

IMESS DISSERTATION

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

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

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

	70+	69-65	64-60	59-55	54-50	<50
	A	B	C	D	E	F
Knowledge <i>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.</i>	70					
Analysis & Interpretation <i>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.</i>				55		
Structure & Argument <i>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 limitation or alternative views; Ability to use other evidence to support arguments and structure appropriately.</i>				56		
Presentation & Documentation <i>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.</i>				56		
Methodology <i>Understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research.</i>					54	

ECTS Mark:		UCL Mark:	58	Marker:	Dr Sangaralingam Ramesh
<i>Deducted for late submission:</i>				Signed:	Dr Sangaralingam Ramesh
<i>Deducted for inadequate referencing:</i>				Date:	04/09/2022

MARKING GUIDELINES

A (UCL mark 70+): 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 65-69):

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.

C (UCL mark 60-61):

Some evidence of critical analysis, knowledgeable interpretation. Wide range of sources used to develop a logic and coherent argument. Good understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, the extent of independent research could have improved.

D (UCL mark 59-55):

Employ relevant sources and show ability to engage in systematic inquiry. Little critical analysis of the material. It demonstrate methodological awareness but the standard and rigor of the analysis can improve.

E (UCL mark 54-50):

Mostly descriptive argument. Employ relevant but limited sources. The structure, logic and overall quality of the argument needs improvement.

F (UCL mark less than 50):

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.

Comments, explaining strengths and weaknesses (at least 300 words):

The research of the thesis focuses on trying to elucidate the reasons for the internalisation of MNE's in/from developing , transitional economies. In this case Poland. However, while the narrative does illustrate widespread reading of relevant academic sources, there could be improvements in the context of 'Analysis and Interpretation', 'Structure and Argument', 'Presentation and Documentation' and 'Methodology'. In the context of 'Analysis and Interpretation' there is a question as to whether an appropriate methodology has been applied in order to resolve the research question.

In this case, the methodology seems to be a mixture of literature review, case study and empirical analysis. Somewhere in the narrative there is the statement 'Most of the literature on Polish firms is in Polish', so there is a question as to the validity of the literature review contribution to the research. Moreover, the three stage model seems to refer to the banking sector, but the research question pertains to the internationalisation of MNE's, while the case study refers to Polish firms. For this type of research, the comparative case study methodology of Robert Yin would have been more appropriate. This is what should have been adopted as a methodology for the comparative analysis of the international operation of manufacturing and non-manufacturing industries. Furthermore, the econometric analysis is itself not seamless especially because not enough attention has been paid to data cleansing for example the removal of outliers and the need/no-need for data which is normally distributed. The hypotheses should also be stated in the null and alternative form. The analysis and interpretation could itself be more critical with alternative arguments being considered.

The 'Structure and the Argument' of the thesis could also be improved to allow for better clarity and coherence. The sections should have been better organised as:

Abstract

Introduction

Literature Review

Methodology

Results and Analysis

Discussion

Conclusion.

In the context of coherence, the level of explanation would have been more effectively executed. Furthermore, in the context of the 'Presentation and Documentation', the accuracy and the consistency of citations can be improved. There are also minor grammatical errors.

Specific questions you would like to address at the oral defence (at least 2 questions):

1. Explain your choice of methodology and why you selected this method.
2. You mention that 'Most of the literature on Polish firms is in Polish'. If this is the case, what is the impact on your research with regards to this thesis.

