**Individual Project Proposal Marking**

| **Student Name** |  | **Banner No** | ………….. | | **Marker Name** | | |  | |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Aspect of submission** | | **Marker’s assessment of each aspect of the project** | | | | | | | |
| **Exemplary**  (>80%) | **Excellent**  (70%-80%) | **Very good**  (60%-70%) | **Good**  (50%-60%) | **Satisfactory**  (40%-50%) | **Poor**  (30%-40%) | | **Unsatisfactory**  (<30%) |
| **(A)** How persuasive the proposal is about the value of undertaking the work. | |  |  |  | 48 |  |  | |  |
| **(B)** Extent to which the proposed project goes beyond the content of any taught course. | |  |  |  |  | 48 |  | |  |
| **(C)** How practical and achievable the proposed project and associated outline plan is. | |  |  |  | 52 |  |  | |  |
| **(D)** The evident grasp of relevant mathematical concepts in the proposal. | |  |  | 62 |  |  |  | |  |
| **(E)** Coherence of the narrative: a logical flow from start to finish, a well-structured proposal. | |  | 72 |  |  |  |  | |  |
| **(F)** Presentation of the proposal, adherence to standard template, consistent and complete numbering of paragraphs, diagrams, equations, tables. Clear and readable layout, use of highlighting, indentation and spacing. | |  |  |  |  | 45 |  | |  |
| **(G)** Academic practice. Referencing, citation and quotation, appropriate attribution of any quoted material, use of suitable (peer-reviewed) sources. | |  | 75 |  |  |  |  | |  |
| **(H)** Grammar, punctuation and professional writing style. Succinctness and readability. | |  |  | 62 |  |  |  | |  |
| General comments. | |  |  | | | | | | |
| Overall rating (marked out of 100). | |  |  |

**Instructions**

**Overall rating =0.15\*A+ 0.2\*(B+C+D) + 0.1\*E + 0.05\*(F+G+H) = 57**

Feedback

I have read your email about your concerns with your mark for your proposal and I would like to give to you the following additional information for clarification.

Your submission was independently marked by two academic member of staff in the Department of Mathematical Sciences. These members of staff were in agreement with the mark awarded.  Your proposal was then sent to an independent moderator as part of the quality assurance and monitoring process and this third member of academic staff also agreed with the mark awarded.

Your final mark for the proposal  of 57% falls into the higher end of the “good” category, and this reflects the positive aspects of your work. You wrote in a clear and concise way, should evidence of engaging in the research process, and demonstrated through your referencing a high level of academic practice. Your proposal was also well structured, and one could appreciate your research intentions - this is why you received marks in the “excellent” category for some aspects of the submission.

You lost marks primarily for not demonstrating that your research will go beyond the taught material of your degree program and venture into Level 6 (third year degree) skills. You mentioned that you intend to use linear regression, which is ok, but on its own this is a subject that is covered extensively in Level 4 and 5 courses. There is scope for a good research project in your proposed area but to achieve marks in the upper second class and first class category you need to show a knowledge and understanding of more advanced skills and techniques.

Although your proposal reads well, the template was not strictly followed. The font and size is not what we specified, and following this was an assessed element of the proposal. This will also be the case for the final report.

Other aspects that needed to be improved to attract higher marks were the project plan and a discussion of data. Your proposal does not contain much insight into the data you have or will get or where it will come from – this is needed to show your awareness of the problem,  your planning, and the achievability of the research. Your research plan is reasonable but shows some elementary errors such as writing an abstract before you do your research – this is not possible and does not show a level of understanding of report writing that deserves that highest marks .

I hope this helps clarify why you were awarded this grade for your proposal. If you are still not sure then we can arrange a meeting to discuss this further and I can invite your supervisor to participate – he will be able to offer his opinion on your final submission and how this relates to your meetings, discussions,  and email correspondence.

Best wishes,