

University of Glasgow

Academic Standards Committee – Friday 15 November 2013

Report from the Programme Approval Group for the College of Arts,
held on 30 October 2013

Ms H Clegg, Senate Office

Present:

Dr A Orr, Dr K O'Dell (Convener), Dr A O'Neill.

In attendance:

Ms H Clegg, Professor K Lury, Dr L Martin.

1. *POSTGRADUATE PROPOSALS*1.1 **MLitt Comparative Literature (New Programme)**

Rationale: The programme has been developed to complement the existing undergraduate provision in the area of comparative literature.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24 - 27 (PG). It will also be added to the list of programmes at Arts 26-27 (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 1, the degree title should be altered to read 'MLitt Comparative Literature', as the usual titling convention is that the award should appear first;
- In Section 9, the sentence starting 'Students will attend two required core courses...' should be deleted, as this does not relate to the programme aims;
- In Section 10, the ILOs should be revised to use more active verbs and to reflect the level of the award. The use of 'demonstrate' should be avoided as much as possible and graduate attributes should be embedded in the ILOs;
- In Section 11, information on both formative and summative assessment should be provided, and the second bullet point should be deleted;
- In Section 12, the second bullet point should be deleted;
- In Section 14, the programme structure should be presented in tabular form, with one table showing the full time structure and one showing part time. A list of available options, or an indicative list, should be provided. Throughout this section, 'UG option' should be replaced with 'Honours option'. The Calendar link should be amended to remove the session information.

It was noted that students were permitted to take one Honours option of 20 credits. The College is asked to bear in mind the fact that a maximum of 30 non-Masters level credits are permitted under the provisions of the Scottish Credit & Qualifications Framework (SCQF). Given that the language courses, which are 20 credits each, could also be below Masters level, the Group requires assurance that no student will be permitted to take more than 30 credits below Masters level.

Conclusion: The Group recommends the proposal to ASC, subject to the amendments identified above being made, and assurance being given with regard to the SCQF requirement.

1.1 MSc Film-Making and Media Arts (New Programme)

Rationale: The programme has been developed in line with the Subject and School's strategic plan, with a focus on employability, transferable skills and appeal to international applicants.

Regulations: The programme will be governed by the regulations set out in the University Calendar at Arts 24 - 27 (PG). It will also be added to the list of programmes at Arts 26-27 (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 1, the degree title should be altered to read 'MSc Film-making and Media Arts', as the usual titling convention is that the award should appear first;
- In Section 8, reference should be made to English Language requirements, given that the programme is aimed at international applicants;
- In Section 10, the ILOs required some revision. The ILOs listed under 'knowledge and understanding' appeared to be subject-specific skills. New ILOs should be devised for the 'knowledge and understanding' section. Use of 'demonstrate' should be avoided where possible and graduate attributes should be embedded in the ILOs;
- In Section 11, information on both formative and summative assessment should be provided;
- In Section 13, the benchmark appeared to be undergraduate level. The information should be deleted and replaced with 'not applicable';
- In Section 14, the programme structure should be presented in tabular form. A list of available options, or an indicative list, should be provided. 'Alternative exit point' should be amended to read 'early exit point' and information on the PgCert exit point should be provided.

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

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 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 proposal shown below had been examined and found to be in order:

- *MLitt Comparative Literature*