

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Wednesday 18 April 2012

Report from the Programme Approval Group for the College of Arts

Ms H Clegg, Senate Office

Present:

Professor R Hill (Convener), Dr M Carroll, Dr K O'Dell, Ms J Fyfe

In attendance:

Ms H Clegg, Dr Dee Heddon, Professor Alice Jenkins

1. *UNDERGRADUATE PROPOSALS*1.1 **BSc (MedSci) Honours in Medical Humanities (New Programme)**

Rationale: The programme has been designed to expand the range of intercalate provision in line with the movement towards a broader medical education outlined by the General Medical Council and the Scottish Medical Deans' Group. The aim is to meet demand and build inter-collegiate medical humanities teaching provision.

Regulations: New regulations have been submitted to the Senate Office.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 1, the question marks appearing after the title should be deleted;
- In Section 14, much of the text could be deleted. The compulsory and elective courses should appear as a simple table. The information relating to them could be deleted as this information would appear in the respective course specifications. The paragraph beginning "A list of indicative elective courses follows" should be deleted, and the list of courses that follows should be replaced by a weblink to the list. The link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

1.2 **MA Digital Media and Information Studies (New Programme)**

Rationale: The programme has been designed as a Single Honours programme to enable greater student choice and to reflect the growing international recognition of the degree.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 8(UG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 12(UG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 10, the Intended Learning Outcomes should be revised to follow the standard format. The words 'understand' and 'appreciate' should be avoided. The Transferable/Key Skills needed to be revised in order to fit with the heading "By the end of this programme students will be able to:";
- In Section 14, reference to Grade D in the second paragraph should be changed to 'D3'. 'AMI' should be written in full on the first occasion. Links to the list of possible courses for Levels 1, 2 and Honours should be provided;
- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version);
- In Section 15, reference to the University Health Service should be removed.

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made and the course proposals being approved by the College (see 'Spot Checking of Proposals, below).

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval subject to course proposals being approved.*

1.3 MA Honours in Archaeology (Major Change)

Rationale: The change was being proposed to the credit arrangement for Level 2 in order to align the programme with other Arts subjects.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 8(UG) and SciEng 11(UG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 10, the Intended Learning Outcomes should be revised to follow the standard format;
- In Section 11, less detail was required, and the bullet points did not require to be cross-referenced to the ILOs;
- In Section 12, less detail was required, and the bullet points did not require to be cross-referenced to the ILOs;
- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar> which would default to the most up to date version). References to Grade D should be changed to 'D3'. The table showing the pathways should be removed as the specification only related to the Single Honours programme. The question marks appearing in the last paragraph should be deleted.

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

2. POSTGRADUATE PROPOSALS

- 2.1 MLitt Early Modern History (New Programme)**
- MLitt Medieval History (New Programme)**
- MLitt Modern History (New Programme)**
- MLitt Scottish History (New Programme)**

Rationale: The programmes had been designed to highlight specialist pathways available and to make the programmes more attractive to applicants.

Regulations: The programmes will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 25(PG). They will also be added to the list on Arts 26-28(PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specifications for these degrees, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 10, the Intended Learning Outcomes should be revised to follow the standard format. Additionally, the word 'understanding' should be avoided, as should repeated use of the phrase 'the ability to'. The third-last bullet point in the final section should be removed or revised;
- In Section 14, 'RRSH' should be written in full. 'Course 1/2/3' should be changed to 'Option 1/2/3'. The last two options should state 'or' between them and the bracketed information can be deleted. Reference to grade D should be changed to 'D3'. The third bullet point under Credit and Exit Points should be deleted. the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

It was noted from the Board of Studies report that consultations had taken place. However, these were not detailed in the Proposal Support Document. The College is asked to ensure the Support Document is completed.

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposals to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.2 MLitt Theatre History (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been designed to extend the portfolio of PGT programmes within Theatre Studies, and to draw on the research specialisms of the teaching team. It addresses a gap in current offerings and responds to feedback from existing honours and postgraduate students.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 25(PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 26-28(PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 10, the Intended Learning Outcomes should be revised to follow the standard format. The Transferable/Key Skills needed to be revised in order to fit with the heading "By the end of this programme students will be able to:";
- In Section 14, the heading 'Notes' should be changed to 'Part-Time Study'. The link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.3 MLitt Theatre Practices (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been designed to extend the portfolio of PGT programmes within Theatre Studies, and to draw on the research specialisms of the teaching team. It addresses a gap in current offerings and responds to feedback from existing honours and postgraduate students.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 25(PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 26-28(PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 10, the Intended Learning Outcomes should be revised to follow the standard format. The Transferable/Key Skills needed to be revised in order to fit with the heading “By the end of this programme students will be able to:”;
- In Section 14, the heading ‘Notes’ should be changed to ‘Part-Time Study’. The link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.4 MSc Information Management Forensics (New Programme)

Rationale: the programme has been developed in response to applicant and student requests for a more technical and forensic approach.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 25(PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 26-28(PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 10, the third bullet point under the heading Knowledge and Understanding (‘Acquire an appreciation of...’) should be reworded;
- In Section 14, the section relating to the Boot Camp should be removed as this does not appear to be an assessed part of the programme. It could be moved to Section 8, Entrance Requirements. Under the heading Semesters 1 & 2, only the course titles and credits need to be presented. Information is needed on the programme structure to be followed by part-time students. The link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with <http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar> which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.5 MSc Landscape: Integrated Research & Practice (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been developed to address a need for advanced ‘integrated landscape’ provision, arising from developments in research, practice and policy.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 33(PG). It will also be added to the list on Arts 26-28(PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 13, the information should be replaced with a statement that no relevant benchmark statement exists;
- In Section 14, the information should be revised and presented in a simple tabular format. The link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version). The information given under Modes of Study should be revised to be less vague for part-time students.

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.

2.6 MLitt Archaeological Studies (Major Change)

Rationale: The programme is being changed to make it more distinctive, in order to make it more appealing to applicants and improve recruitment.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 1, the bracketed word 'Conversion' should be deleted. The PgD title should be deleted unless it can be applied to as a programme in its own right;
- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.

2.7 MLitt Art History: Dress and Textile Histories (Major Change)

Rationale: The programme is being changed in order to develop a new core course for all of the MLitts in Art History, as a result of staff and student consultation. This will strengthen PGT provision and offer further research-led teaching.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following point requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendment identified above being made.

Update: *The change has now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.8 MLitt Art History: History of Collecting and Collections (Major Change)

Rationale: The programme is being changed in order to develop a new core course for all of the MLitts in Art History, as a result of staff and student consultation. This will strengthen PGT provision and offer further research-led teaching.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following point requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendment identified above being made.

Update: *The change has now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.9 MLitt Art History: Mackintosh, Glasgow and International Art Nouveau (Major Change)

Rationale: The programme is being changed in order to develop a new core course for all of the MLitts in Art History, as a result of staff and student consultation. This will strengthen PGT provision and offer further research-led teaching.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following point requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendment identified above being made.

Update: *The change has now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

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

Rationale: The programme is being changed in order to develop a new core course for all of the MLitts in Art History, as a result of staff and student consultation. This will strengthen PGT provision and offer further research-led teaching.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specification for this degree, and raised the following point requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendment identified above being made.

Update: *The change has now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.11 MLitt Scottish and Celtic Studies (Major Change)

MLitt Scottish and Celtic Studies with Archaeology (Major Change)

MLitt Scottish and Celtic Studies with Celtic and Gaelic (Major Change)

MLitt Scottish and Celtic Studies with Scottish History (Major Change)

MLitt Scottish and Celtic Studies with Scottish Literature (Major Change)

MLitt Scottish and Celtic Studies with Medieval Scottish Studies (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme titles were being altered (removing the word 'Cultural') in order to highlight the interdisciplinary nature of the programmes and reflect the scope of the core course and range of options. A new variant had also been developed.

Regulations: The changed programmes will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG). Additionally, the new variant will be added to the list of programmes at Arts 26-28(PG).

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specifications for these degrees, and raised the following point requiring to be addressed:

Points for discussion:

- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposals to ASC, subject to the amendment identified above being made.

Update: *The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.*

2.12 MLitt Technical Art History: Making and Meaning (Major Change)

Rationale: The title of the programme is being changed from 'MLitt Art History: Making and Meaning: Approaches in Technical Art History' due to the need to market the programme's subject more clearly. The structure has been changed in order to develop a new core course for all of the MLitts in Art History, as a result of staff and student consultation.

Regulations: The changed programme will continue to be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24(PG), which will not require amendment.

Programme Specification: The Group considered the Programme Specifications for these degrees, and raised the following point requiring to be addressed

Points for discussion:

- In Section 14, the part-time structure appeared unbalanced in that three courses were to be taken in Semester 1 of Year 1, one in Semester 2 of Year 1, none in Semester 1 of Year 2, and three in Semester 2 of Year 2. This should be revised, or the rationale provided;

- In Section 14, the link to the University Calendar should refer to the 2012-13 version (or be replaced with www.gla.ac.uk/services/senateoffice/calendar which would default to the most up to date version).

It was noted from the Board of Studies report that consultations had taken place. However, these were not detailed in the Proposal Support Document. The College is asked to ensure the Support Document is completed.

Conclusion: Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made.

Update: The changes have now been made and the Group recommends approval.

3. 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 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:

- MA Digital Media and Information Studies
Course specifications were not available for this proposal, and courses were not expected to go before the College Board of Studies until May. Although the Group recommended approval to ASC subject to this and other changes, full approval of the programme in PIP could not therefore be granted until that time.
- MLitt Theatre Practices
All documentation was found to be in order.
- MLitt Technical Art History: Making and Meaning
All documentation was found to be in order.