Creative works shows imagination and technique. Processes involved have creative application and outcomes. Personal style is evident at times in work which shows some original application and adaptation of models.	Creative work shows a basic level of imagination and technique. Processes involved have little creative consequence. Personal style is lacking in favour of work which is derivative in origin.	Undeveloped ideas and/or work with little creativity or technique. Minimal personal style or skill; little insight gained into effective working processes.	No evidence of progression. Skills and techniques remain undeveloped. No evidence of creativity or innovation.
Performance	Compelling, communicative and precise performance demonstrating professional level of authority, thorough awareness of style, mastery of technical and interpretative issues. Improvisations are imaginative, creative and stylistically assured. Accurate, flexible, focused, well-rehearsed, convincing and precise performance. Stage craft presentation suitable for professional performance.	Highly focused, convincing performance demonstrating communication, commitment and thorough understanding of style with careful attention to detail, displaying consistently high level of technical ability and interpretive skills. Improvised passages are creative, stylistically assured and considered. Performance well prepared, assured and thoroughly persuasive. Stage craft presentation of a very high standard.	Focussed performance demonstrating communication, commitment and a thorough understanding of the style with careful attention to detail, displaying consistently high level of technical ability. Improvisation is stylistically correct and considered. Performance well-prepared and/or rehearsed, assured and focussed. Stage craft presentation of a high standard.	Performance demonstrates communication, commitment and understanding of the genre with reasonable attention to detail, displaying a good level of technical ability. Improvised passages show a sound understanding of style. Well-rehearsed. Stage craft presentation of a good standard.	Performance that reasonably demonstrates communication, commitment and understanding of the genre but with little attention to detail and displaying a low level of technical ability. Improvised passages show little understanding of style. Lacks confidence and little attention given to presentation.	Performance in which communication and commitment are lacking and little consideration paid to style. Technical ability weak. Improvised passages show poor understanding and appropriateness. Performance is unconvincing, displaying little evidence of preparation. Stage conduct barely addressed, inappropriate, and /or unacceptable.	Performance in which fluency and focus is prevented by lack of technical control. No evidence of understanding of style or conventions of performance within it. Under-rehearsed and lacks confidence which detracts. Presentation has not been addressed.

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Form and content in a practical context	Demonstrates an exceptional ability to critically engage with theory and practice. Synthesises creative strategies and interrelated forms and styles more widely. Clear awareness of and ability to experiment with conventional forms. Work shows clear evidence of intellectual rigour and/or creativity. Technically and professionally competent throughout.	Demonstrates an ability to critically engage with theory and practice. Synthesises creative strategies and interrelated forms and styles. Work shows clear evidence of intellectual rigour and/or creativity. Experiments with conventional forms. Technically and professionally competent.	Evidence of critically relating theory to practice. Demonstrates well developed ability to analyse, synthesise and experiment with relationships between form and content. Good evidence of creativity. Technically and professionally competent in most respects.	Evidences some awareness of the relationship between theory and practice. Work tends to be conventional but shows good ability to relate form and content. Some aspects of creativity present. Structure and content are relevant and approaching technical and professional competence throughout.	Evidence of an appropriate relationship between form and content. Moderate degree of technical and professional competence. Limited presence of creativity.	Little or no evidence of an understanding of the relationship between form and content. Lacks creativity and is technically poor.	Neglects to address the brief in any acceptable way.
Reflection (including self-criticism / awareness)	Confidently evaluates actions and situations showing a sophisticated awareness of own strengths and weaknesses which are clearly articulated, used and acted on. Interrogates received opinion, prejudices and value sets operating.	Confidently reflects on own strengths and weaknesses and the criteria by which such judgements are made. Prepared to interrogate received opinion, prejudices and value sets operating.	Able to evaluate own strengths and weaknesses and shows developing understanding of criteria for judgements. Prepared to question received opinion, prejudices and value sets operating.	Is largely dependent on criteria set by others. Recognises own strengths and weaknesses.	Dependent on criteria set by others. Begins to recognise own strengths and weaknesses.	Limited self-awareness leading to poor judgement.	Distorted self-criticism leading to inaccurate view of the situation.

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Reflective practice	Consistently analyses practice by critically reflecting on personal contributions and that of others and the rationale behind these. Demonstrates reflexive awareness, articulating imaginative thinking about potential alternatives and their implications for further practice.	Analyses personal contribution and that of others to practice through reflection and considers possibilities and their consequences in a range of contexts. Develops effective action plans.	Evaluates personal contribution and that of others to practice and develops plans of action for.	Able to evaluate own practice and that of others using a number of frames of reference. Considers future actions	Able to interpret own practice and that of others based on specific frames of reference. Identifies some further actions.	Limited interpretation of own practice and that of others restricting further action.	Incomplete interpretation of practice leading to insufficient action.
Independence / autonomy (including planning and managing learning)	Within unfamiliar tasks, critically analyses feedback to identify areas of learning needing improvement. Manages own learning using a full range of resources which go beyond those readily available.	Identifies learning needs by actively seeking out feedback from a range of sources and makes effective use of available resources.	Identifies learning needs and acts independently to improve performance. Is autonomous in utilising learning resources.	Works independently. Accesses and uses a range of learning resources and support.	Undertakes clearly directed work independently. Uses the standard learning resources.	Demonstrates limited ability to work independently, needing significant guidance on methods and resources.	Unable to work independently, needing significant guidance on methods and resources.
Self presentation / interpersonal skills	Creative and confident self presentation and sophisticated interpersonal skills allow effective management of the situation(s).	Adopts a confident style of self presentation, employing a range of interpersonal skills consistent with the individual's aims and appropriate to the setting(s).	Demonstrates flexibility in the style of presentation and interpersonal skills adopted which are appropriate to the setting(s).	Can adopt both a formal and informal style and uses basic interpersonal skills appropriately.	Demonstrates an ability to adopt both a formal and informal style uses basic interpersonal skills but not always matching the needs of the situation.	Limited self awareness and/or interpersonal skills.	No obvious self awareness and/or interpersonal skills.
Time management / self management	Meets deadlines. Time management and planning strategies are used effectively to enhance the quality of the work.	Meets deadlines. Plans well ahead. Sets self determined targets and contingency plans allowing sufficient time to receive and act on guidance.	Meets deadlines. Plans and monitors progress to allow sufficient time for development of the work.	Makes plans and implements them in a satisfactory manner to meet deadlines.	Usually meets important deadlines. Exhibits limited evidence of planning.	Little evidence of attention to deadlines and time management.	Rarely meets deadlines. Appears unable to make and implement plans.

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Interactive and group skills (including teamwork, negotiation, understanding group dynamics and empathy)	Demonstrates a flexible and advanced approach to negotiation and co-operation to develop relationships which are mutually beneficial to achieving group objectives.	Uses a range of networking skills effectively within a learning or professional group. Negotiates and handles conflict seeking to establish relationships which serve the group needs.	Interacts effectively within a learning group, giving and receiving information and ideas and modifying responses where appropriate.	Meets obligations to others (tutors and/or peers) providing contributions to support shared objectives. Recognises and assesses alternative options.	Uses basic interactive skills appropriately to contribute to the group aims.	Avoids working with others or does not contribute effectively to the group.	Does not contribute or disrupts the group.
Critical review (to be used in peer assessment)	Demonstrates judgement and discrimination in utilising and providing different sources of feedback. Offers clear strategies for improvement.	Assesses and/or evaluates the work of others using a range of criteria. Provides rationale for judgements and offers specific insights into how work could be developed.	Assesses and/or studies the work of others and judges against existing criteria, indicating possibilities for improvement.	Examines work of others and identifies its strengths and weaknesses using existing criteria.	Comments in general terms on the work of others.	Demonstrates limited ability to make reasoned comment on the work of others.	Appears unable to make reasoned comment on the work of others.
Initiative (taking action, independence)	Shows a creative, proactive and independent approach to achieving goals in a manner appropriate to situation(s). If in a group setting, shows a sophisticated appreciation of the needs and views of others.	Uses imagination to assess the needs of a situation and take independent actions to achieve goals. If in a group setting, takes account of the needs and views of others.	Effectively assesses the needs of a situation and takes independent action necessary to achieve goals. If in a group setting, recognises the needs and views of others.	Assesses needs of a situation and takes action towards achieving goals. If in a group setting, shows some awareness of the needs and views of others.	Where goals and methods are defined, will undertake tasks requiring some independence. If in a group setting, shows limited awareness of the needs and views of others.	Demonstrates limited ability to undertake tasks beyond those prescribed. If in a group setting, fails to take account of the needs and views of others.	Appears unable to undertake tasks beyond those prescribed. If in a group setting, fails to take account of the needs and views of others.
Decision making	Uses a range of appropriate information, exercising autonomy and initiative when exploring options. Makes clear decisions which give due weight to alternatives.	Uses a range of appropriate information to evaluate options and applies clear criteria to demonstrate reasons for final decision and/or choice and/or outcome.	Uses appropriate information to evaluate options. Selection of final outcome clearly derived from evaluation.	Uses available information to evaluate possible options. Final decision is clear and linked to the evaluation.	Recognises benefits and disadvantages of some possible options but provides limited clarity on rationale for final decision.	Rationale behind the final outcome or choice is unclear or untenable.	Final outcome or choice is unclear or absent.