

ACS Essay Overall Mark Guidelines

| | |
|---------|--|
| 90-100% | Significant contribution to field Evidence of considerable extra-curricular reading and original interpretation Challenging goals, and substantial deliverables, without much help from supervisor Close to faultless in execution and write-up |
| 80-89% | Contribution to field Evidence of extra-curricular academic reading, critical thought and original interpretation Only very minor faults in execution, depth of understanding or write-up Challenging project/essay subject and substantial deliverables |
| 75-79% | Very well written report with logical structure Demonstration of critical thought, understanding and extra-curricular reading Some minor faults in execution or understanding Substantial deliverables/findings |
| 70-74% | Clearly written with a logical structure Evidence of understanding, and at least some evidence of extra-reading and critical thought May contain some ambiguities or faults Achievement not substantial enough to warrant top mark, but execution basically good |
| 60-69% | Adequately written, but lacking clarity or detail in places, or containing irrelevant material Mostly demonstrates understanding, but with occasional mistakes of judgment Project/essay subject not particularly ambitious, or not entirely completed Little evidence of extracurricular reading or original thought |
| 50-59% | Write up is somewhat incoherent, rushed, contains important omissions, or irrelevant material Some serious flaws in understanding Actual achievements not very substantial Very little evidence of much extra-curricular reading or original thought |
| 40-49% | Topic has not been handled at all well Write up is poor, unstructured, some parts missing. Concrete achievements very few, project goals not achieved Little evidence of understanding, many inconsistencies and flaws |
| 30-39% | All aspects of the essay have been handled badly Write up is substantially absent, incomprehensible or wrong Actual achievements may be very few or not apparent. Little evidence of understanding, but at least mention of most of the relevant ideas. |
| 20-29% | Almost total failure to engage with essay subject Write up substantially absent, incomprehensible or wrong No concrete achievements apparent Some mention of relevant terms, many relevant facts entirely missing |
| 0-19% | No evidence of any understanding Mention of some relevant terms Marks given for presentation of report Complete ignorance |