

IMESS DISSERTATION



Note: Please email the completed mark sheet to Year 2 coordinator

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Please note that IMESS students are not required to use a particular set of methods (e.g. qualitative, quantitative, or comparative) in their dissertation.

Student:	Marta ZAKRZEWSKA
Dissertation title:	Polish foreign policy towards Ukraine between the Orange Revolution and the Euromaidan: political rhetoric.

	Excellent	Satisfactory	Poor
Knowledge <i>Knowledge of problems involved, e.g. historical and social context, specialist literature on the topic. Evidence of capacity to gather information through a wide and appropriate range of reading, and to digest and process knowledge.</i>		x	
Analysis & Interpretation <i>Demonstrates a clear grasp of concepts. Application of appropriate methodology and understanding; willingness to apply an independent approach or interpretation recognition of alternative interpretations; Use of precise terminology and avoidance of ambiguity; avoidance of excessive generalisations or gross oversimplifications.</i>	x		
Structure & Argument <i>Demonstrates ability to structure work with clarity, relevance and coherence. Ability to argue a case; clear evidence of analysis and logical thought; recognition of an arguments limitation or alternative views; Ability to use other evidence to support arguments and structure appropriately.</i>	x		
Presentation & Documentation <i>Accurate and consistently presented footnotes and bibliographic references; accuracy of grammar and spelling; correct and clear presentation of charts/graphs/tables or other data. Appropriate and correct referencing throughout. Correct and contextually correct handling of quotations.</i>	x		

ECTS Mark:	A/1	UCL Mark:	71	Marker:	Jiří Vykoukal
<i>Deducted for late submission:</i>				Signed:	
<i>Deducted for inadequate referencing:</i>				Date:	

MARKING GUIDELINES

A (UCL mark 70+): Note: marks of over 80 are given rarely and only for truly exceptional pieces of work. **(Charles mark = 1)**

Distinctively sophisticated and focused analysis, critical use of sources and insightful interpretation. Comprehensive understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research.

B/C (UCL mark 60-69):

A high level of analysis, critical use of sources and insightful interpretation. Good understanding of techniques applicable to the chosen field of research, showing an ability to engage in sustained independent research. 65 or over equates to a B grade. **(Charles mark = 2)**

D/E (UCL mark 50-59):

Demonstration of a critical use of sources and ability to engage in systematic inquiry. An ability to engage in sustained research work, demonstrating methodological awareness. 55 or over equates to a D grade. **(Charles mark = 3)**

F (UCL mark less than 50):

Demonstrates failure to use sources and an inadequate ability to engage in systematic inquiry. Inadequate evidence of ability to engage in sustained research work and poor understanding of appropriate research techniques.

CONTINUES OVERLEAF

Comments, explaining strengths and weaknesses (*at least 300 words*):

This dissertation aims at a confrontation of the two levels of Polish perception of Ukraine – one deriving from Kultura review (summarising in a modernized way traditional Polish thinking of Ukraine), and the other one referring to pragmatism of Polish foreign policy dealing with Ukraine between the Orange Revolution and the Euromaidan. Dissertation explains how it's possible that both ways of thinking and dealing can coexist and what is the sense of this coexistence. Author assumes that thinking labels the Polish-Ukrainian relations with consistence (regardless if real or alleged) to prove that dealing is sophisticated enough and that works inside substantial modes of the Polish perception of the development behind its Eastern borders.

Marta Zakrzewska presents massive conceptual preparation based on constructivist theory combined with content (thematic) analysis of documents produced by relevant actors forming approaches toward Ukraine. Dissertation traces here as the main topics the effort to bring Ukraine to the West (Ukraine's possible accession to the EU, the policy of Eastern partnership and Poland's expertise on Eastern Europe) and Polish transformational experience and practice representing here not only the example to be followed but also a sort of channel through which Ukraine can go the Western way. The question is how to define the border between examples to be followed and their imitation. Finally, dissertation connects Polish thinking and dealing with Ukraine to the Russian issue and tries the established opinion that Polish-Ukrainian relations are just a function of Polish-Russian relations.

Concluding – the paper represents a good piece of work which meets all demands for the successful MA dissertation.

Specific questions you would like addressing at the oral defence (*at least 2 questions*):

1. How much the Polish thinking of and dealing with Ukraine relates to the Polish national identity, which means how much the Polish approach corresponds to the Polish mainstream historical narrative?
2. Is the Ukrainian partner equipped with a comparable structure of perception of the Polish intentions?