

Masters Level Work

- Masters level teaching provides:
 - an enhanced capability for independent learning and work

- Masters level students must demonstrate:
 - ["The framework for higher education qualifications in England, Wales and Northern Ireland"; <http://www.qaa.ac.uk/academicinfrastructure/FHEQ/EWNI/default.asp>]
 - **systematic understanding of knowledge**, and a **critical awareness** of current problems and/or new insights, much of which is at, or informed by, the **forefront of their academic discipline**, field of study, or area of professional practice
 - **originality** in the application of knowledge

- Demonstrated by:
 - **open assessment** of each module
 - Masters level project work

Open Assessment Report

Required Masters level “*systematic understanding of knowledge*, and a *critical awareness* ... informed by the *forefront of their academic discipline*” ...

... **cannot** be demonstrated by regurgitation of lecture notes

◆ lectures merely provide the *context* for your own study

If your assessment report merely regurgitates lecture notes
– ***you will fail***

■ this is where Masters level open assessments and undergraduate closed examinations fundamentally differ!

Critique : reasoned evaluation

- ✗ I don't like this idea.
- ✗ This idea won't work.
- ✓ This idea doesn't work in this application because [*a justified reason*]. Moreover, [Brown77] shows that [*some other idea is better*]. However, [*it might actually work somewhere else*], and [Black00] says that ... etc, etc

- ✗ I think this approach is excellent, and should always be used.
- ✓ This approach should be used in [*certain specified cases*] because [*a justified reason*]. Also, [Green04] shows that [*it worked on their application, some of the time*]. On the other hand, [Pink59] claims [*it has fundamental problems*], ... etc, etc

Moral

- Open assessment is like a (mini) project, and needs its own (mini) literature review and critique
 - **referencing** and **evaluating** *other people's* work is an important **part** of your own analysis when answering the question
- Overall we are looking for
 - answer
 - justification of answer
 - examples where possible
- Do this, and become a Masters level student!