

# 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.

<b>Student:</b>	Wenjin Yao
<b>Dissertation title:</b>	The impact of EU eastern enlargement on FDI in CEE countries -- using the synthetic counterfactuals method

	70+	69-65	60-61	59-55	54-50	<50
	A	B	C	D	E	F
<b>Knowledge</b> <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					
<b>Analysis &amp; Interpretation</b> <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					
<b>Structure &amp; Argument</b> <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			
<b>Presentation &amp; Documentation</b> <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			
<b>Methodology</b> <i>Understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research.</i>	X					

<b>ECTS Mark:</b>	B/66	<b>Charles Mark:</b>	B/85	<b>Marker:</b>	Petr Jeřábek
<i>Deducted for late submission:</i>			No	<b>Signed:</b>	
<i>Deducted for inadequate referencing:</i>				<b>Date:</b>	5 Sept 2024

## 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 Wenjin Yao's Master Thesis is focused on the impact of EU eastern enlargement on FDI in CEE countries. The thesis is, from content point of view, equally distributed between theoretical and analytical part, however, the structure of the contents is little bit unintelligible. I always recommend the structure as follow – literature review, methodology and hypothesis, analytical part and proposes. In case of this thesis, it is not respect.

Thus, first chapter is devoted to introduction which is also little bit incorrect since introduction should not be numbered. Second chapter is focused on detailed literature review, which enables to understand and get to know basic overview about previous and current research of selected topic. I appreciate especially the wide range of literature author worked with. In the third chapter, author describes in detail an overview of inward of FDI in CEE countries. The set research questions and hypothesis are precise, but these should be part of following chapter. Fourth chapter defines the used methodology. Author has decided to use synthetic control method. In the following robustness, analyses author realises the regression analysis of the impact of FDI on the CEE countries. The regression analyses enables to research the relationship between the many different quantities in the specific period. Using of this methodology author has presented the ability of analytical work. Author works with relevant and actual data and compare them.

Overall, I rate it positively that author has provided deep and structural analysis and presented results in graphs. The strengths of the thesis is also wide range of literature used by author and its confrontation with analysed data. The thesis is readable. Author has proved ability to work with many different data from different sources. Using the specific method also helped the better understanding of the research. The only weaknesses, from a formal point of view, are mentioned above. Despite this fact, I can fully recommend the thesis for the defence with the final grade B.

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

- 1) Which countries have made the highest profit from FDI in CEE since the 2004 enlargement? Explain the answer.**
- 2) What are the main weaknesses for future income of FDI in CEE?**