

# Marking Criteria for SCSE, RRSM and JLR TAS

## Masters level assessments

The following general criteria will be applied to the marking of **ALL** assessments for modules taught by the University of York on the Safety Critical Systems (SCSE), Railway Risk and Safety Management (RRSM) and Jaguar Land Rover Technical Accreditation Scheme (JLR TAS) programmes.

These criteria are a refinement of the Department of Computer Science's general criteria for postgraduate level assessments (<whatever> Appendix D) specific to these programmes.

Students taking assessments on these programmes should also familiarise themselves with the <link>Assessment Guidance Notes</link>, which provide practical help on how to approach these assessments.

### **Pass (Mark Range: 50-59)**

- Answers to exam questions, both oral and written, show a confident grasp of the main topics studied in the programme. Explanations are generally clear and accurate and sufficient to convey the candidate's understanding.
- Work submitted for open assessments demonstrates a good grasp of the most relevant concepts and techniques. Work such as the application of analysis methods shows good understanding of principles and an ability to apply the methods correctly and appropriately. Course reference material is used and cited appropriately.
- The project report provides evidence of successful independent study. It draws appropriately on the work of others, reports clearly the methods used and results obtained, and reaches sound conclusions.

### **Merit (Mark Range: 60–69)**

NB: The Merit classification is not used in the award of degrees; an overall mark at this level would be awarded a Pass degree. However, the classification may be used in qualitative feedback provided to students on individual assessments in order to provide a clearer indication of the standard achieved.

- Answers to exam questions, both oral and written, show a sound appreciation of methods and underlying principles across all areas of the programme. Explanations provide a clear, compelling and well structured demonstration of the candidate's ability.
- Work submitted for open assessments demonstrates an advanced understanding of concepts and techniques. Analysis and similar work demonstrates insight as well as accurate application of methods. The use of literature, including material beyond the course reading list, develops and supports the candidate's answers.
- The project report gives evidence of productive independent study, presenting a coherent explanation of the programme undertaken and an honest evaluation of results obtained against research objectives. Literature is cited accurately in a well-focused, structured and critical discussion.

**Distinction (Mark range: 70+)**

- Answers to exam questions, both oral and written, are fluent and convincing. They show an ability to move between high-level ideas and low-level details, and to develop subtle points.
- Work submitted for open assessments demonstrates mature insight into programme subjects. Answers demonstrate expert level capability in selecting sources, drawing inferences, identifying flaws in published work, and developing new themes. Work builds intelligently on literature beyond the course reading list, perhaps including literature from other disciplines.
- In the project report, references to texts are carefully integrated into a cogent argument, quotations are judiciously cited, and bibliographies are comprehensive. The dissertation shows strong independence of thought, an ability to work at the frontiers of research, and a mature appreciation of the significance and limitations of results obtained.