

## SECINTEL Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

<b>Student Matriculation No.</b>	Glasgow 2283057	Charles 69363093
<b>Dissertation Title</b>	Examining Rio's pacification strategy in dialogue with a critically revised securitisation framework: an Immanent Critique	

### 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**

B1 [17]    B [Very Good]

### 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>	Very Good
• <i>Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions</i>	Good
• <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>	Very Good
• <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>	Very Good
• <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***

The research seeks to critically analyse the pacification strategies that have been rolled out in Brazilian cities over the last decade, with some attention to 'mega events' such as the World Cup and Olympic Games. 'Specifically, the dissertation promises to 'examine in detail whether this public security policy constitutes a paradigmatic break from hitherto dominant state authority approaches, or whether it needs to be considered a seamless continuation of an historically persistent practice based on exclusionary action that centres around the notion of subjugating the underprivileged for the benefit of the powerful'. It rests on the question: who exactly is at the receiving end of the pacification strategy? In order to do this, the dissertation engages critically with securitisation theory, offering an analysis of the discourse of pacification. Each section – taken on its own merits – is well put together and thoughtful. The deep engagement with the wider literature is impressive and demonstrates evidence of sophistication in the critical analysis.

However, the dissertation would be much improved with a clearer and more consistent articulation of the argument throughout. Without this, while impressive, the dissertation fails to clearly articulate its contribution which could be significant. Each individual section is very good but need clearer framing in terms of the overall research question and the author needs to make explicit how each piece makes a contribution to the overall dissertation. More consistent signposting would also help the different elements of the dissertation hang together better as a more coherent analysis.

Despite these caveats, is an ambitious piece of research, with some real evidence of excellence and originality of thought. As such it has the potential to intervene in debates on Latin American security studies.

#### ***Charles Marker***

This is a very interesting and ambitious dissertation. It uses lenses of critical theory to look at the pacification strategy, which Brazil used to address the urban violence in Rio de Janeiro's poor neighborhoods known as favelas. The dissertation aims to shed light on the legitimization of pacification strategy, strategy's relationship to historically entrenched practices in Brazil, and also to broader political and economic power behind the strategy.

The research approach promises original insights into the functioning of security in Brazil but having read the dissertation a reader is left wondering what the central argument is. The author certainly demonstrates an extensive reading experience with the critical literature and good knowledge of Brazil's politics. I am, however, afraid that the dissertation draws too many inspirations from too many critical theorists. It would be beneficial to narrow what the dissertation addresses and to limit theoretical inspirations the author wants to put at work throughout the text.

The plentitude of approaches also calls into question compatibility of theoretical inspirations and coherence of the text. For instance, there is an extensive reference to critical approaches, but then in the chapter "theoretical-methodological approach" the author promises to follow the deductive reasoning and test hypotheses against empirical evidence. A hypothesis testing would be highly unusual for critical work. Furthermore, no hypotheses are developed, and no testing takes place. The dissertation also puts much effort to criticize securitization only to declare it will use securitization as an analytical tool.

The insights in the text are certainly original and valuable to our understanding of how security works in Brazil. Several notable ideas occur in the dissertation like how neoliberal capitalism shapes policing in Rio de Janeiro, or how enduring tradition of different levels of citizenship in Brazil influence Brazil's approach to favelas, or the description of the pacification strategy being a cover-up intended for international consumption at the time of football World Cup and Summer Olympics. These ideas would deserve further elaboration. The dissertation sketches these ideas

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but does not provide enough empirical evidence to convince the reader these ideas are anything more than plausible interpretations.

Despite the critique, I think there is a meaningful contribution in this dissertation. Unfortunately, the author puts too much emphasis to relate his ideas to the work of others. Central argument, the author's more extensive interpretation, and perhaps also less heavy "scientific" language would make this an excellent dissertation.

### Charles University > University of Glasgow Grade Conversion

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

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**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.