IMSISS Dissertation Feedback & Mark Sheet

Student Matriculation No.	**Glasgow** 2606119H **DCU** **Charles** **Trento**
Dissertation Title	Analysis of the Applicability of Ninja Intelligence and Arts in the Contemporary World

INDIVIDUAL INSTITUTION GRADING

Reviewer 1 Initial Grade A4 [19]	*Reviewer 2 Initial Grade* A5 [18]	*Late Submission Penalty* *no penalty*

Word Count Penalty *(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)*

Word Count: *22 803* **Suggested Penalty:** *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: *A4 [19]*   **After Penalty:** *A4 [19]*

DISSERTATION FEEDBACK

Assessment Criteria	*Rating*
A. Structure and Development of Answer This refers to your organisational skills and ability to construct an argument in a coherent and original manner	
• *Originality of topic*	Excellent
• *Coherent set of research questions and/or hypothesis identified*	Very Good
• *Appropriate methodology and evidence of effective organisation of work*	Very Good
• *Logically structured argument and flow of ideas reflecting research questions*	Very Good
• *Application of theory and/or concepts*	Good
B. Use of Source Material This refers to your skills to select and use relevant information and data in a correct manner	
• *Evidence of reading and review of published literature*	Excellent
• *Selection of relevant primary and/or secondary evidence to support argument*	Excellent
• *Critical analysis and evaluation of evidence*	Excellent
• *Accuracy of factual data*	Excellent
C. Academic Style This refers to your ability to write in a formal academic manner	
• *Appropriate formal and clear writing style*	Very Good
• *Accurate spelling, grammar and punctuation*	Very Good

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• *Consistent and accurate referencing (including complete bibliography)*	Very Good
• *Is the dissertation free from plagiarism?*	Yes
• *Evidence of ethics approval included (if required based on methodology)*	Not required
• *Appropriate word count*	Yes

ADDITIONAL WRITTEN COMMENTS

Reviewer 1

Generally, the work is solid, well sourced, logic and complex. Very good is the description of ninja / shinobi history, and their activities.

Very good is also wide bibliography. It is necessary to mention big advantage of the author – her mother language is Japanese, which allows her not only to read documents in Japanese but also to speak directly with Japanese academics dealing with the topic.

Certain formal mistakes (e.g. in bibliography) were identified. There are also two chapters with the same title ("Source of Intelligence") and the second one (3.2) is relatively illogically included in the bigger chapter dealing with "Shinobi in Fighting".

Conclusion, especially the topic of "Applicability of Ninja Intelligence and Arts in the Contemporary World" as is also stated in the title of dissertation should be developed more preciously.

Reviewer 2

The study was very original in its focus. There was a largely coherent setting out of the structure, and approach for the chapters. It could have been helpful further to have developed some of the initial discussion around methodology (such as when talking about 'standard' methods or models) although this was more clearly established as the work progressed.

Case studies were subject to detailed argument in the chapters, making very good use of different materials consulted. There were a few of the potentially interesting concepts which could be explored more, such as the early discussion of peace and war being less clearly defined in Sengoku Era, which could be regarded as increasingly aligning with current reconceptualising of conflict.

The dissertation was largely well presented, including in links between sections and chapters. A few typographical/formatting changes would enhance this (including in some cases more noticeable, such as one or two headings). The conclusion provided a useful summary – some of the findings, expressed more in the earlier chapters, could have been further highlighted here.

A very original dissertation concept, drawing on a wealth of literature and contextual material, providing very interesting reflections on potential application of ninja arts to contemporary security. It could be improved by selective development of points and framing, but nonetheless represents a novel and thoroughly researched contribution to this developing field.