

APPENDIX GA36a
LEVEL 4
ASSESSMENT
SPECIFICATION

Programme:	BA Business Management		
Module:	Academic Skills		
Module code:	LCBB4012	Contribution to Overall Module Assessment (%):	75%
Lecturer:	Dr Laila Maazouz	Internal Verifier:	Dr Laila Maazouz
Assignment Title:	Component 2: Coursework: Group Written Report	Word count (or equivalent):	2250 (+/- 10%)
Submission deadline:	04/12/2026 @ 2 PM	Return date of provisional marks & written feedback:	20 working days after the submission
Submission method:	All written assessments, where practical and possible, must be submitted via Turnitin unless otherwise instructed by the Lecturer. (Please DO NOT put this assessment specification into Turnitin or it will match many similarities with other students' submissions.) Alternative submission method (if applicable): Late submission of the assessment will result in a late penalty mark. Penalties for late submission: Up to one week late, maximum mark of 40%. Over one week late, 0%. Only the Extenuating Circumstances Panel may approve a change to submission dates.		
Academic honesty / referencing:	Academic honesty is required. In the main body of your submission you must give credit to authors on whose research and ideas your work is based. Append to your submission a reference list that indicates the books, articles, etc. that you have used, cited or quoted in order to complete this assessment.		

Module Learning Outcomes (from module syllabus)

Upon the successful completion of this module, the student should be able to demonstrate the ability to:

1. produce a fully referenced written work in a relevant topic which is well -organised and makes use of an appropriate academic writing style;
2. produce written work which is well -organised, relevant and makes use of appropriate terminology and academic style;
3. demonstrate good communication skills in written and oral form;
4. demonstrate effective use of Information Technology (IT) as required, including but not limited to MS Word, MS PowerPoint, MS Teams, the internet;
5. interpret and analyse a range of information beyond mere description in a critical way;
6. work as a member of a team by cooperating with others, negotiating, listening to others in the group, sharing responsibilities/tasks and meeting deadlines.

TASK DESCRIPTION

Component 2 – 75% (report of 1000 words)

Task Description

Write an appropriately structured **academic report** in which you discuss **1 named topics from the list below***, and explain their relative importance for future academic and professional work. You will need to analyse published literature relating to the specific topics you discuss and provide examples to support your arguments.

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***Topics that may be covered (choose 2, 3 or 4):**

- Time management / Organising study
- Referencing
- Teamwork
- Paraphrasing and Summarizing
- Analytical and critical thinking

For this assignment you are required to provide examples of activities where knowledge of these topics and ability to use the skills that are part of them would be useful. You are expected to include the minimum of at least 8 credible academic sources in your report.

You must also remember to have a title page, a table of contents (with numbers of pages), proper headings for each section and a reference list.

GUIDANCE FOR STUDENTS IN THE COMPLETION OF TASKS

NOTE: The guidance offered below is linked to the five generic assessment criteria overleaf.

1. Engagement with Literature Skills

Your work must be informed and supported by scholarly material that is *relevant* to and *focused* on the task(s) set. You should provide evidence that you have accessed an appropriate *range* of sources, which may be academic, governmental and industrial; these sources may include academic journal articles, textbooks, current news articles, organisational documents, and websites. You should consider the *credibility* of your sources; academic journals are normally highly credible sources while websites require careful consideration/selection and should be used sparingly. Any sources you use should be current and up-to-date, mostly published within the last five years or so, though seminal/important works in the field may be older. You must provide *evidence* of your research/own reading throughout your work, using a suitable referencing system, including in-text citations in the main body of your work and a reference list at the end of your work.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

- Students must use and reference a minimum of 8 credible and reliable sources. Your research can be based on different journal articles, books and academic websites. You should not use only websites.
- Students must cite literature throughout their work supporting the points that they make and referencing any images or diagrams used.
- A reference list should appear at the end of the assignment and should follow the Harvard reference guidelines and standards.

2. Knowledge and Understanding Skills

At level 4, you should be able to demonstrate knowledge of the underlying concepts and principles associated with your area(s) of study. *Knowledge* relates to the facts, information and skills you have acquired through your learning. You demonstrate your *understanding* by interpreting the meaning of the facts and information (knowledge). This means that you need to select and include in your work the concepts, techniques, models, theories, etc. appropriate to the task(s) set. You should be able to explain the theories, concepts, etc. to show your understanding. Your mark/grade will also depend upon the *extent* to which you demonstrate your knowledge and understanding.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

- Your writing should be factually accurate, and you should represent the sources that you use precisely and concisely.
- You need to show that you understand the topics and the usefulness of the skills discussed. There should be detailed examples.

3. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills

You should be able to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data, in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of your subject(s) of study. You should be able to evaluate the appropriateness of different approaches to solving problems related to your area(s) of study and/or work. Your work must contain evidence of logical, analytical thinking. For example, to examine and break information down into parts, make inferences, compile, compare and contrast information. This means not just describing what! But also justifying: Why? How? When? Who? Where? At what cost? You should provide justification for your arguments and judgements using evidence that you have reflected upon the ideas of others within the subject area and that you are able to make sound judgements and arguments using data and concepts. Where relevant, alternative solutions and recommendations may be proposed.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

- Your writing should not just be descriptive. It should evaluate and analyse the source material.
- You need to demonstrate the ability to make logical connections between the way that the topics are described in the source material, your evaluation, assessment and predictions as to how useful they will be for academic and/or professional success.

4. Practical Skills

At level 4, you should be able to apply the basic underlying concepts and principles to evaluate and interpret these within the context of your area of study. You should be able to demonstrate how the subject-related concepts and ideas relate to real world situations and/or a particular context. How do they work in practice? You will deploy models, methods, techniques, and/or theories, in that context, to assess current situations, perhaps to formulate plans or solutions to solve problems, or to create artefacts. This is likely to involve, for instance, the use of real world artefacts, examples and cases, the application of a model within an organisation and/or benchmarking one theory or organisation against others based on stated criteria.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

- You should be able to relate examples from the real world to the theories that you encounter, and vice versa. For example, you can mention ways that these skills can be used in real life.

5. Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice

Your work must provide evidence of the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility. This includes demonstrating: that you can communicate the results of your study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments; that you can initiate and complete tasks and procedures, whether individually and/or collaboratively; fluency of expression; clarity and effectiveness in presentation and organisation. Work should be coherent and well-structured in presentation and organisation.

Guidance specific to this assessment:

- Your report should be appropriately structured; it should have a cover page, a table of contents and logical sections.
- It should be written using formal language, in clear paragraphs, in a way that conveys the meaning intended.
- You should ensure that the grammar, spelling, punctuation and use of vocabulary are correct and reflect the way you normally write in English. Make sure to proofread your assignment before submission.
- The use of translation and/or paraphrasing software is discouraged but you are welcome to use a dictionary/thesaurus.

STUDENT FEEDBACK FORM

This section details the *extent* to which the assessment criteria are demonstrated by you, which in turn determines your mark. The marks available for each category of skill are shown. Lecturers will use the space provided to comment on the achievement of the task(s), including those areas in which you have performed well and areas that would benefit from development/improvement.

Generic Assessment Criteria	Marks available	Marks awarded
1. Engagement with Literature Skills	20	
2. Knowledge and Understanding Skills	20	
3. Cognitive and Intellectual Skills	20	
4. Practical Application Skills	20	
5. Transferable Skills for Life and Professional Practice	20	

Assessment Mark (Assessment marks are subject to ratification at the Exam Board. These comments and marks are to give feedback on module work and are for guidance only until they are confirmed.)

Late Submission Penalties tick if (appropriate)

Up to 1 week late (40% Max)

Over 1 week late (0%)

100%

GENERIC ASSESSMENT CRITERIA

Level 4

In accordance with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications, at the end of Level 4 students will be expected to have demonstrated knowledge of the basic underlying concepts and principles of a subject, and an ability to evaluate and interpret these within the context of that area of study. They should be able to present, evaluate and interpret qualitative and quantitative data in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements in accordance with basic theories and concepts of their subject(s) of study. They will have learned how to evaluate different approaches to solving problems, and will be able to communicate the results of their study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments. They will be able to undertake further training and develop new skills within a structured and managed environment and will have the qualities and transferable skills necessary for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility.

Level 4	FAIL	MARGINAL FAIL	SATISFACTORY (3 rd / Pass)	GOOD (2.2 / Pass)	VERY GOOD (2.1 / Merit)	EXCELLENT (1 st / Distinction)	EXCEPTIONAL (1 st / Distinction)
Category	0-29%	30-39%	40-49%	50-59%	60-69%	70-84%	85-100%
Engagement with literature (including reading, referencing, academic conventions and academic honesty)	Little or no evidence of reading and/or reliance on inappropriate sources. Views and findings mostly unsupported and nonauthoritative. Referencing conventions used incoherently or largely absent.	Poor engagement with essential reading. No evidence of wider reading. Reliance on inappropriate sources, and/or indiscriminate use of sources. Heavily reliant on information gained through class contact. Inconsistent and weak use of referencing.	Engagement with a limited range of mostly relevant and credible sources but with some reliance on information gained through class contact. Some omissions and minor errors. Referencing conventions evident though not always applied accurately or consistently.	Engagement with an appropriate range of literature, including sources retrieved independently. Some over-reliance on texts rather than other sources. Referencing may show minor inaccuracies or inconsistencies.	Engagement with a wide range of literature, including sources retrieved independently. Selection of relevant and credible sources. Generally sound referencing, with no/very few inaccuracies or inconsistencies.	Engagement with an extensive range of relevant literature. Consistently accurate application of referencing.	Exceptional engagement with an extensive range of relevant and credible literature. High level referencing skills consistently applied.

Knowledge and understanding (Knowledge of the basic underlying concepts and	Major gaps in knowledge and understanding of the basic underlying concepts and	Gaps in knowledge of the basic underlying concepts and principles, with flawed or	Limited knowledge and understanding of the basic underlying concepts and	Knowledge of the basic underlying concepts and principles is accurate with a good	Competent knowledge of the basic underlying concepts and principles. Exhibits very	Excellent knowledge and understanding of the basic underlying concepts and	Exceptional, detailed knowledge and understanding of the basic underlying
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Level 4	FAIL	MARGINAL FAIL	SATISFACTOR Y (3rd / Pass)	GOOD (2.2 / Pass)	VERY GOOD (2.1 / Merit)	EXCELLENT (1st / Distinction)	EXCEPTIONAL (1st / Distinction)
Category	0-29%	30-39%	40-49%	50-59%	60-69%	70-84%	85-100%
principles of a subject.)	principles of the subject matter. Inclusion of irrelevant material. Substantial inaccuracies.	superficial understanding. Some significant inaccuracies and/or irrelevant material.	principles within the subject area. Some elements may be missing.	understanding of the field of study but lacks depth and/or breadth.	good understanding.	principles of the subject.	concepts and principles

Cognitive and intellectual skills (Evaluate underlying concepts and principles of a subject and interpret qualitative and quantitative data in order to develop lines of argument and make sound judgements.)	Wholly or almost wholly descriptive work. Little or no evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles. Failure to develop arguments, leading to illogical or invalid judgements. Minimal or no use of evidence to back up views.	Largely descriptive work, with superficial evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles. Weak interpretation of data, flawed development of arguments and judgements. Information accepted uncritically, uses generalised statements made with scant evidence and unsubstantiated opinions. Ideas sometimes illogical and contradictory.	Limited attempt at evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles, tending towards description. Can interpret qualitative and quantitative data but with some errors. Some evidence to support emerging arguments and judgements but these may be underdeveloped or with a little inconsistency / misinterpretation.	Good evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles. Can interpret qualitative and quantitative data, with minor errors. An emerging ability to use evidence to support the argument. Mostly valid arguments and logical judgements.	Sound evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles. Can interpret qualitative and quantitative data accurately. Ability to devise arguments using evidence to make mostly appropriate and valid judgements.	Excellent evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles. Can interpret qualitative and quantitative data accurately and with some insight. Excellent ability to devise arguments using evidence and make appropriate and valid judgements.	Exceptional evaluation of the underlying concepts and principles based evidence. Outstanding interpretation of qualitative and quantitative data. Exceptional ability to devise arguments using evidence and make wholly appropriate and valid judgements.
Practical skills (Different approaches to solving problems in particular contexts.)	Limited or no use of taught, basic methods, materials, tools and/or techniques. Little or no appreciation of	Rudimentary application of taught, basic methods, materials, tools and/or techniques but without	An adequate awareness and mostly appropriate application of basic methods, materials, tools	A good and appropriate application of basic methods, materials, tools and/or techniques.	A very good application of a range of basic methods, materials, tools and/or techniques.	An advanced application of a range of taught, basic methods, materials, tools and/or techniques.	Exceptional levels of application and deployment skills in particular practical contexts. Outstanding

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Category	0-29%	30-39%	40-49%	50-59%	60-69%	70-84%	85-100%

	the context of the application. Very weak evidence of different approaches to problem-solving in particular contexts.	consideration and competence. Flawed appreciation of the context of the application. Weak evidence of different approaches to problem-solving in particular contexts.	and/or techniques. Basic appreciation of the context of the application. Can identify problems in particular contexts and propose basic alternative approaches or solutions though there may be errors.	Clear appreciation of the context of the application. Good evidence of different approaches to problem-solving in particular contexts and proposes mostly appropriate solutions.	Very good consideration of the context of the application. Very good evidence of different approaches to problem-solving in particular contexts and proposes appropriate solutions.	The context of the application is well considered, and insightful. Excellent evidence of different approaches to problem-solving in particular contexts and proposes appropriate solutions.	identification of problems in particular contexts and formulation of wholly appropriate, thoughtful solutions / different approaches.
Transferable skills for life and professional practice (Communicate the results of their study/work accurately and reliably, and with structured and coherent arguments; the qualities needed for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility within a structured and managed environment.)	Work is poorly structured, disorganised, inaccurate and/or confusingly expressed. Very weak use of language and/or very inappropriate style. Failure to work effectively individually or as part of a group. Little or no evidence of the skills for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility.	Work is poorly presented in a disjointed manner. It is loosely, and at times incoherently, structured, with information and ideas often poorly expressed. Weak use of language and/or inappropriate style. Flawed approach to individual or group work, meeting only partial obligations to others. Limited evidence of the	Mostly ordered presentation and structure in which relevant ideas / concepts are reasonably expressed. Work may lack coherence and/or accuracy in places. Can work as part of a group, meeting most obligations to others but perhaps with limited involvement in group activities. Demonstrates the basic skills for employment requiring the exercise of some	Mostly coherent, organised and accurate work, in a suitable structure and is for the most part clearly expressed. Can work effectively independently and/or as part of a team, with clear contribution to group activities. Demonstrates the skills for employment requiring the exercise of some personal	Work is accurate, coherent, fluent, well-structured and organised. Can work effectively independently and/or as part of a team, with very good contribution to group activities. Demonstrates very good skills for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility, with just occasional minor weakness.	Work is coherent, very fluent and is presented professionally. Can work effectively independently and/or as part of a team, with an excellent contribution to group activities. Demonstrates excellent skills for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility with an appetite for further development.	Work is accurate, exceptionally coherent, very fluent and presented well. Can work effectively independently and/or as part of a team, with an exceptional contribution to group activities. Demonstrates exceptional skills for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility with an appetite for further development.

				responsibility, with some areas of strength and			
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Category	0-29%	30-39%	40-49%	50-59%	60-69%	70-84%	85-100%
		skills for employment requiring the exercise of some personal responsibility.	personal responsibility, with some areas of minor weakness.	some of minor weakness.			

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