**Master’s Examiner Recommendation and Report**

A Master’s thesis at the University of Canterbury is conducted under the regulations for the [specific degree](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/about-uc/corporate-information/regulations/qualification-regulations?s=%21PadreNull&num_ranks=20&profile=qualification-regulations-result-page&sort=title&collection=university-of-canterbury%7Esp-aem-qualification-regulations&f.Qualification+Type%7CucQualificationType=Master%27s+degree) in conjunction with the [Research Course Regulations](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/regulations/general-regulations/research-course-regulations/). Additional information can be found in the [Master’s Thesis Work Policy and Guidelines](https://www.canterbury.ac.nz/about-uc/corporate-information/policies/master-s-thesis-work-policy-and-guidelines).

Examiners are asked to complete both sections of this form (the Recommendation and the Report) and submit this to Te Kura Tāura. **Word (.docx) format is preferred**.

The Recommendation will be provided to the Amo Rangahau | Dean of Postgraduate Research who will consider both reports and decide on the outcome. Please note that Examiner recommendations are not provided to the student. Therefore, we ask that you do not include any recommendation within the Report section of the form. If a recommendation is included, your report may be amended by Te Kura Tāura staff.

Your report will be provided to the student. The tone of this report should therefore be constructive and include comments addressed to the student. You should provide overall comments as well as comments on each criterion.

All theses are to be kept confidential during the examination process and examiners should not distribute copies of the thesis while it is under examination. Theses will be made available in the [UC Research Repository](https://ir.canterbury.ac.nz) after examination, or after any requested embargo period has ended. If an examiner has signed a non-disclosure agreement prior to this examination, the terms of confidentiality may extend beyond the examination period.

**Criterion-Based Grading**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Passing grades** | **A+** | Exceptionally high performance | * Well-structured and integrated research plan. Well-formulated research questions and appropriate investigative methodology. * Excellent knowledge and understanding of subject. * High quality original data/materials collected (if applicable) and rigorous and critical data analysis. * Excellent and clear understanding of significance of the data/evidence. * High level of original and critical thinking. Arguments presented logically and coherently. * Conclusions comprehensive and well justified. * Thesis well-constructed and well-illustrated. |
| **A** | Mid-point in A range |
| **A-** | High quality performance |
| **B+** | Very good | * Sound research plan. * Reasonable formulation of research questions and appropriate investigative methodology used. * Reasonable knowledge of the literature and evaluation of previous work. * Appropriate original data collected (if applicable) and reasonable data analysis. * Some appreciation of the significance of the data/evidence. * Some evidence of original and critical thinking. * Arguments presented reasonably well. * Thesis reasonably well constructed. |
| **B** | Mid-point in B range |
| **B-** | Good |
| **C+** | Pass | * Research questions formulated and adequate research methodology applied. * Knowledge of subject matter shown but with some lapses, inadequacies and errors. * Adequate attempt at data analysis but may lack adequate justification. * Original and critical thinking present but limited. |
| **C** | Mid-point in C range |
| **C-** | Marginal pass |  |
| **Failing grades** | **Fail** |  | * Work lacks breadth and depth. * Understanding and coverage inadequate. Poor attempt at interpretation. * Thesis poorly presented. |

**Recommendation**

Please recommend a single letter grade in accordance with the grading criteria.

**Note for the degree of Master of Philosophy:** The recommendation options for this degree type are either ‘Pass’ if all criteria have been met, or ‘Fail’ if one or more criteria have not been met.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Student’s Name: |  |
| Thesis Title: |  |
| Date: |  |
| Recommended letter grade (*or Pass/Fail for MPhil*): |  |
| Examiner’s Name/eSignature: |  |

**Report**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Please provide an overall evaluation of the thesis, highlighting the strengths and weaknesses of the work: |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Criteria** | **Comments** |
| Critical review of relevant literature and demonstration of the understanding of the theoretical underpinning/context of the research: |  |
| Clarity of research aims and objectives: |  |
| Research materials, methods, and methodology – appropriateness of use and clarity of description: |  |
| Data analysis – appropriateness of techniques and clarity of explanation: |  |
| Discussion - integration of results into past research and identification of future research needs: |  |
| Clarity, comprehensiveness, and justification of conclusions: |  |
| Quality of presentation – reasonably free of typographical, spelling, and grammatical errors and inclusion of appropriate referencing of past work: |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Please detail any recommended editorial corrections:**  *Only* ***minor*** *corrections (e.g., typos; grammatical errors) should be included here.* |  |