

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 not required to use a particular set of methods (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, or comparative) in their dissertation.

Student:	Shiyuan Huang
Dissertation title:	The Role of FDI in the Green Transition of Central and Eastern Europe Countries: From Empirical Evidence

	70+	69-65	60-61	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>		x				
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>		x				
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's limitation or alternative views; Ability to use other evidence to support arguments and structure appropriately.</i>				x		
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>			x			
Methodology <i>Understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research.</i>				x		

ECTS Mark:	63	Charles Mark:	C	Marker:	Karel Svoboda
<i>Deducted for late submission:</i>			No	Signed:	
<i>Deducted for inadequate referencing:</i>				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 impact of FDI on the transition into a greener economy in Central Europe is unquestionably exciting and deserves to be elaborated. I am glad that the student switched from the previous topic to this. Regrettably, my role as a paper supervisor was limited to the setting of the topic, but my impact on the final version was limited.

The paper presents an impressive data collection on FDI and environmental aspects of economic development. The author demonstrates the findings in an extensive series of tables. The author puts the CEE countries' policies in the perspective of Western Europe, which is justified. On the other hand, the war in Ukraine, the developments and the different timing of covid-19 pandemic should be at least mentioned. For Ukraine, for instance, the loss of the most industrial part, Donbass, impacted its greenhouse gas production.

The paper states that one of its aims is to "Summarise the prior literature on FDI and the environment and provide insight into the development of FDI and the green transition process for transition economies." Such an aim does not seem to be adequate for the diploma thesis. In general, summarising the knowledge and identifying the research gap should be a part of the literature review, not an aim of the thesis itself. In this paper, the literature review spans over three chapters, which is unnecessary.

The author writes about "recent studies," (6) but the newest dates to 2015. This can hardly be regarded as the "newest literature." On the other hand, the rest of the book review is extensive. Nevertheless, the literature review should be better targeted. I would suggest a more detailed study of the research on the relations between the environment and FDI and the problem of economic transition in CEE region.

The link between FDI and ecology is not always clear. In general, the paper behaves more like two studies at once. Both are interesting but tying them together would help the paper's coherence. However, for exploring the impact of FDI on ecology, I suggest being less extensive in explaining everything. A shorter and more focused paper would be more convincing.

As a result, my overall impression is positive. However, some limitations drag it lower than it could be.

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

1. In the recommendations part, you underline the role of incentives for environmentally friendly industries. Could you suggest a measure that worked well for this purpose based on a foreign experience?
2. How would you evaluate the impact of covid-19 pandemic on ecologic policies of CEE countries?