IMESS DISSERTATION

Note: Please email the completed mark sheet to Year 2 coordinator
(cc Chiara Amini chiara.amini@ucl.ac.uk **and** fiona.rushworth@ucl.ac.uk**)**

Please note that IMESS students are <u>not</u> required to use a particular set of methods (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, or comparative) in their dissertation.

Student:	Jiaqi Li
Dissertation title:	Research of the degree of internationalization and performance of emerging market enterprises - A case study of Polish enterprises

	70+	69-65	60-61	59-55	54-50	<50
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Knowledge *Knowledge of problems involved, e.g. historical and social context, specialist literature on the topic. Evidence of capacity to gather information through a wide and appropriate range of reading, and to digest and process knowledge.*		x				
Analysis & Interpretation *Demonstrates a clear grasp of concepts. Application of appropriate methodology and understanding; willingness to apply an independent approach or interpretation recognition of alternative interpretations; Use of precise terminology and avoidance of ambiguity; avoidance of excessive generalisations or gross oversimplifications.*		x				
Structure & Argument *Demonstrates ability to structure work with clarity, relevance and coherence. Ability to argue a case; clear evidence of analysis and logical thought; recognition of an argument´s limitation or alternative views; Ability to use other evidence to support arguments and structure appropriately.*			x			
Presentation & Documentation *Accurate and consistently presented footnotes and bibliographic references; accuracy of grammar and spelling; correct and clear presentation of charts/graphs/tables or other data. Appropriate and correct referencing throughout. Correct and contextually correct handling of quotations.*				x		
Methodology *Understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research.*			x			

ECTS Mark:	65	Charles Mark:	B	Marker:	Karel Svoboda
Deducted for late submission:	No			Signed:	
Deducted for inadequate referencing:				Date:	

MARKING GUIDELINES

A (UCL mark 70+) = A (Charles mark 91-100 - excellent): *Note: marks of over 80 are given rarely and only for truly exceptional pieces of work.*
Distinctively sophisticated and focused analysis, critical use of sources and insightful interpretation. Comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research.

B (UCL mark 69-65) = B (Charles mark 81-90– very good)
C (UCL mark 64-60) = C (Charles mark 71-80 – good): A high level of analysis, critical use of sources and insightful interpretation. Good understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research. 65 or over equates to a B grade.

D (UCL mark 59-55) = D (Charles mark 61-70 – satisfactory)
E (UCL mark 54-50) = E (Charles mark 51-60 – sufficient):
Demonstration of a critical use of sources and ability to engage in systematic inquiry. An ability to engage in sustained research work, demonstrating methodological awareness. 55 or over equates to a D grade.

F (UCL mark less than 50) = F (Charles mark 0-50 - insufficient):
Demonstrates failure to use sources and an inadequate ability to engage in systematic inquiry. Inadequate evidence of ability to engage in sustained research work and poor understanding of appropriate research techniques.

Please provide substantive and detailed feedback!

Comments, explaining strengths and weaknesses (_at least 300 words_):

The thesis deals with the problem of effectiveness of internationalization of emerging markets firms, aiming at the case of Polish MNEs. It builds on extensive literature review (maybe too extensive) and applies theoretical framework to the chosen case of Poland 2010-2019. The aim is therefore clear and understandable. What I would change, would be the structure of the paper which somehow swings between theory and the empirical part, towards more coherent argument.

Of course, the question whether Poland belongs to the category "emerging market" comes directly to the surface. I highly appreciate that the authoress addressed this question in the introducing parts of the thesis. The same may be said about other definitions in the thesis. Jiaqi Li carefully developed them in order to avoid any confusion, which is unquestionable plus. The authoress underlines the unique nature of emerging markets and their firms. Although this may sound like an academic debate, the host country situation has a deep impact on motivations and results of internationalizations of multinational enterprises.

Regretfully, editing represents a weakness in this paper. Although the language side is appropriate and understandable, the thesis contains a high number of unfinished sentences and typos (i.e. "the relevant institutional systems have not yet been perfected and perfected, such as property rights system, financial system, etc., and some formal systems are vague, uncertainty and discontinuity") Furthermore, parts of the text are written in the form of separate sentences rather than coherent paragraphs. This is especially valid for the literature review section. As I received the final version only few days before deadline, I could not react to this weakness.

In my opinion, empirical part of the thesis is stronger than its theoretical one (I would suggest shortening and sharpening the theory, which discusses to many side topics). The authoress confirmed the hypothesis derived from the theoretical part. Nevertheless, the conclusion that internationalization of emerging market firms is different from their developed market partners sounds somehow basic and would call for more elaboration.

Specific questions you would like addressing at the oral defence (_at least 2 questions_):

1. **In some countries, such as Russia or China, the expansion of their MNEs has also a political part – proof of their maturity and technological advancement. Is something of this sort present in the case of Polish firms?**

2. **Did the motivations for the expansion somehow developed in the case of Polish MNEs?**