

# The University of Leeds

## EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

ACADEMIC YEAR: 2018-19

QAT Received 28/11/2019

### Part A: General Information

#### Subject area and awards being examined

*Title and Name of Examiner:*

<i>Faculty / School of:</i>	Education
<i>Subject(s):</i>	
<i>Programme(s) / Module(s):</i>	MA Education & Professional Enquiry EDUC5015M Developing Teaching and Learning Through Evidence-based Practice EDUC5016M Leading Teaching and Learning Through Evidence-based Practice  EDUC5433M Dissertation
<i>Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):</i>	MA

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

#### Points of innovation and/or good practice

The research projects for the dissertation were varied and the rationale for undertaking them were sound. I do feel students have engaged with this module well. EDUC5016M The feedback/feedforward was outstanding and a great example for the department. The feedback was dialogic where the first marker had a detailed conversation with the author/work throughout. The marker was truly engaged with the student and the piece of work they were marking. The marking was very positive, giving affirmation for the mark awarded. The marker also gave details on the student could improve.

#### Enhancements made from the previous year

*Please highlight any enhancements made to the programme(s) or processes over the past year in this box.*

#### 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*

There are no matters for urgent attention.

#### **For Examiners in the first year of appointment only**

1.	Were you provided with an External Examiner Handbook?	Y / N
2.	Were you provided with copies of previous External Examiners' reports and the School's responses to these?	Y / N
3.	Were you provided with a External Examiner Mentor?	Y / N

#### **For Examiners completing their term of appointment only**

4.	Have you observed improvements in the programme(s) over the period of your appointment?	Y / N
5.	Has the school responded to comments and recommendations you have made?	Y / N

6.	Where recommendations have not been implemented, did the school provide clear reasons for this?	Y / N
7.	Have you acted as an External Examiner Mentor?	Y / N

*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*

## Standards

8.	Is the overall programme structure coherent and appropriate for the level of study?	Y
9.	Does the programme structure allow the programme aims and intended learning outcomes to be met?	Y
10.	Are the programme aims and intended learning outcomes commensurate with the level of award?	Y
11.	Did the Aims and ILOs meet the expectations of the national subject benchmark (where relevant)?	Y
12.	Is the programme(s) comparable with similar programmes at other institutions?	Y

*Please use this box to explain your overall impression of the programme structure, design, aims and intended learning outcomes.*

There is a clear link between the various components of the programme. It is clearly structured, and the programme design allows for the articulated learning outcomes to be met.

13.	Is the influence of research on the curriculum and learning and teaching clear?	Y
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*Please explain how this is/could be achieved (examples might include: curriculum design informed by current research in the subject; practice informed by research; students undertaking research)*

All the modules I have examined have involved student led research which is a key aspect of research informed teaching and learning.

14.	Does the programme form part of an Integrated PhD?	N
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*Please comment on the appropriateness of the programme as training for a PhD:*

15.	Does the programme include clinical practice components?	N
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*Please comment on the learning and assessment of practice components of the curriculum here:*

16.	Is the programme accredited by a Professional or Statutory Regulatory Body (PSRB)?	N
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*Please comment on the value of, and the programme's ability to meet, PSRB requirements here:*

## Assessment and Feedback

17.	Does the programme design clearly align intended learning outcomes with assessment?	Y
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*Please comment on the assessment methods and the appropriateness of these to the ILOs, in particular: 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.*

Assessment methods are appropriate for the LOs.

18.	Is the design and structure of the assessment methods appropriate to the level of award?	Y
19.	Were students given adequate opportunity to demonstrate their achievement of the programme aims and intended learning outcomes?	Y
<p><i>Please comment on 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:</i></p> <p>The standards demonstrated on this programme are similar to those I have experienced at other HEIs.</p> <p><i>Please use this box to provide any additional comments you would like to make in relation to assessment and feedback:</i></p> <p>Please see points of innovation box.</p>		

### The Progression and Awards Process

20.	Were you provided with guidance relating to the External Examiner's role, powers and responsibilities in the examination process?	Y
21.	Was the progression and award guidance provided sufficient for you to act effectively as an External Examiner?	Y
22.	Did you receive appropriate programme documentation for your area(s) of responsibility?	Y
23.	Did you receive appropriate module documentation for your area(s) of responsibility?	Y
24.	Did you receive full details of marking criteria applicable to your area(s) of responsibility?	Y
25.	Were you provided with all draft examination papers/assessments?	Y
26.	Was the nature and level of the assessment questions appropriate?	Y
27.	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments on assessment questions?	Y
28.	Was sufficient assessed work made available to enable you to have confidence in your evaluation of the standard of student work?	Y
29.	Were the examination scripts clearly marked/annotated?	Y
30.	Was the choice of subjects for final year projects and/or dissertations appropriate?	Y
31.	Was the method and standard of assessment appropriate for the final year projects and/or dissertations?	Y
32.	Were the administrative arrangements satisfactory for the whole process, including the operation of the Progression and Awards Board?	Y
33.	Were you able to attend the Progression and Awards Board meeting?	Y
34.	Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Progression and Awards Board?	Y
35.	Were you satisfied with the way decisions from the School Special Circumstances meeting were communicated to the Progression and Awards Board?	Y
<p><i>Please use this box to provide any additional comments you would like to make on the questions above:</i></p>		

### Other comments

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

I have given the programme team detailed feedback on the marking and quality of the assignment submissions I examined. They are receptive to suggestions, open to change and want to continually improve their provision. This is commendable and ensures the viability of the programme and essentially 'future-proofing' it.

**Name of School and Head of School (or nominee)**

Title and Name of Examiner:

Subject(s):

*Education*

Programme(s) / Module(s):

MA Education & Professional Enquiry  
 EDUC5015M Developing Teaching and Learning Through Evidence-based Practice  
 EDUC5016M Leading Teaching and Learning Through Evidence-based Practice  
 EDUC5433M Dissertation

Awards (e.g. BA/BSc/MSc etc):

MA EPE

Title and Name of Responder:

Position\*:

Programme leader for MA EPE

Faculty / School of:

*Social Sciences / School of Education*

Address for communication:

School of Education  
 Hilary Place  
 University of Leeds  
 Leeds LS2 9JT

Email:

Telephone:

\*If the individual responding to the report is not the Head of School please state their position within the School.

**Completing the School response**

The completed School response (including the full original report) must be sent directly to the External Examiner. A copy must also be emailed to the Quality Assurance Team at [qat@leeds.ac.uk](mailto:qat@leeds.ac.uk). External Examiners should receive a formal response no later than six weeks after receipt of the original report.

**Response to Points of innovation and/or good practice**

We are delighted with \_\_\_\_\_ comments and positive points regarding both the students' engagement with the modules and the quality of the work. We highlight the following:

- Assignment 1: marking and feedback was of a very high standard with clear and detailed, truly engaged with each student's engagement.
- All marking was very positive and supported the grade explicitly.
- Useful and effective next steps were also provided for each student.

All research dissertations were of sound focus and appropriateness.

**Response to Enhancements made from the previous year**

The MA EPE team is very pleased that \_\_\_\_\_ acknowledges that we make every attempt to actively engage with feedback provided by external examiners. We value \_\_\_\_\_ comments and support very highly. \_\_\_\_\_ recognises that this programme is being withdrawn, yet continues to support our efforts to address improvements in feedback and engaging our small group of busy full time teachers in this part time programme.

**Response to Matters for Urgent Attention**

If any areas have been identified for urgent attention before the programme is offered again please provide a specific response to them here:

N/A

**Response to questions 1-7 (and related comments)**

Schools may provide a general response; however, where Examiners raise specific points these must be addressed individually:

We are very pleased with positive responses in this area of questioning.

## Standards

### **Response to questions 8 to 16 (and related comments)**

*Schools may provide a general response; however, where Examiners raise specific points these must be addressed individually:*

We are very pleased with positive responses in the appropriate area of questioning.

## Assessment and Feedback

### **Response to questions 17 to 19 (and related comments)**

*Schools may provide a general response; however, where Examiners raise specific points these must be addressed individually:*

We are repeatedly very pleased with positive responses in this particular area of questioning

## The Progression and Awards Process

### **Response to questions 20-35 (and related comments)**

*Schools may provide a general response; however, where Examiners raise specific points these must be addressed individually:*

Again, very positive responses by are gratefully received and shared amongst the team.

## Other comments

### **Response to items included in the 'Other Comments' section of the report**

We have really appreciated detailed previous feedback which has informed and helped to refine our work on this programme. We are grateful for support and recognition of the work the team has put into this programme.