University of Bath Department of Education

MA Unit Assignment and Dissertation Feedback Form

FINAL

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| Student’s name | xxx |

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| Unit/Dissertation title | ULL |

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| TUTOR’S Comments  Strengths in relation to the MA Assessment Elements  I really enjoyed reading your discussion of metacognition and learner identity with respect to IBDP learners. You make a very good case for the focus on metacognition in any learning programme (so there is wider relevance to what you say). You draw on a wide range of literature making critical use of IB policy/ thinking and appropriate research (e.g. Kolb and Kolb). You add your own commentary on these perspectives in a well-structured discussion. You develop a strong argument for supporting learners in developing identity as learners and metacognitive skills throughout their education.  I particularly liked the way you illuminated your argument using reflection on practice, in this case a vignette of one student, who exhibits well developed metacognitive skills. This is very good, applies the theory and brings your argument to life.  You write extremely well, adopting a scholarly and confident style.  Areas for improvement in relation to the MA Assessment Elements  Whilst you have added more reference and links to learning theory your assignment would still benefit from a deeper analysis of the learning theory underpinning metacognition. Where do concepts and theories about learning to learn/ metacognition originate? You refer to Piaget but perhaps miss a subtle point here about the value of peers challenging one another's thoughts and thus advancing their cognitive development. This is not necessarily adversarial or negative and is not conflict as we think of it ordinarily, instead it could be described as receiving an idea that does not match what we currently think – this creates ‘cognitive conflict’ and thus enables us to learn and move on. For example, Palinscar and Brown, used Piaget’s ideas to reveal that peer discussion and collaboration help students to monitor their own understanding and build new strategic capabilities. Alternatively, you might have adopted Vygostky’s ideas (sociocultural learning theory) as a framework for thinking about metacognition. This relates to the ‘content’ element of the MA assessment criteria, ‘ a well grounded conceptual framework...’ Something perhaps to consider further in the next stage of your MA study.  Other comments  You responded to feedback well, making key improvements to the assignment.  Aspects of this assignment would be worthy of professional dissemination – and / or of pursuit in your dissertation. Very well done. |

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| Tutor's Signature | xxx | Date | xxx | 1st marker |