University of Bristol – Department of Computer Science

MSc Project Assessment Criteria

Indicative Characteristics for Each Assessment Criterion			
Note: In order to achieve a particular rating for one criterion, a project will likely achieve many *but probably not* all *of the indicative characteristics listed.* *Note: The interpretation and weighting of the criteria (Technical Approach and Critical Interpretation) should be informed by the nature of the project* *Note: Project evaluation should be sensitive to the extent of the curriculum studied by the student, e.g., the difference between BSc, MEng, MSc, etc.*			
Criteria:	Challenge & Achievement: Results & Contribution	Technical Approach: Design & Implementation	Critical Interpretation: Evaluation & Understanding	Report Presentation: Organisation & Communication
Relevant Aspects: **Rating:**	• Ambition of project goals and degree of challenge • Extent to which project aims were achieved • Utility of the work produced • Degree to which the work was self-directed or, conversely, relied on supervisor direction • Volume of work undertaken • Extent to which the work goes beyond the ideas and techniques taught in the curriculum	• Grasp of relevant technical material, theory and methodology • Quality of the relevant design and implementation undertaken • Command of appropriate tools, techniques and methods demonstrated • Degree to which work was systematic, considered, and well explained • Value of the project outputs by comparison with the state of the art	• Quality and extent of critical and/or comparative analysis and evaluation • Use of appropriate metrics and techniques • Appropriate balance of qualitative, quantitative and analytic considerations • Level of understanding and interpretation of the project findings • Appreciation of limitations, flaws and drawbacks • Grasp of relevance and implications	• Quality of writing, grammar and spelling • Clarity of report structure and formatting • Use of diagrams, figures, and tables • Extent and relevance of literature review • Citation of appropriate prior work • Performance in viva/meeting/presentation
80 to 100 "Outstanding"	*The project represents an* <u>outstanding</u> *achievement.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>outstanding</u> *technical competency.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>outstanding</u> *understanding of the project's findings.*	*Writing and presentation are* <u>outstanding</u>.
70 to 79 "Excellent"	*The project represents an* <u>excellent</u> *achievement.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>excellent</u> *technical competency.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>excellent</u> *understanding of the project's findings.*	*Writing and presentation are* <u>excellent</u>.
60 to 69 "Good"	*The project represents a* <u>good</u> *achievement.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>good</u> *technical competency.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>good</u> *understanding of the project's findings.*	*Writing and presentation are* <u>good</u>.
50 to 59 "Satisfactory"	*The project represents a* <u>satisfactory</u> *achievement.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>satisfactory</u> *technical competency*	*The report demonstrates a* <u>satisfactory</u> *understanding of the project's findings.*	*Writing and presentation are* <u>satisfactory</u>.
40 to 49 "Weak"	*The project represents a* <u>weak</u> *achievement.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>weak</u> *technical competency.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>weak</u> *understanding of the project's findings.*	*Writing and presentation are* <u>weak</u>.
0 to 39 "Poor"	*The project represents a* <u>poor</u> *achievement.*	*The report demonstrates* <u>poor</u> *technical competency.*	*The report demonstrates a* <u>poor</u> *understanding of the project's findings.*	*Writing and presentation are* <u>poor</u>.

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Illustrative Descriptions for Each Assessment Criterion			
Note: In order to achieve a particular rating for one criterion, a project will likely achieve many *but probably not* all *of the indicative characteristics listed.* *Note: The interpretation and weighting of the criteria (Technical Approach and Critical Interpretation) should be informed by the nature of the project* *Note: Project evaluation should be sensitive to the extent of the curriculum studied by the student, e.g., the difference between BSc, MEng, MSci, etc.*			
Criteria:	Challenge & Achievement: Results & Contribution	Technical Approach: Design & Implementation	Critical Interpretation: Evaluation & Understanding	Report Presentation: Organisation & Communication
Relevant Aspects:	• Ambition of project goals and degree of challenge • Extent to which project aims were achieved • Utility of the work produced • Degree to which the work was self-directed or, conversely, relied on supervisor direction • Volume of work undertaken • Extent to which the work goes beyond the	• Grasp of relevant technical material, theory and methodology • Quality of the relevant design and implementation undertaken • Command of appropriate tools, techniques and methods demonstrated • Degree to which work was systematic, considered, and well explained	• Quality and extent of critical and/or comparative analysis and evaluation • Use of appropriate metrics and techniques • Appropriate balance of qualitative, quantitative and analytic considerations • Level of understanding and interpretation of the project findings • Appreciation of limitations, flaws and	• Quality of writing, grammar and spelling • Clarity of report structure and formatting • Use of diagrams, figures, and tables • Extent and relevance of literature review • Citation of appropriate prior work • Performance in viva/meeting/presentation