



**University of St Mark & St John Generic Grade Descriptors**

***Undergraduate Provision***

<b>LEVELS 4, 5 and 6 (C, D and H)</b>	
<p><i>Pass</i> 90–100% <i>Outstanding work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates analytical and critical acumen</li> <li>• demonstrates the ability to develop and sustain a personal judgement which is well grounded in leading current research</li> <li>• demonstrates the ability to present a clear, structured, articulate and persuasive argument</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass</i> 80–89% <i>Exceptional work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates thorough, critical understanding of current knowledge</li> <li>• demonstrates a critical awareness of the principles and practices of the discipline</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass</i> 70–79% <i>Excellent work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates a thorough and comprehensive understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• shows evidence of extensive, relevant reading which includes up-to-date research</li> <li>• reveals originality and insight</li> <li>• demonstrates ability to critically evaluate complex ideas</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass</i> 60–69% <i>Very good work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates a sound understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• shows effective and competent use of literature</li> <li>• demonstrates a clear understanding of complex ideas</li> <li>• demonstrates the ability to analyse, interpret and organise information effectively</li> <li>• demonstrates a wide reading base</li> <li>• is a clear, concise and well-structured presentation</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass</i> 50–59% <i>Good work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates a generally sound understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• makes good use of relevant literature</li> <li>• demonstrates ability to synthesis information into a clear, well-structured account / argument</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass</i> 40–49% <i>Fair work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates an understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• shows evidence of relevant reading</li> <li>• demonstrates ability to work towards tasks set, but more descriptive than analytical</li> <li>• demonstrates the ability to organise work appropriately</li> </ul>

<p><i>Borderline fail</i> 35-39% <i>Weak work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates a basic understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• demonstrates some evidence of reading</li> <li>• demonstrates evidence of broadly working towards the task(s) set <i>Weaknesses may be identified in one or more of the following: - fragmentary coverage; errors and omissions; organisation and presentation; misconceptions; inclusion of irrelevant information; misinterpretation of instructions.</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 30-34% <i>Inadequate work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates a basic and partial understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• some evidence of reading</li> <li>• limited focus on task(s) set <i>Inadequacies may be identified in one or more of the following: - assessment guidelines not followed; little engagement with the discipline; errors / omissions; poorly presented work.</i></li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 20-29% <i>Poor work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates little understanding of the discipline <i>Poor work may be evidenced by one or more of the following: - basic misunderstanding or misinterpretations; inability to meet the requirements of the assessment; poor organisation and presentation; inclusion of inappropriate material.</i></li> </ul>

### **Postgraduate Provision**

<b>LEVEL 7 (M)</b>	
<p><i>Pass with Distinction</i> 90-100% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• outstanding work which is thought provoking, presenting challenging evidence-based insights and proposals</li> <li>• work which is of publishable quality</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass with Distinction</i> 80-89% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• contributes to the knowledge base of the discipline</li> <li>• effectively challenges theoretical frameworks</li> <li>• displays methodological rigor</li> <li>• demonstrates qualities consistent with publishable material</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass with Distinction</i> 70-79% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates confident, detailed and informed knowledge of the discipline</li> <li>• demonstrates qualities of self-critical, independent learning</li> <li>• displays a confident / competent grasp of complex issues</li> <li>• displays evidence of originality and innovation</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass with Merit</i> 60-69% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates secure and relevant knowledge base</li> <li>• is analytical in style and critical in interpretation</li> <li>• demonstrates a fluent style and use of appropriate language</li> </ul>
<p><i>Pass</i> 50-59% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates a competent understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• reveals knowledge and understanding of key issues</li> <li>• addresses issues within a structured framework</li> <li>• demonstrates analytical and critical acumen</li> <li>• is well organized and presented</li> </ul>

<p><i>Condonable Fail</i> 40-49 <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• displays relevant knowledge of the discipline</li> <li>• reveals some evidence of a systematic, coherent and analytical engagement with the discipline</li> <li>• is generally competent but may be conceptually weak</li> <li>• contains irrelevant materials</li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 30-39% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• demonstrates limited understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• reveals weaknesses / flaws in argument</li> <li>• uses an insufficient range of sources</li> <li>• has a poor style / structure</li> <li>• is partially incomplete</li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 20-29% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• displays insufficient engagement with or lack of understanding of the discipline</li> <li>• shows limitations in the ability to formulate / sustain a clear argument</li> <li>• does not meet the expectations of the task set</li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 10-19% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• has serious errors and / or major omissions</li> <li>• is poorly communicated / presented</li> <li>• is incomplete / does not focus on the task set</li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 1-9% <i>Work which: -</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• unacceptable work which lacks evidence of understanding the discipline</li> <li>• includes inappropriate / irrelevant information</li> <li>• lacks any evidence of an appropriate reading base</li> <li>• marginal or no engagement with the task</li> </ul>
<p><i>Fail</i> 0% <i>Non-submission</i></p>	