

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Wednesday 20 April 2011

Report from the Programme Approval Group for the College of Arts

Ms H Clegg, Senate Office

Present:Professor R Hill (Convener), Dr M Carroll, Professor R Welbury (*vice* Dr V Bissell)**In attendance:**

Ms H Clegg

1. *POSTGRADUATE PROPOSALS*1.1 **MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow & International Art Nouveau (New Programme)**

Rationale: The programme has been designed to promote Glasgow's, and Scotland's art collections, historic houses, archival holdings and libraries in order to attract both home and international students to the study of art history.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 25-26 (PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 9, a short introductory paragraph should be inserted. Additionally, the Group considered that the last two bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 10, in the penultimate bullet point under the 'Knowledge and Understanding' sub-heading, the words 'and understand' should be deleted;
- In Section 14, the programme structure to be followed by part-time students was not clear – this should be added. Additionally, a link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful – the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section;
- In Section 15, the final sentence should be removed.

Conclusion:

The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the conditions identified above being met.

1.2 MLitt European Studies: Cultures, Societies & Languages (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been designed to provide a multidisciplinary forum for advanced study in European and Latin American cultures and languages, offering vocational and research preparation for students.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 25-26 (PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Modern Languages and Cultures';
- In Section 9, the Group considered that the third, sixth and eighth bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 10, in the penultimate bullet point under the 'Knowledge and Understanding' sub-heading, the words 'understand and' should be deleted. Under the other sub-headings, the standard wording 'By the end of this programme, students will be able to...' should be used;
- In Section 11, the weighting information should be removed;
- In Section 12, more detail is required;
- In Section 13, the information about benchmark statements should be removed and replaced with 'none', as the benchmark statements displayed are related to undergraduate study;
- In Section 14, the first paragraph, excluding the last sentence, should be either deleted or moved to Section 9, Programme Aims. In this section, the Group found the table unhelpful, and require it to be revised for clarity. A list of the available course titles should be added. Additionally, information on available exit points, and on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students, should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful – the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section.

The Group noted that this programme offered four available streams. In order for the specialist stream to appear on the student transcript and degree parchment, each stream required to be entered into the PIP system as a programme in its own right. Students should be registered on the appropriate stream from the beginning of their studies (though could, of course, transfer at a later stage if they changed their specialism). Previously, this requirement could be bypassed via a manual update by Registry. However, given the large number of 'streamed' programmes being proposed across the University, and the increased manual workload requirement this would represent, it was agreed that each stream would require its own programme title and code. Whilst it was acknowledged that the programme specifications for the various streams would be similar, there would necessarily be some variation in (for example) the programme aims and intended learning outcomes.

Conclusion:

The Group did not consider that the proposal could be recommended to ASC at this stage. The Group will reconsider the proposal when the conditions identified above have been met and the four streams have been identified as programmes in their own right.

1.3 MLitt/MTh Religion, Theology & Culture with Specialisation (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been designed to overhaul PGT provision in Theology and Religious Studies by replacing five of the six current Masters programmes with a single, flexible programme with specialist streams.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 25-26 (PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Critical Studies';
- In Section 9, the first paragraph should be deleted, as should the information under the heading 'General Aims'. The heading 'Programme Specific Aims' is not necessary and should be deleted;
- In Section 10, no information appeared under the heading 'Knowledge and Understanding' – this required to be completed;
- In Section 11, further detail was required;
- In Section 13, the information about benchmark statements should be removed and replaced with 'none', as the benchmark statements displayed are related to undergraduate study;
- In Section 14, the first paragraph should be removed, as it gives the same information as is given under the heading 'Structure'. The final paragraph should also be removed. A list of the available options should be added. Additionally, information on available exit points, and on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students, should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful – the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section.

The Group noted from the minute of the Higher Degrees Board of Studies, held on 4 February 2011, that consultations appeared to have been undertaken after this meeting date and the consideration of the programme proposal. The Group wished to stress to the College the importance of carrying out these mandatory consultations **prior** to Board of Studies consideration.

The Group noted that this programme offered six available streams. In order for the specialist stream to appear on the student transcript and degree parchment, each stream required to be entered into the PIP system as a programme in its own right. Students should be registered on the appropriate stream from the beginning of their studies (though could, of course, transfer at a later stage if they changed their specialism). Previously, this requirement could be bypassed via a manual update by Registry. However, given the large number of 'streamed' programmes being proposed across the University, and the increased manual workload requirement this would represent, it was agreed that each stream would require its own programme title and code. Whilst it was acknowledged that the programme specifications for the various streams would be similar, there would necessarily be some variation in (for example) the programme aims and intended learning outcomes.

Conclusion:

The Group did not consider that the proposal could be recommended to ASC at this stage. The Group will reconsider the proposal when the conditions identified

above have been met and the six streams have been identified as programmes in their own right.

- 1.4 MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies (New Programme)**
MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies (New Programme)
MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies with Archaeology (New Programme)
MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies with Celtic & Gaelic (New Programme)
MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies with Scottish History (New Programme)
MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies with Scottish Literature (New Programme)
PgDip Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies (New Programme)

Rationale: The programmes have been designed to replace the existing MLitt in Scottish Studies, and enlarge the range of subject areas contributing to teaching. It will provide the opportunity for the advanced study of Scottish history and culture.

Regulations: The MLitt programmes will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG). They will also be added to the list on Arts 25-26 (PG). The PgDip programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 21 (PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 23 (PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 9, a short introductory paragraph should be inserted. Additionally, the Group considered that the last two bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 10, many of the intended learning outcomes appeared to be very similar to the programme aims. This section should therefore be revised. It should also be clarified which intended learning outcomes related to the MLitt and which related to the PgDip, where different;
- In Section 11, there was a great deal of unnecessary detail. The information did not require to be organised in the same way as the intended learning outcomes. This section should be rewritten, and the School may wish to refer to the relevant section in the 'MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow & International Art Nouveau' specification for guidance;
- In Section 12, more detail was required;
- In Section 14, the available core and optional courses should be listed. Additionally, information on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section.

Conclusion:

The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the conditions identified above being met.

- 1.5 MMus Historically Informed Performance Practice (New Programme)**

Rationale: The programme has been designed to exploit the presence at Glasgow of world-class performer-scholars in Music, in order to aid international recruitment.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 25-26 (PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 8, the word 'undergraduate' should be replaced by the word 'honours';
- In Section 11, two typographical errors needed to be corrected, in the 5th and 9th lines;
- In Section 13, the information about benchmark statements should be removed and replaced with 'none', as the benchmark statements displayed are related to undergraduate study;
- In Section 14, the final section headed 'Schedule' should be deleted, as this repeats information already provided. Some of the information in the two preceding paragraphs would be more appropriately placed in Section 11, 'Assessment Methods'. The Group were unsure as to whether the course titles listed were the actual course titles (e.g.'HIPP Seminar 1') as they did not describe the course content. Information on available exit points should be included, and a link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section;
- In Section A3 of the Proposal Support Document accompanying the programme specification, there was no confirmation that there had been agreement regarding additional resources required to run the programme. The College is asked to confirm this agreement has been secured and with whom.

The Group noted that this programme offered two available streams. In order for the specialist stream to appear on the student transcript and degree parchment, each stream required to be entered into the PIP system as a programme in its own right. Students should be registered on the appropriate stream from the beginning of their studies (though could, of course, transfer at a later stage if they changed their specialism). Previously, this requirement could be bypassed via a manual update by Registry. However, given the large number of 'streamed' programmes being proposed across the University, and the increased manual workload requirement this would represent, it was agreed that each stream would require its own programme title and code. Whilst it was acknowledged that the programme specifications for the two streams would be similar, there would necessarily be some variation in (for example) the programme aims and intended learning outcomes.

Conclusion:

The Group did not consider that the proposal could be recommended to ASC at this stage. The Group will reconsider the proposal when the conditions identified above have been met and the two streams have been identified as programmes in their own right.

1.6 MSc International Cinema (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been designed to attract UK, EU and international students by addressing one of the key areas of growth within the discipline, providing a curriculum of relevance to the cinematic experiences and interest of a broad spectrum of graduates.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 25-26 (PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 1, the words 'full time' and 'part time' should not appear in the programme title (or, if desired, could appear in brackets after the title);
- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 9, a short introductory paragraph should be inserted;
- In Section 11, further detail was required. Additionally, the Group did not consider 'Work Placement' to be an assessment method;
- In Section 13, the information about the benchmark statement should be removed and replaced with 'none', as the benchmark statement displayed is related to undergraduate study;
- In Section 14, the programme structure information was not clearly displayed. The Group recommends that this be reproduced in tabular form, clearly showing the available courses and credits. Information on available exit points should be included, and a link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section.

The Group wished clarification from the College regarding the Work Placement element. It was not clear how this would be assessed. Additionally, confirmation was required as to whether the placement was truly independent work, as required by the generic Masters regulations (Arts 25 (PG) Section 9).

Conclusion:

The Group did not consider that the proposal could be recommended to ASC at this stage. The Group will reconsider the proposal when the conditions identified above have been met and clarification provided.

1.7 MLitt Art History: Art: Politics: Transgression: 20th Century Avant-Gardes (Major Change)

Rationale: The change in title of this existing programme had been made following a recommendation by RIO for marketing purposes. It had also been restructured.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 1, a typographical error in the part-time title needed to be corrected;
- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 9, the second paragraph should be removed. The second sentence of this paragraph could, if desired, be moved to Section 8, 'Entrance Requirements'. The second, fourth and fifth bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 11, the weighting information should be removed. Additionally, examples of 'equivalent forms of assessment' should be provided;

- In Section 12, the information did not require to be organised in the same way as the intended learning outcomes. This section should be revised, and the School may wish to refer to the relevant section in the 'MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow & International Art Nouveau' specification for guidance;
- In Section 14, the available optional courses should be listed or a link provided. Additionally, information on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section.

Conclusion:

The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the conditions identified above being met.

1.8 MLitt Art History: Dress & Textile Histories (Major Change)

Rationale: The change in title of this existing programme had been made following a recommendation by RIO for marketing purposes. It had also been restructured.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 9, the second, third, fourth, seventh and eighth bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 10, the information should be revised to follow the standard wording and format (see the programme specification for the 'MLitt Art History: Art: Politics: Transgression: 20th Century Avant-Gardes' proposal for reference). Additionally, the second paragraph should be deleted as it is a duplicate of the first paragraph;
- In Section 14, the available optional courses should be listed or a link provided. Additionally, information on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section.

Conclusion:

The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the conditions identified above being met.

1.9 MLitt Art History: History of Collecting & Collections (Major Change)

Rationale: The change in title of this existing programme had been made following a recommendation by RIO for marketing purposes. It had also been restructured.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 1, the 'full time' flag and question marks should be removed from the title;
- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 9, the third, fourth, sixth and seventh bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 10, the final bullet point should be amended to read 'present evidence of skills...';
- In Section 11, the weighting information should be removed. Additionally, examples of 'equivalent forms of assessment' should be provided;
- In Section 12, the information did not require to be organised in the same way as the intended learning outcomes. This section should be revised, and the School may wish to refer to the relevant section in the 'MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow & International Art Nouveau' specification for guidance;
- In Section 14, the available optional courses should be listed or a link provided. Additionally, information on possible exit points and on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section;
- In Section 15, the final sentence should be removed.

Conclusion:

The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the conditions identified above being met.

1.10 MLitt Art History: Making & Meaning: Approaches in Technical Art History (Major Change)

Rationale: The change in title of this existing programme had been made following a recommendation by RIO for marketing purposes. It had also been restructured.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 6, the School displayed should be 'School of Culture and Creative Arts';
- In Section 9, the third, fourth, and sixth bullet points represented Intended Learning Outcomes, rather than programme aims. These should be deleted, or revised as specific programme aims;
- In Section 10, the final bullet point should be amended to read 'present evidence of skills...';
- In Section 11, the weighting information should be removed. Additionally, examples of 'equivalent forms of assessment' should be provided;
- In Section 12, the information did not require to be organised in the same way as the intended learning outcomes. This section should be revised, and the School

may wish to refer to the relevant section in the 'MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow & International Art Nouveau' specification for guidance;

- In Section 14, the final paragraph should be removed, as it repeats information provided in the table. The available optional courses should be listed or a link provided, and information on the programme structure to be followed for part-time students should be included. A link to the regulations governing the programme would be useful - the link <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar/calendar2011-12/contents/> should be used, with a reference to the relevant College to assist the reader in finding the correct section;
- In Section 15, the final sentence should be removed.

Conclusion:

The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the conditions identified above being met.

1.11 MSc Museum Studies (Theory & Practice) (History of Collecting & Collections) (Artefacts & Material Cultures) (Dress & Textile Histories) (Major Change)

Rationale: The change to this existing programme was being proposed in order to enhance provision in Museum Studies by offering a wider range of courses.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 23 (PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the programme specification for this award, and raised several points requiring to be addressed.

Points for discussion:

- In Section 11, further detail is required, including information on how the exhibition is assessed;
- In Section 12, further detail is required.

The Group noted that the programme offered four available streams. In order for the specialist stream to appear on the student transcript and degree parchment, each stream required to be entered into the PIP system as a programme in its own right. Students should be registered on the appropriate stream from the beginning of their studies (though could, of course, transfer at a later stage if they changed their specialism). Previously, this requirement could be bypassed via a manual update by Registry. However, given the large number of 'streamed' programmes being proposed across the University, and the increased manual workload requirement this would represent, it was agreed that each strand would require its own programme title and code. Whilst it was acknowledged that the programme specifications for the four streams would be similar, there would necessarily be some variation in (for example) the programme aims and intended learning outcomes. The Group strongly recommended that, for this programme, each of the four streams should have a separate programme specification as, at present, the programme specification contained a large amount of information that was not relevant to all streams, and would be confusing to the reader.

Conclusion:

The Group did not consider that the proposal could be recommended to ASC at this stage. The Group will reconsider the proposal when the conditions identified above have been met and the four streams have been identified as programmes in their own right.

2. *SPOT-CHECKING OF PROPOSALS*

Under the current process, Programme Approval Groups examine only the programme specification and support document for programme proposals. However, PAGs reserve the right to ask for full documentation if desired. It was recommended in the recent Deloitte Internal Audit report that occasional 'spot checks' be undertaken on proposal documentation.

In line with this recommendation, the Clerk reported a sample of proposals had been selected for spot-checking, and that the full documentation for the proposals shown below had been examined and found to be in order:

- MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow & International Art Nouveau;
- MLitt Scottish & Celtic Cultural Studies with Scottish Literature.