

1. Assessment of essays

Essays are assessed based on the following criteria:

- a) *Defining and limiting the assignment*: the choice of topic and approach, the setting of questions. 0–5
- b) *General academic writing*: structure, formulation, organising, linguistic form, referencing technique. 0–5
- c) *Familiarity with course material*: how well the student masters the course content and other material possibly related to set questions (according to teacher's instructions). 0–5
- d) *Argumentation and level of analysis*: how well the student utilises the things read, applies theories, justifies points of view, makes conclusions, and answers set questions. 0–5

In addition, the teacher can provide short oral feedback on the essay.

On assessment:

When comparing the requirement levels of basic, intermediate and advanced studies, one should remember that the requirements increase cumulatively: in advanced studies, students must demonstrate a more profound and extensive understanding of the subject matter than at earlier stages of their studies.

Grounds for a failing grade:

- Plagiarism or other academic fraud.
- The text is incoherent and disorganised.
- The text does not correspond to the given assignment.
- The text demonstrates very poor familiarity with course contents or materials.
- The text includes a large amount of statements based on common knowledge or attitudes.
- The text unnecessarily includes a large amount of direct quotations.

The criteria apply to the overall grade. The overall grade is not necessarily the arithmetic average of the grades given for the sub-areas.

Assessment of other written assignments:

All written assignments must comply with the general conventions of academic writing (see the guidelines/link for academic writing). More detailed assessment criteria will be provided on the courses.