

STUDENT NAME: SU NUMBER:

THESIS TITLE:

FIRST SUBMISSION SECOND SUBMISSION

GENERAL

The MEng/MEngSc (Research) is a 180-credit thesis only programme, requiring 1800 hours of thesis work. A Master's thesis need not show proof of original work, or make a substantial novel contribution to knowledge in the field of study. However, the thesis must clearly demonstrate that the student has mastered the relevant field of study.

Examiners are asked to evaluate the thesis in two ways: 1) by completing this form, and 2) by submitting a detailed discussion in terms of the assessment criteria in a separate written report. The grading is based purely on the submitted document, and not on any anticipated versions or outputs.

Examiners should note that Stellenbosch University allows for submission of a thesis without the approval of the supervisors(s). This measure is intended to protect the student. In such a case, the examiners are not informed beforehand in order to avoid bias, but a full supervisor's report serves on the examination committee once all the evaluations have been received, as an additional input to the final decision on the outcome.

ASSESSMENT CRITERIA AND REPORT

The thesis should be evaluated against the following criteria:

- The scope of the work is that which can be expected from an 1800h project.
- The complexity of the work, and the level to which the relevant field of study has been mastered, are sufficient. (Note that for multi-disciplinary research, this criterion should be carefully assessed. As a minimum requirement, the complexity of at least one field should be on par with the level of a final year BEng or BSc(Hons) module, while the other fields should be at least at a second-year level in their respective disciplines. The integration of the different fields should be at Master's level.)
- The thesis shows an acceptable level of familiarity with the relevant research literature.
- The thesis shows an acceptable command of the relevant research method.
- The thesis shows an acceptable ability to interpret research results.
- A clear and systematic presentation of the material and logical exposition of the argument are presented.
- Proper documentation and support of the results of independent research are provided.

Please attach a detailed report in which the thesis is discussed in terms of the above assessment criteria.

RECOMMENDATIONS

My evaluation of the thesis is as follows (please select only one tick box):

First submission of the thesis:

- (a) The thesis satisfies the assessment requirements adequately. I have indicated changes and/or corrections, which should be completed to the satisfaction of the supervisor(s) before the final copy can be submitted to the Stellenbosch University archive.
- (b) I require an oral examination in order to award a mark.
- (c) The thesis fails to satisfy the assessment requirements adequately, and cannot be awarded a pass mark in its present form. No mark is therefore awarded. I undertake to examine a second submission of this thesis. (In this case, a full oral examination is held, at which the student can respond to the examiners, and where major changes and/or improvements are identified which must be incorporated in a second submission of the thesis. Only one re-submission is allowed.)
- (d) I have detected and indicated serious instances of plagiarism in the thesis and cannot award a mark.
- (e) The thesis completely fails to satisfy the assessment requirements. A fail mark is awarded. No re-submission is recommended.

Second submission of the thesis:

- (f) After one resubmission, the thesis satisfies the assessment requirements adequately. I have indicated changes and/or corrections, which should be completed to the satisfaction of the supervisor(s) before the final copy can be submitted to the Stellenbosch University archive.
- (g) After one resubmission, the thesis fails to satisfy the assessment requirements adequately. A fail mark is awarded.

Awarding of a mark

- * Please follow the guidelines for marking, as stipulated in Table 1 below.
- * If (a) or (f), a mark of **between 50 and 100** must be awarded, in **increments of 5**.
- * If (b), (c) or (d), **no mark** is awarded.
- * If (e) or (g), a mark of **40 or less** must be awarded, in **increments of 5**.

I award the following mark for this thesis:

CONFIDENTIALITY AND SIGNATURE

Please select only one of the following options:

- * **All** of my comments may be made available to the student.
- * **Only part** of my comments may be made available to the student, as indicated in the report.
- * **None** of my comments may be made available to the student.

NAME & SURNAME:

DATE:

SIGNATURE:

Table 1: Marking scheme for MEng/MEngSc (Research) theses

Outcome	Description	Mark	International equivalent			
		SU	USA	UK	DE	NL
Outstanding Large scope and high complexity and originality, presented at expert level	The thesis presented is a truly outstanding piece of work, beyond what is expected of a distinction, and essentially flawlessly presented. There is an exceptionally clear explanation and development of the argument with excellent judgement and significant originality of approach. The work makes a reasonable contribution to the knowledge in the field and the extent of the work is far beyond adequate. Typically, one or more peer-reviewed publications in international journals or similar level conference proceedings are expected from the work. The work shows that the student <u>has the potential to be considered for PhD studies</u> .	85±	4.0 (A+)	1	1.0	10
Distinction Large scope or high complexity or originality, presented at a well-informed level.	The thesis presented is an excellent piece of work. There is a clear explanation and development of the argument with sound judgement and originality of work. The work makes, or has the potential to make, a contribution, and the extent of the work is more than adequate. The work shows that the student <u>has the potential to be considered for PhD studies</u> .	75+	3.5 (A-)	1	1.3	8.0
Good	A solid piece of work and there is indisputable evidence that the student has mastered the field of study. The work is not necessarily original, but the work is adequate for completion of the degree. The work shows that the student <u>has the potential to be considered for PhD studies</u> .	70+	2.9 (B)	2.1	2.0	7.2
Fair	A fair piece of work had been presented and shows that the student has mastered the topic. However, the work, in particular the interpretation thereof, is limited and generally does not show originality. The student would <u>normally not be considered for PhD studies</u> based on this work.	60+	2.3 (C+)	2.2	2.7	6.5
Marginal pass	The thesis is marginally passable. The student passes his/her degree, but has reached his/her limits and must not be considered for post-graduate studies. Typically, this outcome is reached after resubmission of the thesis or major revision of the thesis, however, this outcome may also be reached with minor changes.	50	1.1 (D)	3.0	4.0	6.0
Not passed – resubmission required	There are major concerns and the student is allowed one final opportunity to improve the thesis to the satisfaction of the examiners.					
Fail	The student has not shown that he/she is able to master the topic. The student fails the degree.	40	F	F	5.0	F