



**Department of Geography & Environment**  
**POSTGRADUATE UNASSESSED ESSAY COVER SHEET**

<b>Name:</b>	<b>Course:</b>
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**Essay question:**

Understanding of topic	Use of literature	Critical analysis	Structure of argument	Conclusion
Exceptional understanding of all issues relevant to question; impressively well informed, with awareness of complexities	Exceptional use of and engagement with the literature from breadth of sources	Outstanding critical insight with evidence of original thought; excellent integration of concepts/theory	Argument(s) logically structured and fully developed with exceptional clarity, coherence and fluency	Excellent integration of main points in a cogent and persuasive summary; convincingly draws out implications for theory or practice
Very good understanding of topic and question; awareness of nuances and complexities	Excellent use of and engagement with wide ranging sources	Well constructed argument with very good use of theory/concepts; clear evidence of independent thought	Argument(s) very well structured and developed; ideas clearly presented	Very good synthesis of salient points; clear implications for theory or practice
Thorough, clear treatment, shows understanding of question, arguments and context	Good use of and engagement with relevant and wide ranging sources	Good standard of critical analysis with appropriate use of theory; some questioning of literature	Argument(s) clearly structured and logically developed	Good conclusion that summarises main points
Demonstrates sound, but sometimes superficial, understanding of question topic	Competent use of standard literature	Appropriate use of theory/concepts; some evidence of critical analysis	Argument(s) structured but under-developed	Competent, but basic summary
Work shows understanding of question and issues but at a relatively superficial level	Superficial treatment of wide literature or adequate treatment of basic literature	Weak use of concepts/theory; largely descriptive and relatively superficial analysis	Argument(s) undeveloped and not always clear	Poorly specified conclusion
Few relevant points; material largely irrelevant to question	Very basic usage of narrow or misguided material	Fails to identify or use theory/concepts; entirely descriptive	Argument(s) undeveloped and often confused	Very poorly specified conclusion
Seriously deficient in understanding; entirely fails to answer question	Little or no use of relevant literature to support argument	No evidence of theory/concepts; wholly descriptive, with many errors and/or omissions	No structure or argument	No conclusion presented

**Additional Comments:**

<b>Grade:</b>
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**Note:** the sections are not equally weighted and only provide a relative qualitative assessment of your performance