

CS-130 Coursework 3: Report

By submitting this coursework electronically you state that you fully understand and are complying with the university's policy on Academic Integrity and Academic Misconduct. The policy can be found at <https://www.swansea.ac.uk/academic-services/academic-guide/assessment-issues/academic-integrity-academic-misconduct>.

Essay due on Blackboard: Friday 6th December by 11am

Any questions should be posted to the CS-130 Blackboard forums

Coursework aims to give you an opportunity to: develop report writing skills; apply the knowledge from the lectures to a real-world issue of your choice; understand how to compile a literature review; develop critical appraisal skills by reading sources and assessing and understanding their strengths and weaknesses; practice searches of databases to identify a range of academic sources

Specification

You have already chosen a question to give your video presentation on in this module and I recommended that you also write this report on the same topic. If you wish to write the report on a different one, then discuss the new idea with a member of staff to get some feedback prior to starting the work.

You are to produce a 1,500-word maximum literature review on the topic that you have chosen clearly presenting and explaining the issue and how it relates to society. You should support your explanation of the topic with sources and, where appropriate, statistics, graphs and images.

- Word Count Rules:
- University rules allow you to go 10% over the word count without penalty on our count – this is to account for differences in the ways word processors count the number of words
- Include the count in the document
- You will lose marks for going over 1,650 words on our word count (1 per 50 over)
- Count includes: quotes, numbers and headings

Count excludes: Appendices, References at the end of the document, Content and Title pages, headers and footers and up to 6 figures or tables in the document (at the markers discretion - putting 500 words in a table won't work)

The final report needs to be carefully evidenced – this means you must make use of citations to support “claims” you make. When completing your reference section you should make a note of what each reference is e.g. academic paper, Government report, commissioned report, technical documentation, newspaper article, or book.

Beyond this, you should present critical analysis of the issue. This means that you will analyse sources by comparing what they say against what you have been taught in the module and other sources of information. You should not only be repeating the information found in the sources you have read and you should certainly be going beyond the CS-130 lecture notes.

But wait, there's a twist!

Self-assessment

In addition to submitting your essay, you will also mark it. This is so I can check that you are reading the mark scheme and thinking about it. You will mark using the marking scheme tiers below (I'm not asking you to guess how many marks you get for self-assessment as that gets messy!). You will receive ½ mark for each grade boundary you correctly identify for your report.

Copy and paste the mark scheme from the electronic version of the scheme found on blackboard to the back of your submission and complete it by putting an x in the box next to the grade boundary you feel your work meets in each area before you submit.

Hints

1. Come to the support classes for the coursework – they will show you how to cite sources correctly and how to appraise literature
2. Read a wide range of different sources and take notes on them before starting to write your document
3. Try using something like a mind-map to figure out the structure of your chosen topic and how you might present it
4. Refer to the mark scheme to guide your work!

Academic Integrity

This is an individual piece of work. While you are encouraged to discuss the work with fellow students, your final submission should be your own work.

You should be aware that failure to correctly cite sources in one of the ways outlined in the supporting Seminar sessions will be an issue of academic integrity **regardless of intent**.

Electronic submission is considered implicit acceptance of the Universities rules on academic integrity.

To submit

1. On blackboard: A 1,500 word report in PDF format
2. At the back of the report: Your completed version of the mark scheme with an x next to the mark boundaries you think you fit into – this does not count towards your word count

Mark Scheme (out of 28+2 marks total)

*Note: to reach each mark boundary, all the requirements for previous mark boundaries must also be met or avoided where a negative trait is described. For example, to receive 3 marks for spelling, you must meet all the criteria for 3 marks and **not** have spelling errors that a spell checker would find (a criteria associated with 1 mark)*

Spelling and grammar (3 marks)		
Grade boundary	Description	Self-assessment
3	The report reads well throughout with none of the issues identified below ever appearing. The writing would not look out of place in an academic publication	
2	The report does not contain spelling or grammatical mistakes but is not easy to read. Sentence construction is awkward and/or there are comma splices, imprecise language, copy splices or awkward phrases used	
1	The report is poorly written or contains spelling or grammatical mistakes that a spellchecker would find	

IF YOU HAVE A REGISTERED DISABILITY THAT AFFECTS YOUR ABILITY TO BE ASSESSED FOR SPELLING AND GRAMMEAR (FOR EXAMPLE, DYSLEXIA) PLEASE INDICATE IN THE ABOVE SECTION

Use of Sources (8 marks)		
Grade boundary	Description	Self-assessment
7-8	The report backs up all claims that it makes with appropriate references and includes at least 12 different sources including 8 from academic sources	
5-6	The report backs up the majority of claims that it makes to the satisfaction of the marker and effectively uses at least 12 different sources including 6 from academic sources	
3-4	8 different sources including 4 academic papers used correctly in the document. The formatting of the reference section and citations is consistent	
1-2	The references includes at least one appropriate academic paper the content of which is analysed, the report includes 5 other sources	

<i>Information Presentation and Structure (7 marks)</i>		
Grade boundary	Description	Self-assessment
6-7	The report consistently uses formatting appropriately. The document includes some graphical information produced by the student to help emphasise their point. Information consistently presented in graphical form where appropriate. The document is very easy to follow and looking at the contents page of the document gives a good level of insight into the report	
4-5	The report generally makes use of formatting to clarify its information (bolded text, subtitles, italicised text, bulleted or numbered lists where appropriate) and presents information in forms besides text such as graphs, tables or images. The document escapes the “Intro->Method->Results->Conclusion Trap” we discuss in class on the topic of report writing	
2-3	The report intermittently makes use of formatting but it detracts from the overall message in places. As a reader, I could read the sections in any order and it would make little difference OR the documents is relatively unstructured with few sub-sections or unhelpful section titles	
1	The report makes no use of anything other than written text to present its information, formatting is inconsistent. There are appropriate subheadings but they are poorly related to each other. The document is unstructured, there is no use of sections to segment the information and help the reader	

Quality of Analysis (10 marks)		
Grade boundary	Description	Self-assessment
9-10	The document includes more than one non-obvious insights into the topic being discussed that are clearly grounded in evidence. The student consistently makes the distinction between fact and opinion clear	
7-8	The document explains the domain being presented clearly and in depth. The document includes a good amount of discussion and analysis. At least one non-obvious insight is presented by the student. The student clearly critiques and compares their sources whenever it is appropriate	
5-6	The document explains the domain being presented. The document includes a good amount of discussion and analysis. Some non-obvious insights are presented by the student. The student rarely confuses opinion and fact in their discussion. The student only infrequently engages critically with their source	
1-4	The document includes a limited amount of discussion and analysis. The document generally lacks insights into the problem area only repeating others' information or does not make the topic area clear. The student only engages critically with their source on an infrequent basis	