

The University of Leeds

EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2012– 2013

Part A: General Information

Subject area and awards being examined

Faculty / School of:	School of Design
Subject(s):	<i>MSc Advanced Textiles and Performance Clothing</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	
Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):	MSc

Completed report

The completed report should be attached to an e-mail and sent as soon as possible, and no later than six weeks after the relevant meeting of the Board of Examiners, to exexadmin@leeds.ac.uk.

Alternatively you can post your report to: **Head of Academic Quality and Standards**
Academic Quality and Standards Team
Room 12:81, EC Stoner Building
The University of Leeds, Leeds LS2 9JT

Part B: Comments for the Institution on the Examination Process and Standards

Matters for Urgent Attention

If there are any areas which you think require urgent attention before the programme is offered again please note them in this box

None

Only applicable in first year of appointment

Were you provided with copies of previous relevant External Examiners' reports and the response of the School to these?

NA

For Examiners completing their term of appointment

Please comment on your experience of the programme(s) over the period of your appointment, remarking in particular on changes from year to year and the progressive development and enhancement of the learning and teaching provision, on standards achieved, on marking and assessment and the procedures of the School

NA

Standards

1. Please indicate the extent to which the programme Aims and Intended Learning Outcomes (ILOs) were commensurate with the level of the award

- *The appropriateness of the Intended Learning Outcomes for the programme(s)/modules and of the structure and content of the programme(s);*
- *The extent to which standards are appropriate for the award or award element under consideration.*

Programme structure has not changed significantly from last year. I am happy with the content, intended learning outcomes and the structure of this programme

2. Did the Aims and ILOs meet the expectations of the national subject benchmark (where relevant)?

- *The comparability of the programme(s) with similar programme(s) at other institutions and against national benchmarks and the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications.*

Yes. MSc Advanced Textiles and Performance Clothing Programme is comparable to the MSc programme at

3. Please comment on the assessment methods and the appropriateness of these to the ILOs

- *The design and structure of the assessment methods, and the arrangements for the marking of modules and the classification of awards;*
- *The quality of teaching, learning and assessment methods that may be indicated by student performance.*

Students, both full-time and part-time, performed well. I was impressed by the quality of majority of the dissertations. I believe this is a good programme with potential to increase the intake in future years.

4. Were students given adequate opportunity to demonstrate their achievement of the Aims and ILOs?

- *The academic standards demonstrated by the students and, where possible, their performance in relation to students on comparable courses;*
- *The strengths and weaknesses of the students as a cohort.*

Yes

Performance of the students is comparable to MSc Textile Technology programme at _____

5. For Examiners responsible for programmes that include clinical practice components, please comment on the learning and assessment of practice components of the curriculum

NA

6. Please comment on the nature and effectiveness of enhancements to the programme(s) and modules since the previous year

It would be particularly helpful if you could also identify areas of good practice which are worthy of wider dissemination.

Modules are similar to last year

7. Please comment on the influence of research on the curriculum and learning and teaching

This may include examples of curriculum design informed by current research in the subject; practice informed by research; students undertaking research.

Choice of dissertation topics is influenced by the research expertise at Leeds in the areas of medical textiles, novel fibres and nonwovens.

For Examiners involved in mentoring arrangements

8. If you have acted as a mentor to a new External Examiner or have received mentor support please comment here on the arrangements

NA

9. The University and its Schools provide guidance for External Examiners as to their roles, powers and responsibilities. Please indicate whether this material was sufficient for you to act effectively as an External Examiner.

- Whether External Examiners have sufficient access to the material needed to make the required judgements and whether they are encouraged to request additional information.

Guidance for External Examiners is adequate

10. Did you receive appropriate documentation relating to the programmes and/or parts of programmes for which you have responsibility, e.g. programme specifications or module handbooks, marking criteria?

- The coherence of the policies and procedures relating to External Examiners and whether they match the explicit roles they are asked to perform.

Yes

11. Were you provided with all draft examination papers/assessments? Was the nature and level of the questions appropriate? If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?

Yes, I received the draft exam papers on time and was able to comment. Questions were set at appropriate level of difficulty

12. Was sufficient assessed / examined work made available to enable you to have confidence in your evaluation of the standard of student work? Were the scripts clearly marked/annotated?

Yes.

If possible, I would like to receive the dissertations a week ahead of the exam board meeting. This will enable me to go through the dissertations thoroughly.

13. Was the choice of subjects for dissertations appropriate? Was the method and standard of assessment appropriate?

Choice of topics for dissertations is appropriate to the MSc Programme. Standard of assessment was fair. I have a specific recommendation I relation to the marking procedure. Each dissertation is marked by two examiners, and subsequently a SINGLE mark is awarded. My recommendation is to record the marks awarded by each examiner as well as the consensus mark. If the difference between the two marks is greater than, say 10%, External Examiner's opinion may be sought.

14. Were the administrative arrangements satisfactory for the whole process, including the operation of the Board of Examiners? Were you able to attend the meeting? Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Board?

Yes, I attended the meeting and the procedures were satisfactory

15. Were appropriate procedures in place to give due consideration to mitigating circumstances and medical evidence?

yes

Other comments

Please use this box if you wish to make any further comments not covered elsewhere on the form

Presentations may be used as part of the assessment criteria for dissertations. If possible, I would like to attend the presentations

From: <>
Sent: 10 February 2014 13:29
To: <>
Subject: Response to Examiner's comments

This is a response to comments of external examiner <>(University of <>) in relation to MSc Advanced Textiles & Performance Clothing.

<> provided comments on the programme for years 2011-2012 and 2012-2013. The comments were generally very positive and we would like to thank the examiner for these positive comments.

In <> report on year 2012-2013, <> did make one specific comments that <> felt needed addressing: Currently, each dissertation (TEXT5116) is marked by two examiners, and subsequently a SINGLE mark is awarded. <> recommendation is to record TWO separate marks awarded by each examiner as well as the consensus mark. If the difference between the two marks is greater than, say 10%, External Examiner's opinion may be sought. We are implementing this process for session 2013-2014.

Best regards

<>
Programme Leader

<>
Head of Sustainable Materials Research Group Centre for Technical
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LS2 9JT
<>

