

Examination formats & marking schemes

Consult tutors and handbooks for details of the format, question type and marking scheme for each exam.

ExamNet has a selection of DMU exam papers from the past three years. Use these with care: formats, question types, etc. may change. Access at <http://www.library.dmu.ac.uk/Resources/ExamNet/>

Exam formats and question types vary:

As well as the traditional unseen exams, you might sit open book, seen, or take away papers. Some different kinds of questions are:

- essay
- problem
- short answer
- multiple choice
- report style.

Find out

- how many **papers** you have **per subject**
- how many **sections** and **questions** per paper
- what **topics** the sections cover
- how many **questions** you must answer **from each section**
- if any of the questions are **compulsory**
- what **types of questions** they are
- how much **time** will be allowed per paper

- whether the paper is **available beforehand** – e.g. seen exams
- if there are **restrictions on what material you can use in your answers** – e.g. some exams require you to avoid using a substantial amount of material that you have already presented in an assessment
- the definitions of **typical exam key words** – e.g. *analyse, assess, criticise, etc.*

Marking schemes

You need to know:

- **how many marks** are allocated **per question**
- how the component marks are formulated to give an **over all result**
- if marks could be deducted for anything – e.g. poor handwriting, poor English language or grammar; wrong answers in multiple choice
- if the marks are **weighted** – if so, what scheme is used?
- what the **pass mark** is.