



**PROJECT MARKING INFORMATION**  
**FOR**  
**SUPERVISORS**

**DT204/4**



## **PROJECT ASSESSMENT**

The project is equivalent to five examination papers, with an allocation of 500 marks

Project Supervisors and Second Readers are required to assess the projects allocated to them using the marking scheme outlined in the Project Assessment Form with reference to the Student Grading Guidelines suggested for grading the project student. The final and component marks should be returned to the Course Tutors.

Project Supervisors and Second Readers are also requested to provide concise evaluations of the submitted project. Supervisors provide a report on student performance while doing and completing the project. The Supervisor's and Second Reader's Reports should be signed as should the Marking form. Where a differential of >15% occurs between the two marks awarded the External Examiner will adjudicate on the appropriate mark

Supervisors should consider the following points when drafting the report in order to provide useful reference points for the Second Reader's assessment of the project thesis:

The proportion of the planning of the experimental work done by the student.

The amount of instruction in appropriate techniques given to the student.

The degree to which the analytical data was produced by someone other than the student.

The frequency of consultation between the Supervisor and the student and the level of advice/help given with editing of a draft of the project thesis.

Overall impression of the student's competence, commitment, good laboratory practice, etc.

## **Detailed Guidelines for what constitutes a given grade for the Research project**

### **1st class honours $\geq 70\%$**

Candidate conducts comprehensive literature search and shows:

- (i) An excellent grasp of both general theoretical background and of the specific theoretical background to the proposed work.
- (ii) An excellent understanding of the desired/suggested experimental approach as outlined by project supervisor and makes a significant contribution to experimental design at an early stage.
- (iii) A clear ability to recognise the limitations of protocols and experimental design.
- (iv) Excellent time-management, work-planning and co-operative teamwork

Candidate displays a clear capacity for reliable and independent work as evidenced by:

- (i) need for limited input by the project supervisor into ongoing experimental design.
- (ii) limited instruction required in appropriate techniques.
- (iii) care and attention to experimental details including controls etc.
- (iv) quality of gels and/or other experimentally generated material.
- (v) quality of results generated, reproducible, consistent results.

Candidate shows clear ability in the interpretation of results and forms clear and supportable conclusions.

Quality of the written report and limited assistance required in writing the report.

### **Honours 2.1: 65-69%**

Candidate conducts comprehensive literature search and shows:

- (i) a good grasp of both general theoretical background and of the specific theoretical background to the proposed work.
- (ii) good understanding of the desired/suggested experimental approach as outlined by project supervisor and makes a contribution to experimental design as the project progresses.
- (iii) Good time-management, work-planning and co-operative teamwork

Candidate displays a capacity for reliable work but requires a level of assistance as evidenced by:

- (i) need for some input on a continuing basis by the project supervisor into ongoing experimental design.
- (ii) instruction required in appropriate techniques.
- (iii) advice required regarding experimental details including controls etc.
- (iv) gels and/or other experimentally generated material show reliable work.
- (v) results generated are accurate and/or as expected.

Candidate shows ability in the interpretation of results but requires some guidance. Conclusions are sound but require some input from supervisor.

Quality of the written report is generally good with some assistance required in writing the report.

## **Honours 2.2: 60 -64%**

Literature search is adequate but room for greater effort. Candidate shows:

- (i) a limited grasp of both general theoretical background and of the specific theoretical background to the proposed work.
- (ii) there is a need for the project supervisor to explain the desired experimental approach and to determine experimental design on an ongoing basis as the project develops; limited input by the candidate.
- (iii) Weak time-management, work-planning and co-operative teamwork

Although the candidate displays a capacity for reliable work there is a definite need for supervision of laboratory work on an ongoing basis; a candidate of average ability:

- (i) need for some input on a continuing basis by the project supervisor into ongoing experimental design as stated above.
- (ii) instruction required in appropriate techniques.
- (iii) definite advice required regarding experimental details including controls etc.
- (iv) gels and/or other experimentally generated material may not always be reliable.
- (v) results generated are usually accurate and/or as expected.

Candidate shows a limited ability in interpreting results and requires guidance. Conclusions are sound but contain some input by the supervisor.

Quality of the written report is generally average to good with assistance required in writing the report.

## **Pass: 50 – 59%**

Candidate shows:

- (i) A limited grasp of both general theoretical background and of the specific theoretical background to the proposed work.
- (ii) A repeated requirement for the project supervisor to explain the desired experimental approach and to determine experimental design on an ongoing basis as the project develops; limited input by the candidate.
- (iii) Weak time-management, work-planning and co-operative teamwork

The candidate does not produce high quality work, requiring many experiments; there is a definite need for supervision of laboratory work on an ongoing basis.

The candidate:

- (i) Has need for input on a continuing basis by the project supervisor into ongoing experimental design, planning and work-planning.
- (ii) Repeated instruction required in appropriate techniques.
- (iii) Constant advice required regarding experimental details including controls etc.
- (iv) Gels and/or other experimentally generated material may not always be reliable.

Candidate shows a limited ability in the interpretation of results and requires guidance. Conclusions are sound but require the input of the supervisor in addition to the candidate.

A student failing to meet the criteria of at least the Pass category would be deemed to have failed.



# **PROJECT SUPERVISOR'S REPORT**

*(The technical difficulty of the project should be considered when assessing student performance)*

Supervisor: \_\_\_\_\_



## **SECOND READER'S (DIT) REPORT**

*(The Project Supervisor's report should be considered when assessing the thesis)*

Second Reader: \_\_\_\_\_



## PROJECT MARKING SCHEME

**STREAM:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CANDIDATE'S NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_

**TITLE OF PROJECT:** \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

<b>PROJECT COMPONENT</b>	<b>MARKS OUT OF</b>	<b>SUPERVISOR</b>	<b>SECOND READER (DIT)</b>	<b>FINAL MARK (mean)</b>
<b>Introduction</b>	<b>15</b>			
<b>Practical Work Technical difficulty</b>	<b>35</b>			
<b>Organisation and presentation of final report</b>	<b>10</b>			
<b>Discussion/Conclusion</b>	<b>20</b>			
<b>Poster / Oral Presentation</b> (If project supervisor does not attend Poster session then this will be marked by 2 DIT staff)	<b>20</b>			

<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>100</b>			
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*Supervisor:* \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:**

*Second Reader (DIT):* \_\_\_\_\_