

Guidelines for the examiner (*sensurveiledning*) for ENG 2517 / 4517, The British Constitution, part I

These are the general guidelines for the examiner of candidates in this course. The specific exam guidelines are contained in a separate document.

The exam for this course consists of two parts, a term paper and a 2-hour written exam, where the paper counts for 70% of the final mark, while the exam counts for 30%. Candidates must pass both parts of the exam individually in order to obtain an overall pass mark.

The exam as a whole emphasises *relevance* in the answers. Both the term paper topics (the students choose one from a selection), and the exam questions are specific, in the sense that they ask the student to address one clearly delimited issue. This means that candidates may be penalised for a lack of focus in their answers to the exam questions, or in their term paper.

The term paper should also be organised as thematic discussion, adhering to a classic humanities-type arrangement of the text, consisting of an introduction, a main part and a conclusion. References and a complete bibliography must be included, but we do not require students to use any specific system of referencing. They have a free choice on this, but consistency is expected. For the term paper, students are also required to consult, and use at least one source of good academic quality beyond the set reading for the course. The term paper tests the candidates' ability to construct an academic analysis of the topic they have chosen, with all means of aid available. Emphasis in the evaluation should be placed on (in a declining order of importance): intellectual focus, structure, depth of analysis, depth of knowledge, language, and technical set-up (references and bibliography).

The written exam is a test of knowledge and understanding based on the set reading for the course. ENG 2517-students answer two out of four questions, while ENG 4517-students answer one out of three. Candidates for the ENG 2517-exam need to pass on both the two questions they chose to answer in order to pass the written exam. While relevance is equally important as for the term paper, the written exam is not a test of the candidates' ability to present a convincing academic analysis in the same way. Instead, it aims to check that the candidates have covered the set reading, and that they have a clear understanding of the topic the question asks them to address. A demonstrated ability to phrase the answer in an independent fashion should therefore be valued higher than mere reproduction from memory. Language also counts in the written exam, and the examiner may compare the standard of English in the term paper with the written exam. While a higher standard may be expected in the term paper, the discrepancy should not be too marked.

For the general description of marks at ILOS, see:

<https://www.uio.no/studier/eksamen/karakterskala/fagspesifikk-karakterbeskrivelse/hf-ilos-endelig-felles-karakterbeskrivelse.pdf>

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