

Information Systems Research Project (157.799) Assessment Report

Thank you for agreeing to provide an assessment report on the attached research report. This report will be provided to the candidate. At the end, you will be given the option of requesting that your name be withheld from the candidate.

Please complete this report (make substantial comments in each of the sections on the following pages) and return to Dennis Viehland by no later than midday, 20 November 2007.

The following criteria should be considered in your examination of this report. A more detailed list of marking criteria is available on the Research Evaluation Checklist, available from Dennis Viehland or the 157.799 Web site (Google "157.799").

- The report should clearly explain the purpose of the study and associated research questions or hypotheses. Those questions should have considerable relevance for IS research or practice.
- The report should demonstrate a comprehensive understanding of the literature and, if appropriate, relevant theory.
- The report should employ an appropriate methodology that is rigorously conducted to answer the research questions.
- The report should include a clear explanation of the findings and thoughtful and critical analysis of the results.
- The report should provide conclusions that are insightful and well justified, with appropriate limitations of the study and suggestions for further research.
- The report should demonstrate masterful command of the written language and meet the highest level of professional presentation.
- The report should be of sufficient size and substantial scope to reflect 25 points of credit (i.e., 325 hours of work).

A-level work: To achieve an A grade the final project report must meet all of the criteria listed above. If the report exceeds expectations in one or more areas, then an A+ should be considered. "A" means excellence, not just achieve.

B-level work: Generally, competent research that employs a sound methodology and analysis of the results to answer clearly stated research questions. The study has no major flaw, but it has problems in two or more of the criteria specified above.

C-level work: Generally, barely adequate coverage of the literature, an acceptable methodology that was flawed in execution and/or a straightforward discussion of the issues without displaying much insight or originality. The study has at least one major flaw and fails to meet a number of the criteria specified above.

D-level work: There are major problems in the execution and presentation of the project. Generally, the result is a superficial report that shows a general lack of understanding or application of appropriate research methods.

This report follows the "Guidelines for the Examination of Research Reports and Theses" issued by the College of Sciences' Office of Postgraduate Studies. Examiners should not be constrained by these guidelines and should feel free to make any constructive, pertinent remarks about the research report which they consider would be helpful to the student.

Name of candidate: _____

Submission date: 14 November 2007

Title of research report: _____

Clarity of purpose:

Comment on the clarity of the research report objectives and aims and how well these are achieved.

Context for research:

Comment on the student's knowledge of the literature in the field of study and other relevant information.

Appropriate methods:

Comment on the appropriateness of the methodology to the research project and the competence with which it is used.

Analysis and reflective critique:

Comment on the effectiveness of the outline, discussion and evaluation/analysis of the data/results. Comment on the student's ability to identify and articulate conclusions from the results.

Successful outcomes:

Comment on how successful the student has been in the design and execution of the project and any particular strengths and weaknesses. Provide an opinion on the extent to which the work embodied in the research report/thesis represents new knowledge or material.

Effective presentation:

Comment on the suitability of style, clarity and effectiveness of the presentation.

Overall evaluation:

Evaluate the overall quality and scope of the work presented and make any additional comments you consider would be helpful to the student.

Recommendation:

That the research report be *accepted* and *awarded a grade of* _____.

(A+, A, A-, B+, B, B-, C+, C, R)

That the research report be *failed* and *awarded a grade of* _____ (D, E).

Supervisor/Examiner's name: _____

Signature: _____ Date: _____

I do not wish my name to appear on the copy of this report provided to the candidate.