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|  **Marks** |  **Criteria** |
| **First Class****Exceptional****80-100** | Comprehensive awareness of the issues. A soundly argued answer which **shows significant independent thought, originality and critical judgement.** Clear evidence ofreading and knowledge **beyond the course content.** A well- structured and very well written answer of literary quality. |
| **First Class****Excellent****70-79** | Comprehensive awareness of the issues. A soundly argued answer which shows evidence of **independence of thought, originality and critical judgement.** |
| **Upper Second****2:1 60-69** | A good pass. Sound awareness of the issues, factually correct and well organised. A good understanding of course material. **Evidence of some reading and knowledge beyond course content and of critical/analytical ability.** |
| **Lower Second****2:2 50-59** | A satisfactory pass. An adequate answer with a fair understanding of the course material. An awareness of the main issues. No evidence of wider reading and no reference to outside material. Many omissions. |
| **Third Class****40-49** | Acceptable answer but weak in content and understanding of the course material. Significant omissions and inaccuracies but some relevant knowledge. |
| **Refer/Fail** |  |
| **Poor****30-39** | Appreciates the objective of the question, and provides some positive material but significant inaccuracies with limited understanding of the topic. **Insufficient knowledge.** Poor standard of literacy. **Possible evidence of plagiarism.** |
| **Weak answer****25-29** | Some recognition of the meaning of the question but little understanding shown. **Knowledge vague, skimpy and inaccurate. Possible evidence of plagiarism.** |
| **Very weak answer****12-24** | Few points relevant to the answer. The majority of the answer is either irrelevant or a misunderstanding of the material. **Or wholly plagiarised.** |
| **Of little merit****1-11** | Complete failure to understand/interpret the question. Little material of value to the question set. |

**Marking Criteria for Coursework Assignments and Exams:**

**A general guide for degree level work**