

SCHEDULE A: Minor Thesis Grading Criteria

Approved by the Research Committee, June 2020



The University of Divinity Minor Thesis may serve as a pathway into higher degrees by research. Minor Thesis work is not expected to make an original contribution, but the work should do more than summarise the opinions of others.

Skills and Capacity

1. The Minor Thesis demonstrates knowledge of the existing body of literature and capacity with the fundamental tools and skills appropriate to the subject area (for example, biblical languages, methods, terminology, archival research, etc.).
2. The Minor Thesis evidences the capacity for critical analysis, including the accurate representation of the range of appropriate positions and an evaluation or interpretation of these positions in relation to the research question.

Content and Structure

3. The Minor Thesis establishes a clear and discernible research question appropriate to the word limit and a finding or set of findings.
4. The Minor Thesis has a clear and discernible structure (including appropriate section headings), demonstrating mastery over the material by organising it in relation to the research question.
5. The methodology employed is appropriate to the research question, well described, and demonstrated through the Minor Thesis.
6. The bibliography demonstrates appropriateness to the research question, including its use of primary and secondary materials.
7. The Minor Thesis communicates well, with evidence of good writing such as topic sentences and headings indicative of the content, is free from obvious grammatical and stylistic errors, and is consistent in following the chosen referencing and bibliographical style.