

## IMSISS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

<b>Student Matriculation No.</b>	<b>Glasgow</b> 2686693 <b>DCU</b> 21109478 <b>Charles</b> 81164422
<b>Dissertation Title</b>	Mindful Maneuvers: A Normative Framework for Disinformation Defence Using Cognitive Security

### INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

	<b>Late Submission Penalty</b> no penalty
<b>Word Count Penalty</b> (1-15% over/under = 1gr point; 15-20% over/under = 2 gr points; 20-25% over/under = 3 gr points; more than 25% over/under = 0 fail)	
<b>Word Count:</b> 20,023 <b>Suggested Penalty:</b> no penalty	

### JOINT GRADING (subject to agreement of the external examiner and approval at Joint Exam Board)

**Final Agreed Mark.** (Following correspondence reviewers should list the agreed final internal grade taking before and after any penalties to be applied).

**Before Penalty:** A5 [18]      **After Penalty:** A5 [18]

### 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>	Excellent
• <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>	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>	Very Good
• <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

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- *Appropriate word count*

Yes

### ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

#### **Reviewer 1**

The dissertation builds an interesting and novel bridge between cybersecurity and traditional security issues as conceived by social science. The area of cognitive security is explained well and its relation to the fight against disinformation is built robustly. To paraphrase a famous quote: All models are wrong but some are useful. The dissertation presents a model elaborated to an extreme detail that should help secure cognitive safety/security of people under pressures of disinformation. What I miss in this regard is an explanation why this model is useful. It is not sufficient to try to formally weed out every inconsistency without explaining why this particular idealization of reality, i.e., a model, is useful for countering disinformation online. In sum, a job well done on connecting disparate streams of thought into a consistent whole that aims to address cognitive risks involved in disinformation. That being said, the exposition does not show us why it is considered to be useful in the real world.

#### **Reviewer 2**

This is a strong dissertation that serves both as an academic research project and a policy document. The author should be proud of this work and consider ways of making it more concise for the policy community--this is my main criticism--the content is solid, but the writing could be tightened in places. I think there is a framework for protecting security while acknowledging privacy concerns within the dissertation, but at points it becomes lost because it wanders a bit. As someone interested in policy, as the author clearly is, what are the takeaways--the processes here are well documented, but the implementation and "elevator pitch" is really hard to discern.