

# 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>	Zhijing Huang
<b>Dissertation title:</b>	The impact of FDI inflows on CO <sub>2</sub> emissions in EU countries

	70+	69-65	64-60	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 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>UCL Mark:</b>	68	<b>Marker:</b>	Nauro F Campos
<i>Deducted for late submission:</i>				<b>Signed:</b>	
<i>Deducted for inadequate referencing:</i>				<b>Date:</b>	Sept 9 2024

## 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):**

This is a very good dissertation on the effects of inflows of foreign direct investment on CO2 emissions, both on the production and consumption side. The dissertation provides ample evidence of how a thoughtful and well-formulated research question can be combined with careful data work to produce some novel and very interesting results. The use of the interactions greatly strengthens the work, especially considering the thoughtful caveats presented around its use in this context. Knowledge and structure are very good. Overall presentation is good although many of the graphs could have been easier to read and more user-friendly. The weakest point of the dissertation, however, is parts of its econometric analysis which could have been tighter (e.g. by deepening a discussion of the economic, in addition to the statistical, importance of the estimated effects as well as providing a more critical comparison between these and those from the existing literature) and a bit deeper (e.g., about half of the econometric tables in the dissertation report only one regression). Overall, very good job!

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

How your results change if you use different variables to proxy for institutional quality?

How would adding the 1990-2000 period affect your main results (as this is where the rapid increase in FDI inflows is observed)?

