

COURSE SPECIFICATION: Student Learning Experience



**ROBERT GORDON
UNIVERSITY • ABERDEEN**

STUDENT LEARNING EXPERIENCE

The **Purpose** of the University is:

- To be an innovative, inclusive and professionally focused University that has a positive impact on those we serve.

The **Mission** of the University is:

- To transform people and communities by providing excellent teaching, research and enterprise opportunities to contribute to economic, social and cultural and environmental sustainability.

The **Culture** of the University is:

- To recognise and celebrate the values of curiosity, authenticity, approachability, collaboration, enterprise, ambition, respectfulness, and equality.

Driven by the spirit of curiosity to continually improve, our values and principles will guide us. Our partnerships with other organisations and the communities we serve are also a mechanism to develop and grow our diversity. We have a strong commitment to widening and extending access to our courses, regardless of an individual's background.

At the core of the University's significant achievements is the commitment and dedication of our people. The sense of partnership between our staff and students is strong and supporting our students to succeed in their studies and beyond is deeply ingrained in our culture. These features are reflected in the University's student satisfaction rates, which in recent years have consistently placed RGU in the top 10 of universities in the UK.

RGU has a long history of inspiring highly employable graduates. This is achieved through close, collaborative contact with employers in the design and delivery of our curriculum; the range and breadth of accreditations with professional and statutory bodies; the significant role work placements and work-based learning play within our courses; and the embedding of enterprise across all our activity. In a changing society, we will ensure the continued evolution of our curriculum so that our graduates can continue to succeed in their ambitions and make a positive impact within society well into the future.

To achieve our ambitions, our curriculum must be global in outlook, and we must maximise the international reach of our course portfolio. The University's research activities must have international impact and our enterprise activities must reflect the global reach of the economic sectors we work with and the ambitions of the region.

RGU recognises that the creation of a sustainable future for all is a priority that unites us globally, and which demands expertise, creativity, and innovation from all subject areas and professional disciplines. Consequently, sustainability is integrated into all courses, equipping students with skills and competences that are essential for their future careers and lives.

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, including online support, provided by the *Inclusion Centre*;
- an extensive programme of student study skills delivered through *Student Life* and the *Library*;
- an extensive library of learning resources;
- close collaboration with industry and professional, statutory and regulatory bodies;
- the University's active participation in the Quality Assurance Agency's Quality Enhancement Themes, www.enhancementthemes.ac.uk;
- support for staff from the *Department for Academic Quality and Learning Enhancement (AQLE)*, 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 and community engagement opportunities;
- access to a range of professionally qualified, quality assured careers professionals to support individual students and graduates career planning and opportunity search, supported by a range of bespoke and contemporary online advice and information including the extensive RGU eHub;
- Moodle, <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 Appraisal Reports* 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 Moodle Area: [Student Representation & Partnership | RGU](#)

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 evaluation questionnaires 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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