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Assessment Brief: Coursework 2023-24

Assessment Details

Course Title:	Artificial Intelligence Dissertation Project
Course Code:	LDSCI7237
Course Leader:	Mark Martin
Level:	7
Assessment Title:	Proposal
Assessment Number:	AE1
Assessment Type:	Project Proposal
Restrictions on Time/Length:	Up to 5,000 words
Individual/Group:	Individual
Assessment Weighting:	20%
Issue Date:	13 May 2024
Hand in Deadline:	27 September 2024
Planned Feedback Deadline:	Within 28 calendar days of hand in deadline
Mode of Submission:	Online
Anonymous Marking:	No

Assessment Task

Write a proposal outlining your approved dissertation topic.

Assessment Criteria

The research proposal is a document that, over a period of a few months, transforms into a dissertation. Used correctly, the proposal will become your road map. It should contain:

1. **An informative title**.

2. **Introduction**. Your introduction should clearly outline your project. It should describe:

    a. The context on your dissertation's topic

    b. Challenges

    c. Your aims and specific goals (e.g., a preliminary thesis statement)

    d. Your proposed methodology

3. **Literature review**. Critical review related work to your project – identify key developments, limitations, opportunities for integration, and avenues for further development and innovation. Your literature review should justify your own project goals.

4. **Research Methodology**. Describe your research methodology, justifying the tools, methods, and techniques you will use to meet the specific goals of your dissertation project – this is where a good literature review and thorough ethical considerations come in handy.

5. **Timetable**. Provide a detailed plan – ideally, a Gantt chart – outlining your steps to completion by the submission date. You should be able to identify early potential risks and mitigations.

Students will be assessed on the clarity with which they present their proposal, proficiency of English, the breadth of knowledge they convey (e.g., in the introduction and literature review), and the depth of understanding they manifest (e.g., in their discussion of research methodology and timetable).

Marking

The University uses two common assessment marking schemes – one for undergraduate and one for postgraduate – to mark all taught programmes leading to an award of the University.

More detailed information on the common assessment marking scheme and the criteria can be found in the Course Syllabus, available on the University's VLE.

Learning Outcomes

This assessment will enable students to demonstrate in full or in part the learning outcomes identified in the Course Descriptor.

On successful completion of this assessment, students should be able to:

Knowledge and Understanding

K1d   Identify, analyse, and interpret requirements to solve a problem rigorously (e.g., formulate a thesis statement, identify steps to prove it, and substantiate your findings with data).

K2d   Demonstrate detailed critical engagement with methods, tools and technologies required to solve a problem (e.g., philosophical devices or software libraries).

K3d   Demonstrate a sophisticated understanding of (qualitative or quantitative) data analysis principles, tools and techniques.

K4d   Critical review of related work, identifying key developments in a particular area, opportunities for integration, limitations and avenues for further development and innovation.

Subject-Specific Skills

S1d   Ability to engage in a peer review process that involves critical review of ideas, arguments, software and related documentation, coupled with positive actions, advice for improvement and innovation.

S2d   Ability to recognise the individual components required to solve a problem or answer a question and combine them into a coherent argument or solution.

S3d   Develop original arguments based on solid background work and coupled with positive actions for improvement and innovation.

S4d   Familiarity with codes of ethics and codes of practice that underpin the development of high quality, high integrity research projects.

Transferable Skills

T1d   Project leadership skills, from understanding a problem to proposing a solution based on sound insights, to encouraging others to share that vision.

T2d   Consistently display an excellent level of technical proficiency in written English and command of scholarly terminology, so as to be able to deal with complex issues in a sophisticated and systematic way.

T3d   Research and analytical skills with a range of up-to-date, well-proven tools and resources.

T4d   Communicate effectively the intellectual merit and broader impacts of the project to specialist and non-specialist audiences.

Accessing Feedback

Students can expect to receive feedback on all summative coursework within 28 calendar days of the submission deadline. The 28 calendar day deadline does not apply to work submitted late. Feedback can be accessed through the Turnitin assessment link on the course page. Further instructions on submitting an assessment and accessing feedback can be found on the University's VLE.

Late Submissions

Students are reminded to submit their assessment in the correct format and ahead of the published deadline. Deadlines are strict and Canvas uploads made remotely might not be immediate, we therefore strongly recommend that students upload their work to Canvas in good time before the deadline. If assessments are submitted late without approved Extenuating Circumstances, there are penalties:

- For assessments submitted up to two days late: any mark of 40% or higher will be capped at 40% for undergraduate students. Any mark of 50% or higher will be capped at 50% for postgraduate students. Any mark below 40% for undergraduate students and below 50% for postgraduate students, will stand.
- Students who do not submit their assessment within two days, and have no approved extenuating circumstances, are deemed not to have submitted and to have failed that assessment element. The mark recorded will be 0%.
- Late penalties are calculated differently for some types of portfolios. Please read the Assessment Brief of your portfolio carefully.

For further information, please refer to [AQF7 Part C in the Academic Handbook](#).

Extenuating Circumstances

The University's Extenuating Circumstances (ECs) procedure is in place if there are genuine circumstances that may prevent a student submitting an assessment. If the EC application is successful, there will be no academic penalty for missing the published submission deadline.

Students are normally expected to apply for ECs in advance of the assessment deadline. Students may apply for consideration of ECs retrospectively if they can provide evidence that they could not have done so in advance of the deadline. All applications for ECs must be supported by independent evidence.

Students are reminded that the ECs procedure covers only short-term issues (within 21 days leading to the submission deadline) and that if they experience longer-term

matters that impact on learning then they must contact [Student Support and Development](#) for advice.

Under the Extenuating Circumstances Policy, students may defer an assessed element on only one occasion and may request an extension on a maximum of two occasions.

For further information, please refer to the [Extenuating Circumstances Policy](#) in the Academic Handbook.

Academic Misconduct

Any submission must be a student's own work and, where facts or ideas have been used from other sources, these sources must be appropriately referenced. The Academic Misconduct Policy includes the definitions of all practices that will be deemed to constitute academic misconduct. This includes the use of artificial intelligence (AI) where not expressly permitted within the assessment brief, or in a manner other than specified. Students should check this policy before submitting their work. Students suspected of committing Academic Misconduct will face action under the Policy. Where students are found to have committed an offence they will be subject to sanction, which may include failing an assessment, failing a course or being dismissed from the University depending upon the severity of the offence committed. For further information, please refer to the [Academic Misconduct Policy](#) in the Academic Handbook.

Version History

Title: Assessment Brief Template					
Approved by: The Quality Team					
Version number	**Date approved**	**Date published**	**Owner**	**Location**	**Proposed next review date**
3.0	August 2022	August 2022	Registrar	VLE, Faculty Resources Page	July 2023
2.3	December 2021	December 2021	Registrar	VLE	August 2022
2.2	August 2021	August 2021	Registrar	VLE	August 2022
2.1	September 2020	September 2020	Registrar	VLE	August 2021
2.0	September 2020	September 2020	Registrar	VLE	August 2021
1.0	August 2019	August 2019	Registrar	VLE	August 2020
Referenced documents	AQF7 Academic Regulations for Taught Awards; Extenuating Circumstances Policy; Academic Misconduct Policy; Course Syllabus				
External Reference Point(s)	UK Quality Code Theme: Assessment				