

Reflection Report Academic Skills

Position in the Bachelor Programme

The bachelor programme does not only teach (economic) content but as well the academic skills you will need for a professional career. For that reason we offer the opportunity to learn these skills all over the bachelor programme. The skills are integrated in the courses and related to the content of the course. The *rubric academic skills* presents the spread of skills over the courses.

This reflection report is the final element and the assessment of your academic skills learning. A pass on the academic skills report is one of the exam requirements for the bachelor degree and will be registered as a pass for 'Academic Skills'.

The goal of this assignment is to assess your reflection skills. It demands a critical view on your own actions and learning process. We do not assess the command of your skills in itself, but the capacity to present a critical analysis on it.

Assignment

The assignment consists of three parts: Reflection, Plans and Development. The reflection part refers to the skills you acquired during your bachelor studies so far. The plans part refers to your aspirations for the future. The development part refers to development goals in terms of academic skills.

Reflection

Present your experiences with the academic skills during your studies, the advances you made and the challenges you still hold for the future.

Describe the experiences, advances and challenges for all (7) skills. Refer as much as possible to very specific courses and experiences. Use these experiences to support your positive or negative statements on your performance in a specific skill. For skills 6 and 7 (Social responsibility and Labor market orientation) you are invited to refer to extracurricular activities you undertook during your bachelor studies.

For this part of the report, pay attention to the difference between reflection and evaluation. For this reflection, you are particularly invited to assess your own effort and behaviour during a course (instead of an assessment of the course itself). Which patterns of behaviour do you recognize, which beliefs and values steer your behaviour, and do you reach your goals (in your study, in life) with this behaviour? Describe chains of cause and consequence. Remember that the key questions in reflective writing are how? And why? Rather than what?

Please note that level 3 of 'Academic research' refers to the Applied Economics Research Course which you are still to complete. You are not expected to refer to the course in terms of achievements, though it would

make sense to refer to the course in terms of developments still to make or achievements to settle.

Plans

Present your plans for the future, the year(s) after you graduate from the bachelor programme. Do you intend to continue your studies in a master programme, will you search for an opening on the labour market and if so, at what kind of vacancies, will you continue with an internship, or do you have alternative plans?

What are the specific features of your plans, what's your motivation? What do you seek for yourself in terms of development or other goals?

Development

Confront your current position (as discussed in the Reflection part) with your plans for the future and describe your desired development process. Which skills need more attention? How could you work on these? Do you expect to work on these during the Applied Economics Research Course? Do you expect to acquire the experience during an internship? Or do you expect the master programme will bridge the gap? For all case; how can you improve your learning curve while working on these missing skills? Please note that U.S.E. will offer you the opportunity to participate in some workshops during the first week of the Applied Economic research Course. These workshops might strengthen some of your skills.

General instruction

As the report should show your proficiency in the full range of academic skills, the report is expected to present a high standard in terms of structure, references, language, phrases, analyses, logic, use of theories and models, and layout.

Report size

The number of words should be between 2.500 and 3.000. Please turn on the word count and print the result in text.

Assessment

The reflection report will be assessed by a U.S.E. lecturer. The score would be either pass, fail, or conditional pass.

In case of a *pass* the score will be registered in OSIRIS; you have fulfilled the academic skills requirements for the bachelor programme.

In case of a *fail* you are expected to rewrite the report; obviously the supervisor considered the report too weak to be able to change into a pass with a few adaptations. You have to resubmit the reflection report to your supervisor.

In case of a *conditional pass* score you will receive the opportunity to improve your report within a specific term. Resubmit the report before the deadline. Take care to address the issues that the supervisor advised you to reconsider.