



GÖTEBORGS UNIVERSITET

Faculty of Science

RULES

Ref.nr. A 2 2460/10

Rules for grading of independent projects (degree projects, degree courses) at the Faculty of Science

Decision maker	The Board of the Faculty of Science
Contact person	Faculty Subjects Coordinator Marie Strandevall
Date of decision	1 June 2010
Period of validity	Until further notice

In the event of problems of interpretation or differences between the Swedish and English text, the Swedish text, which constitutes the basis of the information, shall always take precedence.

Summary

Rules for grading of independent projects (degree projects, degree courses) at the Faculty of Science, the University of Gothenburg

Degree projects shall be graded by the appointed examiner following consultation with the supervisor. The examiner and the supervisor may not be the same person.

Generally, independent projects are graded using the following three-level scale:

- Fail (U)
- Pass (G)
- Pass with Distinction (VG)

Assessment criteria

When assessing degree projects, the examiner must base his/her decisions on the following five assessment criteria.

- 1. Understanding**
- 2. Implementation**
- 3. Results, analysis and interpretation**
- 4. Oral presentation and communication**
- 5. Written presentation**

When assessing student performance with respect to several of these criteria, the examiner shall consider the student's ability to independently facilitate progress of the project within the given framework and to adhere to the established time plan.

The examiner shall grade the degree project using the following scale:

- 0 - Nonexistent
- 1 - Unsatisfactory
- 2 - Sufficient
- 3 - Good
- 4 - Excellent

The final grade shall reflect all five assessment criteria; it is however possible to assign the criteria different weights. In order to assign a passing grade, the student's achievements with respect to each of the five assessment criteria must be assessed to be at least Sufficient (2). In order to make the assessment criteria match the goals and objectives specified in each particular course syllabus, the assessment criteria may be divided into several subcategories.

Any additional criteria and weighting must be documented and made accessible to students at the beginning of a course.

As a general rule, the same criteria shall be applicable to all degree courses at the first- and second-cycle levels. It is the responsibility of the examiner to adjust the requirements for each grade to the entry requirements for and content of the course in question.

Explanation of the assessment criteria

1. Understanding

The student shall demonstrate an understanding of the task at hand. This requires thorough familiarity with the subject area, with the theoretical background as well as with the scientific context and purpose of the task.

2. Implementation

The student shall demonstrate an ability to plan and implement the task at hand (the experiments/the fieldwork/the theoretical task). The ability to act independently, to take own initiatives and to adhere to a time plan shall be included in the assessment.

3. Results, analysis and interpretation

The student shall process and analyse the achieved results (theoretical or practical) using methods deemed adequate within the subject area. The student shall, using available literature, be able to consider the results in a larger context. The ability to act independently and to take own initiatives shall be included in the assessment. The quality of the results *per se* must not affect the grading, unless the quality can be linked to the implementation.

4. Oral presentation and communication

The student shall adapt his/her oral presentation to suit the target group in order to develop interest in the problem formulation. The presentation shall be clearly structured and may not contain factual errors, and any pictorial material shall be legible and tailored to the presentation. The student shall also complete the presentation within the allotted timeframe. The student shall establish and maintain close contact with the audience, and shall be able to answer questions and discuss the results.

The student's ability to orally convey his/her results etc. during the course of the work and to utilise a scholarly mode of expression should also be included in this criterion. This includes potential discussions and examinations of other students' work.

5. Written presentation

The student's written report shall be fully in line with established practice in the particular scientific field. In each subject area, the students must be given access to detailed guidelines regarding the design of the paper. Regardless of subject area, the presentation must be linguistically correct, well articulated, clear and logically presented as well as easy to read and written in a way that attracts the reader's interest. The conclusions made shall be well founded and clearly related to the results. Relevant literature shall be objectively referenced, and all references and the list of references shall be properly designed.

Assessment report for independent project in SUBJECT

Course: XXX000 Higher education credits:

Semester: Year:

Name:

Project title:

Supervisor:

Criteriaⁱ

Assessment
(0-4 points)

Understanding

Implementation

Results, analysis and interpretation

Oral presentation and communication

Written presentation

Total

*0-X p = U; X-Y p = G; Y-Z p = VG*ⁱⁱ

Overall grade:

Date

Examiner

Criteria

ⁱ To be adjusted locally according to potential weighting, which for example may imply one or several sub-criteria under each main criterion.

Grade intervals

ⁱⁱ The total grade value depends on the relative weights of the different parts, yet the total value as well as the intervals of the individual grades must always be made clear. A grade of VG requires at least 85 % of the maximum total value. A grade of G requires at least a value of 2 for each criterion.