

IMESS DISSERTATION



Note: Please email the completed mark sheet to Year 2 coordinator (jiri.vykoukal@post.cz)

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:	Yuhan Liu
Dissertation title:	The Impact of Financial Development on Innovation: A Comparative Study of Central and Eastern European Countries and Western European Countries

	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:	B/65	Charles Mark:	B	Marker:	
<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 master thesis of Yuhan Liu is focused on the impact of financial development on innovation. Author provides a comparative study of Central and Eastern European countries and Western European countries. The theoretical and analytical part is in the thesis equally distributed. First chapter deals with the detailed literature review, which enables to understand and get to know basic overview about previous and current research of selected topic. Second chapter introduces the methodology of the thesis and research objectives and questions. Third chapter represents the robustness part since author describes the methodology used in the work and research studies. The next one chapter shows the empirical results. The last chapter is focused on discussion of research topics. I appreciate especially the wide range of literature author worked with. Regarding the methodology, author works in many parts of the thesis with statistical data that is consider for quantitative methodology. In this case, there is a question if hypothesis should have been set instead of the research questions, which are more typical for qualitative methods. Beside this fact, however, author provides very interesting analysis with useful data.

The thesis is readable. Author shows the ability to sum up many different sources and analyse them.

Overall, I rate it positively that author has provided deep and structural analysis and presented her results in graphs. The strengths of the thesis is also wide range of literature used by author and its confrontation with analysed data. Author has proved ability to work with many different data from different sources. For some future research, I would recommend to clarify the methodology with setting of hypothesis or research questions. From the formal point of view, all the graphs or tables should be quoted. Despite mentioned formal small mistakes, I can fully recommend the thesis for the defence with the final grade low B.

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

- 1) Which country of the CEE region can be “a model” of support of research and development sector? Explain your answer.
- 2) Are there any strengths or weaknesses in supporting of innovative economy in CEE region compare to Western Europe?