

The University of Leeds
EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2013– 2014

Part A: General Information

Subject area and awards being examined

Faculty / School of:	School of Languages, Cultures and Societies
Subject(s):	<i>Chinese</i>
Programme(s) / Module(s):	Undergraduate programme
Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):	BA

Name and home Institution / affiliation of Examiner

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 Quality Assurance**
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

No

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?

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

Overall impressed by the standard of teaching, the rigour of assessment, and the collegiality in the department. Some small suggestions that I raised in my first two years were adopted. Administrative staff very efficient and helpful.

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.*

Appropriate and to the level for the award. Good standards set and upheld.

I am impressed by the range of modules offered in the department in different fields across the humanities and social sciences, which I think is vital to a healthy programme and the fulfilment of the ILOs. The language provision is also quite strong, especially in the final year.
- 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, comparable to other Russell group institutions.
- 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.*

Very good. Lots of very thorough feedback.
- 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.
- 5. For Examiners responsible for programmes that include clinical practice components, please comment on the learning and assessment of practice components of the curriculum**

N/A
- 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.

N/A
- 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.

Good evidence that research conducted by staff finds its way into the teaching, especially at levels 2-3.
- 8. Where the programme forms part of an Integrated PhD, please comment on the appropriateness of the programme as training for a PhD**

N/A

For Examiners involved in mentoring arrangements

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

N/A

The Examination/Assessment Process

10. 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.

Yes.

11. 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.

12. 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.

13. 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.

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

Yes.

15. 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.

16. 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

School of Languages, Cultures and Societies

FACULTY OF ARTS



UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

03 March 2015

Dear

Response to External Examiner's Reports (for Chinese UG programmes and MA modules in translation), 2013-2014

Many thanks for your two Examiner's Reports (for undergraduate Chinese programmes and for CTS modules relating to Chinese translation) for the academic year 2013-2014.

I am delighted that, in our undergraduate programme, you are impressed by the standard of research-led teaching, assessment, the thoroughness of feedback and the range of modules offered by the department. I am also pleased to note that you feel we have taken your previous suggestions in past reports on board, and made appropriate modifications.

With regard to the MA translation modules, I'm also glad you have found improved consistency in the use of feedback forms, that the feedback provided was thorough, and that standards reached are comparable to other Russell Group institutions.

It only remains for me to thank you very much for all your input to, and support for, our programmes over the last few years and for your very helpful contributions at the exam board. Our programmes have benefited enormously from your comments, and we wish you the very best for your new position in Hong Kong! It's been a pleasure working with you.

With thanks and very best wishes