

Marking Scale and Assessment Criteria

The marking scale given below operates in summatively assessed written work in undergraduate History.

Honours Class	Grade/ %	General Description		
I	(A) 70-100	General Description		
		<i>Excellent Answer</i>		
		Understanding	Clear grasp of the central historical issues with discriminating and independent insight	
		Selection and coverage	Wide range of historical sources used selectively to support argument	
		Structure	Coherent and compelling argument, well presented	
			86-100	exemplary work: striking insights, perhaps even of publishable quality at levels 1/2/3 (first-third year)
	76-85	outstanding work: very insightful		
	70-75	excellent work: clear evidence of freshness of insight		
II(i)	(B+) 60-69	General Description		
		<i>A coherent answer that demonstrates critical evaluation</i>		
		Understanding	Critical evaluation of wide range of pertinent historical issues with some independence of judgement	
		Selection and coverage	Reasonable grasp of the most relevant historical material	
		Structure	Well-organised argument	
			65-69	very good work: approaching excellence in some aspects
	60-65	good work: well developed, relevant argument		
II(ii)	(B-) 50-59	General Description		
		<i>A coherent answer that demonstrates basic understanding</i>		
		Understanding	Modest grasp of the issue, with basic awareness of historical complexities	
		Selection and coverage	Basic knowledge of the relevant historical material	
		Structure	Some competence in organizing an argument, with some evidence of critical evaluation	
			55-59	sound work: broadly satisfactory
	50-54	sound but limited work		
III	(C-D) 40-49	General Description		
		<i>A superficial answer that demonstrates limited knowledge</i>		
		Understanding	Limited grasp of the issue	
		Selection and coverage	Use of some relevant historical material, but with noticeable gaps	
		Structure	Some attempt to organize the content, but without much fluency	
			45-49	acceptable but significantly restricted work: basic understanding of some core issues
	40-44	acceptable but barely sufficient work: understands the minimum necessary to pass		
Fail	(E) 0-39	General Description		
		<i>A seriously inadequate answer</i>		
		Understanding	Serious misjudgement of the issue	
		Selection and coverage	Misses most or all of the appropriate historical arguments	
		Structure	Little serious attempt to organize the content	
			35-39	narrowly but clearly fails to be acceptable: fails to understand many of the issues
			30-34	unacceptable: some knowledge, but very weak grasp of issues
			20-29	unacceptable: very limited knowledge, with fundamental mistakes
	10-19	unacceptable: likely to be very brief and largely irrelevant		
	0-9	unacceptable: very brief, with no points of relevance.		

NOTE: The Department reserves the right to impose a penalty for late submission of assignments and/or plagiarism.