

International IPQ (9693)

2022/2023 Update

The following IPQ (9693) material has been updated in January 2023:

- specification
- production log and assessment record for.

The updates to these materials aim to reinforce existing guidance already found within the specification and on the production log. Teachers can continue to use their existing production log with any students currently progressing on an IPQ course.

Additional commentary has been included to clarify the reason why these updates have been made and the aspects of the assessment that supervisors need to be mindful of when delivering IPQ and submitting IPQ projects in 2023 and beyond.

Specification updates

NB: Text that has been added is in inverted commas and highlighted in **bold**.

Applying the grade criteria to a project
Page 14 Step 1 'This should be done as a 'best fit' approach looking at the characteristics of the grades A, C and E for each assessment objective in turn and deciding an appropriate final grade considering the individual assessment objective weightings. '
Page 16 Flow chart 'Apply the grading process for each assessment objective in turn ' added to flow chart process.
<i>Commentary: It is likely there will be a spread of AO grades across a student project so it is advised that the grading process is first applied to each AO in isolation and then an overall grade determined by considering the weighting of each AO.</i>

Grade Descriptors
Page 14 C grade descriptor 'AO3: A range of sources is selected and relevant information from them is identified. Sources are generally subjected to some appropriate scrutiny to assess their validity.' <i>Commentary: To clearly distinguish C grade from the E grade descriptor's "limited" scrutiny as student's should justify their choice of material.</i>
Page 15 A grade descriptor 'AO4 The detailed and clearly justified project plan is fully implemented.' <i>Commentary: The A grade for AO4 cannot be awarded unless a detailed, well-developed plan has been produced. The plan should be sufficient to lead to a report with thorough analysis and synthesis.</i>

Bibliography

Page 12 2.7.2

'All written evidence, **including the bibliography**, should be provided in English.'

Commentary: All written evidence should be in English. Students often use tools that create citations and build their bibliography and this has resulted in referencing in a language other than English which cannot be checked by a moderator.

Page 12 2.7.3

'All project submissions must include a **referenced** 5,000 word report, with a word limit tolerance of +/- 10%, and a completed production log. **A citation is only valid if it contains sufficient information for the reader to find the source in the reference list.**'

Commentary: Moderators see many reports with citations (clearly obtained from a candidate's research articles) that do not have the relevant reference in the bibliography.

Working Title

Page 9 2.3

'carry out research to enable them to sufficiently develop a **working title**, project aims and objectives to make a formal project proposal'

Commentary: Project titles need to be researched. Students with no research-based reason for their working title limits AO1 attainment to Grade E.

Dual Accreditation

Page 10 Supervisor

'**explain how the project will extend and develop from a student's main course of study. It is important that dual accreditation is avoided and how it will be avoided must be explained in Proposal B if there is any chance of an overlap with other subjects studied at level 3 (A-level or equivalent)**'

Commentary: Moderators require a clear indication from the supervisor if content from a curriculum subject is included in the final outcome without suitable extension.

Production Log and Assessment Record updates

NB: Text that has been added is in inverted commas and highlighted in **bold**.

Page 4 Record of grade

'Has the student done the following **and provided evidence of each in the submission?**'

Commentary: Students must provide evidence of each requirement in their submission.

Page 4 Grading

'Which grade descriptor **best fits the project overall, considering the weighting of each of the AOs and the evidence submitted for each?** (circle one).'

Commentary: The project is awarded as an overall best-fit grade, but this grade must be obtained by considering the evidence against each AO.

Page 5 Record of Grade (continued)

A new third column has been added on the right-hand side of the table headed '**Best-fit assessment objective grade**'

*Commentary: If using the existing production log then supervisors **must** indicate the grade awarded for each assessment objective*

Page 13 mid-project review

'Is my project following my original **proposed** plan? How has my plan developed **since my project proposal?**'

Commentary: Many students reiterate their initial ideas at this stage, rather than considering their proposed plan set out at Proposal Part A which may miss an opportunity for them to focus on the success of their plans in the proposal.

Page 15 Presentation record Part A

'**Please append any relevant material you have prepared to support your presentation.**'

Commentary: Material such as their slides, visual aids or similar are often missed and they generally provide additional evidence.

Page 16 Presentation record Part B

'**Do not include any video evidence or observer notes as these are not required**'

Commentary: The only evidence required here should be written, by the supervisor, in the boxes provided.

Page 18 Summary and reflection

'This page records your summary, reflection and evaluation **of your planning, the final outcome and your personal learning. It should be written after you have completed your report and given your presentation.**'

Commentary: Students should reflect on all aspects of their project – planning, outcome and learning as all three impact their potential AO5 attainment.