

COURSE SPECIFICATION: Student Learning Experience



**ROBERT GORDON
UNIVERSITY • ABERDEEN**

STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The University's ambition is to be consistently one of the best modern universities in the UK. To achieve this ambition, the University focuses on the needs of students, economies and societies, aiming to:

- enrich the all-round experience of students throughout their engagement with the University;
- enhance the quality and relevance of taught provision;
- increase the diversification of the student population;
- expand the provision of corporate programmes and lifelong learning opportunities;
- grow internationally excellent research and knowledge exchange activities and reputation;
- secure economic and environmental sustainability.

The University believes a professional education starts with excellent teaching and research within a supporting environment, and is about a lifelong and sustainable approach to working and living. The University's portfolio is informed by its commercial and public sector partners, who are instrumental in helping to develop courses to ensure their relevance for the evolving economy and society. Many include practical experience and placements, and are professionally accredited. These contribute to the University's position as one of the UK's top universities for graduate employment.

By combining the best of both academic and professional worlds, the University aims to give its students the best possible start to their careers. A degree from Robert Gordon University is confirmation to a future employer that a student will possess the required blend of learning, skills and experience.

TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGY

ASSESSMENT

SUPPORT FOR TEACHING, LEARNING AND ASSESSMENT

The University provides a number of means of supporting teaching and learning:

- student induction organised on a course or School basis;
- an ongoing scheme of personal/pastoral support for students;
- an extensive programme of student study skills delivered through the *Library* and the *Study Skills and Access Unit*;
- an extensive library of learning resources;
- close collaboration with industry and professional, statutory and regulatory bodies;
- the University's active participation in the Scottish Funding Council's *Quality Enhancement Themes*, www.enhancementthemes.ac.uk/;
- support for staff from the *Department for the Enhancement of Learning, Teaching and Access (DELTA)*, including credit rated teaching, learning and assessment provision;
- extensive opportunities for student placements with companies or organisations, academic overseas exchange programmes, and support for entrepreneurial activity;

- *CampusMoodle*, <http://campusmoodle.rgu.ac.uk/>, the University's dedicated virtual learning environment;
- a commitment to knowledge exchange and technology transfer through focused research activity, which contributes to the critical underpinning for all taught courses;
- the expanding provision of state-of-the-art, purpose-built facilities and buildings.

MONITORING OF QUALITY AND STANDARDS

The University employs several mechanisms for evaluating and improving the quality and standards of teaching, learning and assessment, including:

- *Annual Course/Programme Appraisals* are prepared for each course and reviewed and approved by Course/Programme Management Teams and School Academic Boards which consider, amongst other things, feedback generated from student questionnaires;
- *Institution-Led Subject Review*, involving external panel members, on a six-yearly basis to formally review its major subject provision, followed by a three year interim review to monitor progress against actions/issues raised through the review process;
- *External Examiner Annual Reports*;
- Ongoing liaison with industrial/professional liaison groups.

Formal Committees with responsibility for monitoring and evaluating quality and standards:

- Staff/Student Liaison Committees, or equivalent;
- Course/Programme Management Teams;
- School Academic Boards;
- Assessment Boards;
- Quality Assurance and Enhancement Committee and associated Sub-Committees.

FEEDBACK FROM STUDENTS

The University and RGU:Union work in partnership to create an environment which stimulates:

- the participation of students, by empowering them to proactively provide views and opinions;
- a supportive learning community where students and staff engage in meaningful dialogue; and
- the engagement of students in the design of solutions and enhancements.

This approach is underpinned by the *Student Partnership Agreement* which promotes the ethos of partnership at all levels of the University. Further information can be found at the Student Representation and Partnership CampusMoodle Area: www.rgu.ac.uk/studentpartnership.

There are a variety of opportunities for students to provide feedback to the University, and to become actively involved in shaping their learning experience. These opportunities are integral to the University's approach to the quality assurance and enhancement of teaching and learning, and the holistic student experience. Mechanisms through which students are engaged and supported include:

- participation in *Student Experience Questionnaires (SEQ)* and where relevant the *National Student Survey (NSS)*;
- staff/student liaison arrangements at course/programme level;
- support for Student Representatives;
- student representation on Institution-Led Subject Review Panels and Validations;
- student representation on key University committees.

DATE OF PRODUCTION / REVISION

None.

NOTE

This document constitutes one of two course documents that should be read together:

Course Specification: Core Award Data
Course Specification: Student Learning Experience

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In compiling this information the University has taken every care to be as accurate as possible, though it must be read as subject to change at any time and without notice. The University reserves the right to make variations to the contents or methods of delivery of courses, to discontinue, merge or combine courses, and to introduce new courses.

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