

## University of Glasgow

## Academic Standards Committee – Friday 14 February 2014

**Report from the Fast Track Programme Approval Group for the  
College of Social Sciences and College of Science & Engineering,  
held on 17 December 2013**

**Ms Fiona Green, Clerk to the Fast Track Programme Approval Group**

Present: Prof Christine Edwards (*Convener*), Dr Penny Morris, Dr Helen Stoddart

Attending: Ms Fiona Green (*Clerk*), Prof Richard Berry (*COSS*), Dr David Forrest (*CS&E*)

**1. Scrutiny of New Programme Proposals:**

9412	International Masters in Environmental Management	CS&E
9531	International Masters in Urban and Regional Planning	COSS
9543	International Masters in International Relations	COSS

**General Discussion**

*Regulations:* The awards will be governed by non generic regulations based on the existing International Masters regulations for the degree of International Masters Russian, Central and East Europe Studies ref University Calendar *Soc.Sci.57(PG)*. Senate will progress the development of the regulations when the proposals have been approved.

*Nature of the Award:* The proposers confirmed the programmes lead to a dual award with a certificate being presented by both of the awarding institutions. PAG were content that at least 180 of the 240 credits satisfy University of Glasgow standards for a masters qualification.

*Mode of Study:* It was agreed that the programmes will initially be offered for full-time study only.

*Dissertation Credits:* It was noted that the dissertation will be jointly supervised 33% by GU and 66% by Nankai with credits allocated appropriately to each award.

*Ethics:* Clerk to check if the College ethics committees approve the proposed arrangements for ethical approval.

**Programme Specifications**

The group considered the Programme Specifications for the awards and raised the following points requiring to be addressed:

**9412 International Masters in Environmental Management**

*Sect 8:* Insert link to web information

<http://www.gla.ac.uk/prospectuses/postgraduate/>

*Sect 10:* ILOs to reflect an evidence based approach i.e include reference to evidence being used to inform knowledge and skills; ILO 9 upgrade the word explain – not considered to be at level 11;

*Sect 11:* Clarify the difference between a dissertation and a project report ; remove word major from last bullet; remove last sentence under Summative Assessment; under Formative Assessment insert 'and drafts' in relation to feedback on dissertation.

Sect 14: Present programme structure in table format and include course codes

**9531 International Masters in Urban and Regional Planning**

Sect 10: ILOs to reflect an evidence based approach i.e include reference to evidence being used to inform Knowledge and Skills; move third ILO under 'Subject-specific skills' to *Transferable/key skills* and reword '*Participate in the debate about shaping economically competitive future cities that foster social cohesion, liveability and cultural values*'; penultimate ILO replace '*secondary sources*' with '*evidence based sources*

Sect 14: Second sentence under Dissertation to be replaced with *The Dissertation will be jointly supervised 33% by GU and 66% by Nankai with credits allocated appropriately to each award.* ; remove reference to part-time study; remove reference to exit awards.

**9543 International Masters in International Relations**

Sect 9: Include an aim related to carrying out research

Sect 10: ILOs under *Transferable/key skills* to reflect more on critical review and an evidence based approach e.g. 2<sup>nd</sup> ILO replace '*a range of materials*' with '*evidence based materials*'; the last ILO is too vague for level 11 and should be put in context of research already carried out.

Sect 14: Present programme structure in table format and include course codes. Second sentence under Dissertation to be replaced with *The Dissertation will be jointly supervised 33% by GU and 66% by Nankai with credits allocated appropriately to each award.* ; remove reference to part-time study;

Sect 15: Remove last paragraph.

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

**Outcome:** The convener confirmed all changes had been made to her satisfaction on Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2014