UCL Computer Science PG Project Marking Guidelines (2020-21)



Marking Descriptors (underline those that apply, the majority should be in the range corresponding to the overall mark):

Range	Descriptor	Expectations
90-100% Exceptional (Distinction)	 A clear contribution to the field, of publishable quality, excellent report Evidence of considerable extra-curricular reading, critical thought and original interpretation Challenging goals have been fully met, substantial deliverables, research level insight needed Close to faultless in execution and write-up, a high level of independence 	This represents a really outstanding achievement. The project needs to clearly stand out above others. A mark in this range is hard to achieve and rare (< 1%).
80-89% Outstanding (Distinction)	 Potential contribution to the field, could lead on to publishable work, very good report Evidence of significant extra-curricular academic, critical thought and original interpretation Goals met, only very minor faults in execution, depth of understanding or write-up Challenging project and substantial deliverables, largely self-directed 	Excellent in most respects but doesn't fully meet the criteria for the top range. A small number of projects are in this range each year (2-3%).
70-79% Excellent (Distinction)	 Very well written report with a clear logical structure Good demonstration of critical thought, understanding and extracurricular reading Some minor faults in execution or understanding, otherwise carried out effectively, most or all goals fully achieved A good level of challenge, substantial deliverables, and a good level of self-direction 	This represents a straightforward distinction project. Most things have been done well, but there will be some faults or criticisms. The goals have been met. A reasonable number of projects can be expected to achieve this level (~20%).
60-69% Good (Merit)	 Clear project write-up with logical structure Evidence of understanding, some extra-curricular reading, and critical thought May contain some ambiguities or faults, not all goals fully achieved Reasonable level of challenge, good quality deliverables, satisfactory selfmanagement, with some supervision help needed 	A good result that is well on the way to delivering most features, but is not fully complete or finished, or has a lower level of challenge. The majority of projects are likely to be at this level.
50-59% Satisfactory (Pass)	 Adequate project write-up, lacking clarity or detail in places, or containing irrelevant material Limited evidence of extra-curricular reading or original thought, mostly demonstrates understanding of core issues Some significant deficiencies or incomplete goals, deliverables adequate but of limited quality Project not particularly ambitious or challenging, more significant supervision help required 	A satisfactory but limited result. The core features are in place but may be buggy or not that well defined. Enough has been done to present a viable solution, of which at least some parts can be demonstrated. A minority of projects in this range.
45-49% Borderline fail (Could pass with extra work)	 Write-up is sub-standard, with noticeable errors or ommisions, but could be made passable within a reasonable time Some clear flaws in understanding, limited or no extra-curricular reading Actual achievements not very substantial or challenging, deliverables of lower quality or incomplete, but could be improved fairly easily Not quite enough challenge or depth demonstrated, required significant extra supervision or there was a failure to attend tutorials 	The project has enough substance to demonstrate it could be made into a pass in a relatively short length of time but is still missing significant features, or the write-up fails to describe what was actually achieved.
0-44% Unsatisfactory (Clear fail)	 Write-up is insubstantial, incoherent, rushed, has important omissions, or irrelevant material Serious flaws in understanding, little or no extra-curricular reading A lack of concrete achievements, substantial parts missing, few deliverables Serious lack of challenge or depth demonstrated, lack of engagement, required excessive supervision or there was a failure to attend tutorials 	The basis of a viable project may be present but is a long way from being completed. A significant amount of additional work would be needed to reach a passable standard.

Project Classification: 0-49% (Fail); 50-59% (Pass); 60-69% (Merit); 70-100% (Distinction)