

## SECINTEL Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

<b>Student Matriculation No.</b>	Glasgow 2277067	Charles 99933970
<b>Dissertation Title</b>	Framing Terrorism and the Consequences of it in Counterterrorist Policy: Spain as a Case Study	

### INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

<b>Glasgow Marker</b> <i>Office Use</i>	<b>Charles Marker</b> <i>Office Use</i>	<b>Charles Additional Info</b> <i>Please advise ranking</i>
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### JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

**Final Agreed Mark. Markers should make reference to the Joint Charles University-University of Glasgow Grade Conversion Table**

A4 [19]     A [Excellent]

### DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	Rating
<b>A. Structure and Development of Answer</b>	
This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• <i>Originality of topic</i>	Excellent
• <i>Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified</i>	Very Good
• <i>Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work</i>	Excellent
• <i>Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions</i>	Excellent
• <i>Application of theory and/or concepts</i>	Very Good
<b>B. Use of Source Material</b>	
This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• <i>Evidence of reading and review of published literature</i>	Excellent
• <i>Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument</i>	Excellent
• <i>Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence</i>	Excellent
• <i>Accuracy of factual data</i>	Excellent
<b>C. Academic Style</b>	
This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• <i>Appropriate formal and clear writing style</i>	Excellent
• <i>Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation</i>	Excellent
• <i>Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)</i>	Excellent
• <i>Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?</i>	Yes
• <i>Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology)</i>	Not Required
• <i>Appropriate word count</i>	Yes

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### ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

**Glasgow Marker**

This is an excellent dissertation, exploring the political frames on terrorism in Spain, over time and by different political actors, as well as their implications for policy. The dissertation's design allow it to engage with a number of important theoretical debates and literatures, including on the nature (conceptual ambiguities), proclaimed evolution (new vs old), and appropriate theoretical lenses to study it (orthodox vs critical terrorism studies). Spain provides a fitting empirical testing ground, with ETA representing an example of 'old terrorism'; and ISIS of 'new terrorism'. Three case-studies of terrorist attacks are analysed, utilising Critical Discourse Analysis (CDA), which is appropriate for this study, given its pre-occupation with comparing political frames promoted by government and opposition. The greatest novelty in the thesis is exactly this, the synthesis between traditional debates in the terrorism literature with the framing literature. which demonstrates that language set parameters on how issues are responded to. The empirical findings are intuitive (and therefore not surprising) but they are summarised well in the conclusion, which also engages with their broader implications emerging from the Spanish case. The dissertation could be even stronger if there was further development of that theoretical synthesis (e.g. securitisation theory could be applied more systematically (e.g. role of securitising actors; facilitating actors / media; audience etc). Overall the first two research questions on the framing of terrorism (which really is the same question, worded in different ways) are answered well, arguably better than the third question on the policy effects of these frames, which is more speculative (link between discourse and policy outcomes opens up huge debates which are possibly beyond the scope of the dissertation). Overall, this is an excellent effort, very rich in content, well organised and presented, and with a convincing and coherent narrative which makes contributions to knowledge.

**Charles Marker**

This is an interesting thesis that explores the changing nature of Spanish political language on terrorism in connection with different terrorist attacks. The thesis is original, well written and logically built and structured.

The thesis draws on securitization theory, framing theory, critical terrorism studies, and critical discourse analysis. The mix of theoretical approaches is well chosen and the author works with these perspectives well, showing their knowledge and understanding.

The research design is developed well too. The empirical analysis is very well structured, easy to follow and based on an original set of collected data. What could have perhaps been explained more in depth is the methodological choice not to include media and only focus on the most formalized type of political speeches of the key political leaders. Their variety is appreciated and allows for broader understanding of the political discourse in Spain, but the genre to which the analysis is oriented would perhaps need more reflection - i.e. explaining what we gain from narrowing down the analysis only to formalized elite discourse and what is then lost from this .

In sum, though, the thesis works very well, the findings are new and interesting and the conclusion is sound, even though it could have communicated more with the theory and more general knowledge on terrorism.

### Charles University > University of Glasgow Grade Conversion

CU General Grade	Grade Specification for Conversion	Percentage	UoG equivalent
A - excellent	Excellent upper (1)	100 – 96	22 (A1) Excellent

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	Excellent lower (2)	95 - 91	19 (A4) Excellent
<b>B – very good</b>	Very good upper (1)	90 - 86	17 (B1) Very Good
	Very good lower (2)	85 – 81	16 (B2) Very Good
<b>C - good</b>	Good upper (1)	80 – 76	15 (B3) Very Good
	Good lower (2)	75 – 71	14 (C1) Good
<b>D - satisfactory</b>	Satisfactory upper (1)	70 – 66	13 (C2) Good
	Satisfactory lower (2)	65 – 61	12 (C3) Good
<b>E - sufficient</b>	Sufficient upper (1)	60 - 56	11 (D1) Satisfactory
	Sufficient lower (2)	55 – 51	9 (D3) Satisfactory
<b>F - fail</b>		50 – 0	8 (E1) Weak

#### University of Glasgow > Charles University Grade Conversion

UofG General Grade	Grade Specification for Conversion	Percentage	CU equivalent
<b>A1-A3</b>	Excellent upper (1)	100 – 96	A - Excellent
<b>A4-A5</b>	Excellent lower (2)	95 - 91	A - Excellent
<b>B1</b>	Very good upper (1)	90 - 86	B – Very Good
<b>B2</b>	Very good lower (2)	85 – 81	B – Very Good
<b>B3</b>	Good upper (1)	80 – 76	C - Good
<b>C1</b>	Good lower (2)	75 – 71	C - Good
<b>C2</b>	Satisfactory upper (1)	70 – 66	D - Satisfactory
<b>C3</b>	Satisfactory lower (2)	65 – 61	D - Satisfactory
<b>D1</b>	Sufficient upper (1)	60 - 56	E - Sufficient
<b>D2-D3</b>	Sufficient lower (2)	55 – 51	E - Sufficient
<b>E1-H</b>		50 – 0	F - Fail

## SECINTEL Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

**Notes for Markers:** When grading the SECINTEL Dissertation markers are asked to reflect upon the aims and learning outcomes for the dissertation. Each dissertation should also adopt a clear security focus reflecting the relevant programme pathway

**Aims:** The course aims to provide students with independent research opportunities. It will include engagement with research methods training leading up to a period of independent research and the production of a substantial dissertation that builds upon themes and issues covered within the MSc International Security, Intelligence and Strategic Studies. Students will be encouraged to develop their own ideas and demonstrate their capacity for original thought and independent research. The dissertation element aims to enable students to identify and research particular issues or problems, linked to security, intelligence and strategy, at a deeper level than is possible within assessed essays and to develop a critical analysis of the existing body of academic work relating to their topic of choice. Students taking this course will be prepared for further research, study or professional careers through the development of their skills in data collection and analysis, use of original and secondary sources and the conducting and writing up of a detailed research project.

**Intended Learning outcomes:** By the end of the dissertation, students will be able to:

- > Devise a realistic programme of research on a topic reflecting the main themes of the programme;
- > Collect, select and critically analyse relevant background literature and arguments of a range of scholars;
- > Understand and select the appropriate methodology for dealing with information sources and data;
- > Apply these methods to gather and interrogate data in an open-minded, rigorous and undogmatic manner;
- > Be able to critically evaluate competing theories and apply relevant theoretical frameworks to guide the study
- > Organise the data collected and analyse the findings in a competent manner that allows for a fluid and logical argument to be presented;
- > Be reflexive and self-critical about findings and the limitations of analysis;
- > Work independently, organising and maintaining own programme of study to meet academic deadlines so as to produce work containing a substantial element of originality.

### **Word Count:**

Dissertations should be 20,000 words in length for students undertaking work-placement as part of the independent study portfolio and 22,000 words in length for standard dissertation students. Word counts exclude the title page, abstract, contents, bibliography and appendices). There is a 10% leeway for words above the upper limit, but no leeway for dissertation that fall under the word requirement. All dissertations must display an accurate word-count including the citations, footnotes/endnotes and chapter/section titles. One point (on the Glasgow 22-point scale) will be deducted for each 750 words under the minimum or over the 10% upper limit.

### **Language:**

The dissertation **must** be written in British English. A Czech Language cover page / abstract may be included

### **Late Submission Penalty:**

Dissertations that do not have an extension or are submitted after an extension deadline are subject to a penalty of 2 secondary bands per day (this includes weekends and holidays) on the Glasgow grading Scale.

### **Plagiarism:**

Dissertations which suffer from excessive (e.g. serious and/or deliberate) plagiarism will be subject to a grade of 0/Fail and be referred to the appropriate authorities at both universities. Dissertations that contain some elements of plagiarism, but which are deemed not to be excessive (e.g. minor instances that are not considered deliberate) based on consultation of both internal markers, should be graded accordingly and will be subject to scrutiny from the external examiner and could still result in a mark of 0 as well as referral to appropriate authorities for disciplinary action.

### **Consultation prior to final grading:**

First marking by both institutions should be completed blind with no prior consultation. Once both markers have graded the dissertation and provided written comments, they should consult on the grading and come to a joint final grade, taking into consideration any late submission or excessive word count penalty. It is the responsibility of the Glasgow marker to oversee this. Where markers cannot come to a joint agreement then the dissertation should be referred to the Programme Convenors at Glasgow and Charles (Dr. Eamonn Butler & Dr Vít Střítecký). The external examiner will be used to moderate any dissertation in this position and the comments referred back to the internal markers for confirmation.