Project Thesis

Rationale: The project thesis is the major means of reporting the contribution of the project. The thesis should be such as to facilitate assessment by persons other than the supervisor, and should comprehensively include material on the problems and goals of the project, applicable methods, the approach taken, major decisions and the reasons for the selection of goals and methods, results, the extent to which the goals have been achieved, the relevance, importance and context of achievements, and the reasons for any shortcomings. Production of the thesis is regarded as part of the educational value of the project, and the supervisor should give guidance where appropriate.

Document Preparation and Delivery: All theses should be word processed and grammar and spelling should be correct throughout. Figures should be clearly and readily understood. There is no set length of the final thesis but the general expectation is that a thesis for a #4 project will be 50-60 pages in length, a #6 project thesis will be 60-70 pages in length and a #8 project thesis will be 70-80 pages in length. (Page counts are based on 1.5 spaced 12-point font and do not include front-matter or appendices.). Follow the preferred document standard and method of specifying references. Variations from this should be discussed with the thesis supervisor.

Refer to the ITEE website: http://www.itee.uq.edu.au/thesis/submission-information for guidelines on creating your thesis, the naming convention to follow and details on supplementary files to submit.

Your thesis and supplementary files need to be submitted electronically to the School by the due date, via the Turnitin link on the Blackboard site. The thesis is assessed by your supervisor and your assigned examiner against the thesis marking criteria. The mark of the supervisor and the examiner are weighted equally.

It is recommended that you produce a backup of your Thesis for future reference. As a minimum, it should contain all documents you have submitted (progress report, seminar presentation, poster, and thesis document), preferably in their native formats and PDF. You should also include papers and other sources found as part of your literature review, products produced for your thesis (code, schematics, etc.) and all electronic results you have gathered.

Details of assessment

Writing and presentation (10%): The writing should be accurate and coherent with an appropriate attention to detail. Overall, the document should exhibit a clear, logical structure and physical layout. The writing style should be appropriate for a scientific and technical document. The report needs to employ appropriate referencing to a correctly formatted bibliography. The work of others must be appropriately acknowledged. The presentation should be professional, without spelling mistakes or errors of grammar.

Thesis definition and scope (10%): A clear definition of a substantial and significant topic, problem and/or hypothesis and the thesis scope should leave the reader with no doubt about the scope, purpose, relevance, context and contribution of the thesis. The thesis definition and scope should relate to the literature and show the assumptions (or challenges to assumptions) that have been identified. The scope should require a substantial effort (see Approach and execution below). The abstract should accurately yet concisely capture the thesis topic, employed methods and thesis outcomes.

Background (20%): Background material for the thesis should likely include reviews, analyses, and discussions of the literature in the area of the thesis and about methods applicable to achieving the thesis goals. This background should not only help the reader understand the rest of the document but should illustrate to the reader a clear mastery of the material in the topic area and an ability to synthesize and abstract knowledge from other sources.

Approach and execution (45%): The thesis should clearly set out the approach of the thesis work as an outgrowth of the background research, including an evaluation of alternative approaches. The approach should clearly state the goals of applying methods, how it resolves the stated hypothesis and/or problems, and how the goals will be achieved in a systematic fashion. The approach should show innovation and creativity. The execution of the approach should demonstrate systematic problem solving with balanced theory and practical considerations. You should further demonstrate the ability to respond appropriately to problems that arise during the course of the project. The documentation should highlight your ability to use your knowledge in different contexts, and your ability to acquire and generate new knowledge. The project results are complete and comprehensively presented and analysed. *In general, the execution of the project (as reported in the thesis) should give justice to a substantial work effort*.

Conclusion (15%): The results from the work should be analysed in a fashion that highlights your comprehension and shows insight into the significance of the results. The thesis should have a critical review of your performance against the stated plan, including the stated goals and schedule. The thesis should conclude with a clear concise summary of the outcomes of the thesis (relating to your initial definitions and put in context of the literature) and recommendations of how the work might be continued or improved.

Student Name:		Student Number:		Supervisor/examiner:	
Grade Band	**Writing and presentation (10%)**		**Thesis definition and scope (10%)**		**Background (20%)**
Excellent (85-100%)	Excellent logical structure, physical layout, and appropriate attention to detail. The work is presented in an accurate, concise, and coherent fashion. Scientific and technical style. No spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Appropriate referencing to a correctly formatted bibliography. Appropriately acknowledges the work of others.	10 / 9	Excellent, clear definition of a substantial and significant thesis topic, problem and/or hypothesis (including statement of purpose and relevance) and scope (including context, boundaries, and assumptions). The abstract accurately yet concisely captures the thesis topic, methods, and outcomes.	10 / 9	Extensive, relevant and logically organised review, analysis, discussion of background material, both specific research and general theory, helps the reader understand the rest of the document, and demonstrates clear mastery of the material in the topic area and ability to synthesize and abstract knowledge. — 20 / 19 / 18
Very Good (75-84%)	Very good logical structure, physical layout and attention to detail. The work is presented in an accurate and coherent fashion. Scientific and technical style. No spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Appropriate referencing to a correctly formatted bibliography. Appropriately acknowledges the work of others.	8	Very good definition of thesis topic, problem and/or hypothesis (including statement of purpose and relevance) and scope (including context, boundaries and assumptions). The abstract accurately captures the thesis topic, methods and outcomes.	8	Relevant and logically organised review, analysis, discussion of background material, both specific research and general theory, helps the reader understand the rest of the document, and demonstrates mastery of the material in the topic area and ability to synthesize and abstract knowledge. — 17 / 16
Good (65-74%)	Good structure, physical layout. Some minor inaccuracies in presentation of work. Neat, occasional spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Occasional errors in referencing. Appropriately acknowledges the work of others.	7	Good definition of thesis topic, problem and/or hypothesis (including statement of purpose) and scope (including assumptions). The abstract captures the thesis topic and outcomes.	7	Good review/discussion of background material, with both specific research and general theory, and shows good understanding of the material in the topic area and ability to synthesize and abstract knowledge. — 15 / 14
Satisfactory (50-64%)	Acceptable structure and physical layout; Some inaccuracies or lack of detail in presentation of work. Neat, some spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Some errors in referencing or bibliography formatting. Appropriately acknowledges the work of others.	6 / 5	Satisfactory definition of thesis topic, problem and/or hypothesis and scope. The abstract satisfactorily captures the thesis topic and outcomes	6 / 5	Acceptable coverage of background material, with both specific research and general theory, and shows basic understanding of the material in the topic area. — 13 / 12 / 10
Poor (25-49%)	Structure and physical layout detract, many inaccuracies or considerable lack of detail in presentation of work. Numerous spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Several errors in referencing or bibliography formatting. Occasional failures to appropriately acknowledge the work of others.	4 / 3	Poor or incomplete definition of thesis topic and scope. The abstract is not clear about the thesis topic and its outcomes.	4 / 3	A limited coverage of background material, which perhaps does not cover both specific research and general theory. Flaws in the basic understanding of the material in the topic area are evident. — 9 / 8 / 7 / 6
Very Poor (0-24%)	Structure and physical layout very poor; presentation of work is inaccurate and incomplete. Numerous spelling mistakes or grammar errors. Several errors in referencing or bibliography formatting. Many failures to appropriately acknowledge the work of others	2 / 0	Thesis topic and scope are very unclear. The abstract does not summarise the thesis topic and its outcomes. External work heavily used without academic merit.	2 / 0	An extremely limited coverage of background material. A lack of understanding of the material in the topic area is clear. External work heavily used without academic merit. — 5 / 3 / 0
Comments:					

This mark sheet is for School of ITEE thesis project courses commencing after 1 January 2021. **Supervisors and Examiners:** please enter the mark into the ITEE Project Database and return feedback to students.

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Student Name:		Student Number:		Supervisor/examiner:	

Grade Band	Approach and execution (45%)		Conclusion (15%)	
Excellent (85-100%)	A clearly set out plan with goals and methods systematically follows from the background research. The approach highlights your creativity and innovation and includes an evaluation of alternative approaches. The execution indicates a substantial work effort and shows the application of knowledge gained from background research. The project results are complete and comprehensively presented and analysed.	45 42 39	The analysis of the work conducted highlights your comprehension and shows insight into the significance of the results. The thesis has a critical review of your performance against the stated plan. The thesis concludes with a clear concise summary of the outcomes – in context of specified thesis definitions and literature – and brings recommendations for continuation and improvement of the work.	15 14 13
Very Good (75-84%)	A clearly set out plan with goals and methods systematically follows from the background research. The approach shows innovation and includes an evaluation of alternative approaches. The actual execution of work shows the application of knowledge gained from background research and indicates a very good effort. The project results are complete and comprehensively presented and analysed.	38 36 34	The analysis of the work conducted shows comprehension and some insight into the significance of the results. The thesis has a critical review of your performance against the stated plan. The thesis concludes with a clear summary of the outcomes – in context of specified thesis definitions and literature – and brings recommendations for continuation and improvement of the work.	12
Good (65-74%)	Good structure, physical layout. Some inaccuracies in presentation of work. A plan of work follows from the background research. The approach is systematic and includes some consideration of alternative approaches. The execution of work shows the application of knowledge gained from background research and a good effort. The project results are mostly complete, well presented and analysed.	33 30	The analysis of the work conducted shows comprehension of the work but limited insight into the significance of results. The thesis has a critical review of your performance. The thesis concludes with a summary of the outcomes and brings recommendations for continuation of the work	11 10
Satisfactory (50-64%)	A satisfactory plan of work is offered. The approach is reasonably systematic. The actual execution of work shows reasonable understanding via some application of prior knowledge and some background research, it also shows satisfactory effort in the project. The project results are complete in the larger part, sufficiently presented and analysed.	29 26 23	The analysis of the work conducted demonstrates some comprehension. The thesis has a critical review of your performance. The thesis concludes with a summary of outcomes.	9 8
Poor (25-49%)	The plan of work offered is incomplete or unclear. The approach is not well considered and does not logically flow from the background research presented. The actual execution of work shows flawed understanding and little application of the either background research or prior knowledge, its fails to show satisfactory effort in project. Project results poor, and/or poorly presented.	22 17 12	The analysis of the work conducted demonstrates limited comprehension. The thesis concludes with a poor summary of outcomes	7 6 5 4
Very Poor (0-24%)	The plan of work, if offered, is not sensible. The approach is haphazard and has no logical basis. The actual execution of work shows very little understanding or application of the either background research or prior knowledge. Project results not on the level for undergraduate thesis work. External work heavily used without academic merit.	11 5 0	There is a very poor review of the work and no real comprehension demonstrated. The thesis concludes fails to explain what was achieved.	3 2 0
Final Mark: **/100**	**Comments:**			
	Supervisor/Examiner signature:		**Date:**	
Justification for a mark of 85 or higher:				