

From: [Sheila Dickson](#)
To: [SMITH Alexandra](#); [Teresa Newman](#)
Cc: [Kirsty Gowling-Afchain](#)
Subject: RE: Russian Novel and Russian 20C Visual Culture essays
Date: 07 June 2018 09:16:03

Dear Sascha,
Kirsty, Teresa and I would like to thank you very much for your hard work, patience and cooperation in dealing with the Russian essays and exam scripts last week (and indeed throughout the year!). We are very grateful that you were able to read the Honours scripts at such short notice and ratify decisions taken regarding individual marks and range of marks. We also take on board the comments you made regarding the nature of the exam questions set in the Visual Culture Option, which you may wish to put in your formal report, and we will address this issue for next year.
With many thanks and best wishes,
Sheila

Dr Sheila Dickson
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From: SMITH Alexandra [REDACTED]
Sent: 30 May 2018 16:39
To: Teresa Newman
Cc: Sheila Dickson; Kirsty Gowling-Afchain
Subject: Re: Russian Novel and Russian 20C Visual Culture essays

Dear Teresa,

I've read a few essays on the Russian novel from the batch that was sent to me [REDACTED],

[REDACTED],
[REDACTED] The marking seems fair and consistent. The comments look helpful and informative. The spread of marks that you've sent me appears to be fine, too. The number of A grades is a bit high but this might be explained by the fact that there is a considerable amount of high-quality scholarly works on the novels discussed in the essays. Certainly, Russian art is studied less than Russian literature, especially the novels discussed in the essay that appear to be canonical nowadays.

[REDACTED]. I will go to the station straight away to catch my train. Hopefully, I could be in Glasgow around 3 pm. Would you like me to come to your office as soon as I arrive in Glasgow?

All the best,
Alexandra

From: Teresa Newman <xxxxxx.xxxxxx@xxxxxxx.xx.xx>
Sent: 29 May 2018 16:41
To: SMITH Alexandra
Cc: Sheila Dickson; Kirsty Gowling-Afchain
Subject: Russian Novel and Russian 20C Visual Culture essays

[Email from Dr Sheila Dickson, Learning and Teaching Convenor](#)

Dear Alexandra

Please find attached marked essays for the two Honours Options, The Russian Novel and Visual Culture.

The marks awarded by the first and second markers were very high and resulted in most of the cohort being given an A grade. Kirsty Gowling-Afchain, who is our Assessment Officer, and I, as new Learning and Teaching Convenor, replacing [REDACTED], had a look firstly at the spread of marks, then at individual feedback sheets. We feel that the feedback given to individual students by the first marker indicates lower marks than those awarded, and we have therefore suggested bringing down all essay marks by 3. We feel that this is a more realistic set of results and more in line with marks awarded in other Options in the School.

I have revisited all feedback sheets for The Russian Novel and adapted them slightly to reflect the new grade (changing 'very good' essay, which designates a B, to 'good essay', where that B has become a C).

For Visual Culture I have not had a chance to do this, so the essay marks and feedback you are receiving are those awarded initially by colleagues in Russian. As indicated above, our suggestion is to lower them all by 3. The feedback will be adapted slightly to reflect the new grade (as with the Russian Novel essays) before it is returned to students.

We have also looked at the spread of marks for Visual Culture exam scripts for S1, and for the same reasons we would propose bringing them all down by 1 mark. Overall, this produces a spread of marks from A-C that we would expect in a group of this size.

We would be very grateful if you could have a look at the essays with this in mind. We would then discuss the matter with you in person on Thursday afternoon.

Please do get in touch if you have any questions.

I look forward to meeting you on Thursday.

Best wishes,

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