Monitoring and Review
The University has a number of procedures to monitor and review academic provision and standards of awards.

Externality
The University uses a range of external reference points and external expertise to assure the quality and standards of provision and awards.

Academic Governance
The University's governance structure assures the value, and continued integrity of its awards.

Periodic Programme Review– with input from external expertise, confirms the academic standards of awards for the previous 5 years; evaluates student academic experience, quality of learning opportunities, and good practice; makes recommendations on enhancements.

Annual Monitoring– allows the university to assure itself of the continued quality and relevance of its programmes, and identify good practice. Makes use of qualitative and quantitative data.

Partnership Reviews– periodic reviews of partnerships including academic content as well as contractual agreements.

College Education Committee– responsible for oversight of delivery; quality assurance and enhancement; learning and teaching; and student experience of educational provision within the College.

Programme Design– external reviewers are involved in the programme approval process, benchmarking against the sector.

Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies– regular reviews to scrutinise relevant programmes and reaccredit, thereby confirming standards. 63% of undergraduate programmes have external accreditation.

University Education Committee– responsible for the oversight and enhancement of learning opportunities across the University, including the promotion of good practice and innovation; and development of University-wide quality assurance policies.

Council– the governing body of the University ultimately responsible for all statutory compliance, and amongst other things for the University's strategic direction.

Industry Advisory Boards– in relevant programmes, continuous engagement with industry sector to assure quality and currency of programmes and awards.

How do we assure standards?

Senate Regulations– defined by Senate, Senate Regulations 2 and 4 set out the main regulations and frameworks for all undergraduate awards of the University.

Senate– principal body responsible to Council for regulation, governance, and quality assurance of the academic work of the University.

Subject benchmark statements– clear expectation built into programme design and approval.

FHEQ levels– Academic frameworks and regulations are aligned to FHEQ levels.

Academic Integrity– Senate Regulation 6 defines the procedures for academic misconduct, and cases are reported annually to Senate.

Award rules– no discretion, condonation, or setting aside is permitted. Appendices in Senate Regulation 2.

Programme learning outcomes– defined in programme specifications, aligned to FHEQ levels; must be met to achieve award, and mapped to PSRB requirements where appropriate.

Panels of Examiners– confirm the integrity and fairness of the assessment process. SR4.43–55

Boards of Examiners– make appropriate decisions on the academic progression of students; and recommend awards to Senate, taking into account approved Extenuating Circumstances. SR4.43–50 and SR4.56–65

External Examiners– scrutinise and approve assessment tasks, moderate to ensure sound and consistent academic judgement during the marking process, and confirm that benchmarking to FHEQ levels and subject benchmark statements are appropriate, and that academic standards are comparable with other HEIs.

Extenuating Circumstances– ensures students are given equal opportunity to succeed even when unforeseen circumstances get in the way, whilst ensuring programme learning outcomes are met. SR4.37–42

Internal moderation– ensures that sound and consistent academic judgements are made during the marking process.

Marking scheme/criteria– used to ensure parity between the judgements of different assessors

University Grade Descriptors– used throughout assessment processes to underpin consistency in marking.

Academic Appeals– Governed by Senate Regulation 12. Ensures academic appeals submitted by students are dealt with fairly without compromising standards.

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Marking and Assessment
The University's programmes enable a student's achievement to be reliably assessed; and the marking process is reliable, consistent and transparent.