

## GRADING GUIDE – HUMAN GEOGRAPHY

**Course code:** HGO4040 - Individual reading list

**Type of examination:** take-home exam

**About exams at HGO:** A good examination paper contains solid knowledge, logical and coherent reasoning and a systematic structure. The answer to a discussion question/task must examine, analyze, and connect different parts of the curriculum.

1. The answer responds to the question/task given in a precise and exhaustive way.
2. The answer demonstrates knowledge.
3. The answer must be well-written: coherent and using good academic language.
4. Key concepts – those at the core of the answer – must be defined.
5. The answer demonstrates analytical capacity and reflection.

**Om eksamen ved HGO:** En god besvarelse inneholder solid kunnskap, logisk argumentasjon og ryddig disposisjon. Besvarelsen av en drøftingsoppgave skal være diskuterende, analytisk og koble ulike deler av pensum.

1. Besvarelsen svarer på oppgaveteksten på en presis og utfyllende måte.
2. Besvarelsen viser kunnskap.
3. Besvarelsen skal være velskrevet: sammenhengende med godt akademisk språk.
4. Viktige begreper - de som er i kjernen av besvarelsen – skal defineres.
5. Besvarelsen skal vise analytiske evne og refleksjon.

### **About this course:**

HGO4040 – Individual reading list consists in the preparation of a self-selected syllabus of 700 pages and a take-home exam. The reading list relates to the topic chosen by the student for the master thesis. The reading list is approved by the student's supervisor prior to the announcement of the take-home exam.

The student is expected to work independently to compile the reading list. Supervision is given only on the preparation of the reading list. No supervision is given on writing the examination paper.

### **I. Criteria for the assessment of an exam in HGO4040**

The exam for HGO4040 is a take-home exam. The following criteria should be applied in the assessment of the paper:

- The paper will address the given topic/question.
- The student is free to choose a particular perspective, approach and/or interpretation of the question. This must be explicitly substantiated.
- The paper must demonstrate active engagement with the self-selected syllabus. Additional sources can also be applied but to a minor extent.

A good HGO4040 exam paper is ...

- ✓ Focused, systematic, clear and well structured.
- ✓ Has a line of argument, a direction.
- ✓ Is theoretically informed: includes an analytical framework and uses it in the discussion.
- ✓ Can be empirical and build on cases to be analyzed, but it is not simply descriptive.
- ✓ It provides a coherent and relevant discussion, assessing and contrasting presented material.
- ✓ Has a complete and consistent list of references solidly based in the individual reading list.

Based on the above, the following aspects will detract from the grade:

- Limited or absent use of the course syllabus.
- Weak coherence, structure and analysis.
- Weak or absent discussion.
- Incomplete or inconsistent use of references.
- Limited use of individual reading list.
- Length of paper is below 4000 words.

## **II. Formal requirements for the delivery of the individual reading list and exam**

The following requirements apply for HGO4040:

- The reading list consists of a self-selected syllabus of 700 pages.
- The reading list must be submitted together with the examination paper.
- The length of the exam paper is 4000-6000 words, including notes, but excluding references.
- The exam answer must include a cover page with the following information: exam question, candidate number, semester-year, word count.