Design, Management & Communication

Distinguishing features of a Band 1/2 Project
- A limited range of communication and computing skills is demonstrated. Generally some word-processing evident along with minimal sketching.
- Planning of the project exists in a minimal format. A basic time plan showing an estimate of the time required to complete each step and a finance plan that shows a list of costs incurred.
- Research presented is minimal and often the relationship is dubious.
- An awareness of design is displayed but the student is unable to competently manage the complete design process. The final product doesn’t display adequate design solutions.

Distinguishing features of a Band 2/3 Project
- Evaluation was poorly done. Final product evaluation was very limited while on-going evaluation was non-existent.
- The range of communication and computer skills used was very limited, often confined to low level orthogonals with no dimensions, minimal word-processing and the use of tables.
- Important areas of the folio (as outlined in the syllabus) were not covered.
- There was little connection between the research done and any development of ideas.
- Justification was often missing and when done was superficial.

Distinguishing features of a Band 3/4 Project
- The majority of areas required in the DMC (but generally not all) have been covered in a limited manner.
- Evaluation, when present, is not related to the Statement of Intent. Commonly a more general statement such as “I like my job” is used.
- Communication is limited to sketches and orthogonals.
- The DMC is poorly organised and includes some hand-written work.
- Computer applications displayed include word processing, spreadsheets and scanning.
- The DMC demonstrates some degree of success with respect to planning, design and development and problem-solving.
- The planning relates to the product produced but doesn’t fully document the process.

Distinguishing features of a Band 4/5 Project
- All areas (as outlined in the syllabus) attempted, some addressed very well.
- Occupational Health & Safety was not detailed – basic valid descriptions of themselves with safety equipment (usually photographs), reason for safety equipment usage explained, consequences if safety equipment wasn’t used outlined.
- Time plan presented included projected and actual completion dates or times. Was often presented in bar graph or spreadsheet form.
- Finance plan included actual and projected costs.
- Good variety of computer applications and communication techniques used (eg internet research, scanned pictures, digital imagery, sample CAD, spreadsheets and word processing).
- Simplistic problem-solving demonstrated – often remedies for mistakes.
- Minimal on-going evaluation was evident.

Distinguishing features of a Band 5/6 Project
- All areas specified in the syllabus have been attempted by the candidate with some areas addressed in an outstanding manner.
- A strong relationship between the research conducted and the finished product is always evident.
- A clear and logical progression of the design process was easily observed.
- A complete record of the projects ongoing evaluation was usually lacking.
- Communication and computing skills were well integrated and appropriate. A wide range of each was clearly evident.
- Selection of materials, processes and components was clear although the justification for each wasn’t fully addressed. Materials justification was usually well documented but the other areas found wanting.
- Finance plans documented the project expenditure and attempted in a limited manner to outline how the finances were generated.
- Time plans?
- Relevant problem solving was evident in the DMC Portfolio, eg development and use of jigs to solve construction issues.