

## Overview of Quality and Standards Framework

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### Review and Monitoring Programmes of Study

The following constitutes the University's primary mechanisms for periodic review and annual monitoring.

#### Routine or annual monitoring

- Internal moderation of assessment, including [Boards of Examiners](#).
- **External examiners' reports** in which independent academic peers provide assurance of academic standards, offer advice on further programme development, and contribute to any periodic review of the programme. These reports are scrutinised by the department and institution.
- **Annual monitoring** of taught units and programmes draws upon data from Staff/Student Liaison Committees, unit evaluations, student surveys and management information on admissions, progression and retention. A report is drawn up by the Director of Studies and is scrutinised at Faculty/School level.

#### Periodic review

- **Degree Scheme Review** is a method of periodic review undertaken to provide assurance of the standards and continuing validity of a programme, while also making recommendations on its future development. An internal Panel with external members will review a self-evaluation report produced by the relevant Department. The reports and the recommendations of the Panel are scrutinised by the Faculty/School and reviewed in an annual summary for institutional and process issues by the University Learning, Teaching and Quality Committee.
- Where programmes involve working with other organisations a periodic review of the quality of partnership to deliver programmes to the University's standards is also undertaken.
- **Professional accreditation** of programmes brings an additional element of academic peer review and helps to assure students and employers of the professional validity and recognition of programme contents and standards.

#### Arrangements for 2018/19

- In order to enable the transformation of curricula and approaches to assessment envisaged in the University's Education Strategy 2016-2021, during 2018/19 activity and resource will focus foremost on transformational change, rather than on routine activity. Programme review and development activity in 2018/19 will therefore predominantly take place in the context of the Curriculum Transformation programme.
- Where deemed necessary or appropriate (for example, because of accrediting body requirements), a degree scheme review may be arranged on an ad hoc basis. Collaborative and professional doctoral programmes are currently not included in curriculum transformation activity and will continue to undertake periodic programme review.