

IMSISS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

Student Matriculation No.	Glasgow 2709940 DCU 21109401 Charles 33817311
Dissertation Title	Hidden Swallows - The role of female agents in Iranian intelligence practices

<p>Word Count Penalty (1-15% over/under = 1gr point; 15-20% over/under = 2 gr points; 20-25% over/under = 3 gr points; more than 25% over/under = 0 fail)</p> <p>Word Count: 22906 Suggested Penalty: no penalty</p>		

JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

Final Agreed Mark A3 [20]

DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	Rating
A. Structure and Development of Answer	
This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• <i>Originality of topic</i>	Excellent
• <i>Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified</i>	Very Good
• <i>Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work</i>	Excellent
• <i>Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions</i>	Very Good
• <i>Application of theory and/or concepts</i>	Very Good
B. Use of Source Material	
This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• <i>Evidence of reading and review of published literature</i>	Excellent
• <i>Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument</i>	Very Good
• <i>Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence</i>	Excellent
• <i>Accuracy of factual data</i>	Excellent
C. Academic Style	
This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• <i>Appropriate formal and clear writing style</i>	Excellent
• <i>Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation</i>	Excellent
• <i>Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)</i>	Excellent
• <i>Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?</i>	Yes
• <i>Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology)</i>	Not required

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- *Appropriate word count*

Yes

ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

Reviewer 1

Generally, the text is very original and interesting piece of academic work. What should be specially appreciated is wide range of used sources, excellent theoretical framework and used methodology for the analytical part of work, including explanation of limitations and biases. Of course, even the geographical territory (Iran) is from the perspective of discussed topic very interesting. Few identified formal deficiency (e.g. pp. 17, 29, 46, 48, 65, 66) have no impact on very high grading of this work.

Reviewer 2

Agree with reviewer 1. This is a difficult and under-studied topic and the student should be commended for exploring it. Trying to get around this by using a wide range of sources and developing a sound theoretical and methodological approach was important, and the student is also clearly aware of the limitations in that regard. The analysis is rich and rigorous, and this is particularly important as issues of gender in Iran are often portrayed simplistically and crudely. The student grapples with the politics of gender as well as the politics of intelligence practices and institutions in Iran very well.