L-Università ta' Malta
Institute for Tourism, Travel & Culture

University of Malta

Institute for Tourism, Travel and Culture

Master of Arts In Tourism and Culture

Report Sheet

Name of Student:

Title of Long Essay:

Deadline for Submission:

	Total Mark	Given Mark
Content	25%	
Presentation / Structure	25%	
Critical Engagement	50%	
	100 %	

Grade	Description	% Mark
A	Exceptional Quality	100% - 80 %
B	Very Good Quality	79% - 70 %
C	Good Quality	69% - 55 %
D	Fair but below Average Quality	54% - 50%
P	Pass (When Assessment is based on pass/fail basis)	
F	Unsatisfactory	49% - 0 %
I	Incomplete	

Marks are based on a total of 100%

The three basic elements should be considered while assessing the value of the dissertation are:

Content. The dissertation needs to comply with the subject matter as approved by the BOS and rooted in academic literature. The dissertation should be thorough and provide details of the entire research process.

25%

Presentation/Structure. The dissertation should be well presented, subdivided into chapters that address the various aspects of the research process. The chapters should be coherently linked and presented as one complete product. A suggested (but not obligatory) structure would include: an introduction, a literature review chapter, a methodology chapter, a findings chapter, a discussion and a conclusion. The dissertation should also have a reference list of used sources and in-text references that follow the approved ITTC format. Appendices can also be included. Language should be appropriate and precise.

25%

Critical Engagement. Dissertations should demonstrate the student's ability to engage critically with their work. Literature should be critically appraised and gaps in literature should be identified if these exist. The student should also be critical towards his/her own work, by showing an awareness of the strengths and weaknesses of the research presented and by making relevant recommendations. It is important that there is evidence of focus on the theme and of thinking in depth. As much as possible in-text references should be included wherever appropriate.

50%

Good points that should be appraised and positively marked

The following good qualities (not exhaustive) should <u>gain</u> marks:

1. A coherent overall structure
2. A concise introductory overview
3. A clear research agenda
4. A thorough literature review
5. A methodological choice that addresses the research question
6. A suitable data gathering procedure
7. A suitable method for data analysis
8. Good presentation of key findings
9. A critical discussion
10. An understanding of the strengths and weaknesses of the dissertation
11. Useful recommendations

Bad points that need to be considered and negatively marked

The following negative qualities (not exhaustive) should <u>lose</u> marks:

1. An introduction that fails to introduce the study
2. Incorrect understanding of literature
3. Incorrect citations and referencing
4. Poor articulation and operationalization of research questions
5. A poorly operationalized research question
6. A choice of methodology that does not fit the research question
7. A choice of data analysis procedure that does not fit the research question
8. Arbitrary ways of analysing data
9. Reporting quantitative findings in qualitative jargon and vice-versa
10. Incorrect or inadequate data analysis
11. Inadequate presentation of findings
12. Wrong interpretation of findings
13. Failure to appreciate limitations
14. Inadequate recommendations and generalising statements
15. A biased and politically-laden discourse

Points that should not normally influence a mark

The following are elements that whilst adding nothing significant to the empirical research, <u>do not usually merit to be penalised</u>:

1. Failure to review relevant but non-mainstream literature
2. Non-excessive use of secondary sources

3. Articulation of a single research question
4. Replication of a previous study (as long as this is not a copy of it)
5. Relatively small sample sizes
6. Non-representative samples (as long as these are treated as such)
7. Purposive sampling strategies
8. Non-triangulation

Final Overall Comments

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Members of the Examination Board

Student Name_____

Chairperson _____

Member _____

Member _____

External Examiner _____

Supervisor_____

Date: _____

Final Overall Grade

_____
100