

2015/16 External Examiners Report

Fr **Hide History of Additions**

History of Additions			
Date , Type	Content	Who	Role
16/09/16 Comment	First we thank Professor [REDACTED] for his assistance over the last four years, his advice and help have been invaluable.	Professor [REDACTED]	Board
	His advice that we include past papers when we submit the current papers to the externals is a very good idea. We will instigate such a policy.		
	Coursework grading is consistent with UCL's policy on this. That is, provisional information on grades are released to students under the advice that these grades are not final until they are confirmed by the examinations board.		
	We are most sorry for the time pressure we placed on our externals this year, we believe this will be alleviated by the adjusted examinations timetable that is in place for 2016-7.		

Hide Report

Provisional

Master code: JHASK68

Name: I [REDACTED]

Home institution: Imperial College, London

Board currently being assessed: Undergraduate Economics Board of Examiners

Department for this board: Economics

Modules for this board linked to me: Modules confirmed
Show linked modules

Other boards appointed to: International Summer School for Undergrad. Board

External Examiner Detail

Overall standard of Programme / Modules examined.

Meets UK expectations

Date of Final Board meeting: 15/Jun/2016

Did you attend this meeting: Yes

Sufficient advance notice given: Yes


Detail of other meetings:

Attendance

Content and the Assessment Process			
1.01	Was the balance and content of the degree programme in accordance with the stated programme objectives?	Yes	
1.02	Was the content of the programme of study coherent overall?	Yes	
1.03	Were the compulsory modules/course-units appropriate in relation to stated programme objectives?	Yes	
1.04	As reflected in the work presented by candidates, were the methods and adequacy of teaching suitable?		
1.05	Were there any notable performance issues of candidates, including their proficiency in the use of English Language; and where appropriate, their aptitude to practice, and their development as reflective professionals in their chosen field.		
1.06	Was the balance of methods of assessment, and the balance between them including nature, spread and level of the questions, appropriate and proportionate for the programme in general?		
1.07	Was the quality of assessment, including the application of the assessment criteria, appropriate for the scheme of award (i.e. for the award of honours, or for a Master's level programme including a PG Diploma/Cert, including where there is an award of Distinction); and whether appropriate account has been taken of the requirements of the relevant Professional statutory or regulatory bodies (PSRBs)?		
1.08	Was there evidence that comments and suggestions made by you last year had been considered and the programme team had provided appropriate feedback on your last report? If you are a new Examiner, had recommendations of the previous External Examiner been acted upon?	Yes	

Examination, Awards and Standards		
2.01	Were the objectives of assignments clear and appropriate?	n/a
2.02	Did students receive properly structured and focused feedback on assignments (formative and summative)?	n/a
2.03	Was the nature, spread and level of the assignments satisfactory?	n/a
2.04	Were the assignments related to the relevant Professional statutory or regulatory bodies?	n/a
2.05	Was the choice of subject for coursework/reports/dissertations satisfactory?	Yes
2.06	Was the general method and standard of marking satisfactory?	Yes
2.07	Were the criteria for marking/grading assignments clear and appropriate?	Yes
2.08	Were all scripts, or other assessed work, or a sufficient proportion of assignments double-marked internally?	Yes
2	Was there a satisfactory marking scheme for individual questions (where applicable), individual papers and the programme of study overall?	Yes
2.10	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of practical/clinical examinations?	n/a
2.11	Were suitable arrangements made for you to conduct oral examinations/	n/a
2.12	Did you receive all the draft papers / assignment titles?	Yes
2.13	If not, was this at your request?	Yes
2.14	Was the nature, spread and level of the questions satisfactory?	Yes
2.15	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments relating to approval of the written question papers, coursework, report and dissertation topics, where appropriate?	Yes
2.16	Was the reasoning that led to the Internal Examiners' recommended grade/outcome transparent in each case?	Yes
2.17	Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Board of Examiners?	Yes
2.18	Were the processes for examination, assessment and determination of awards generally sound and fairly conducted? QM Quality Code Part B	Yes
2.19	Does the standard achieved by students in the assessment compare with the standards of the national university system of higher education in the UK with which you are familiar, including Ofsted and satisfy the requirements of all relevant other Professional, Statutory and Regulatory bodies? OAA Quality Code Part B	Yes
2.20	Does the partnership provide a framework for effective learning?	Yes
2.21	Does rigorous moderation of partnership institutions take place?	Yes
2.22	Were systems to monitor quality appropriate and effective?	Yes
2.23	Was there a common assessment for all students?	Yes
2.24	Where students are not taught together were the different cohorts examined at the same standard?	Yes
2.25	Were you fully inducted into UCL's examination policies and procedures?	Yes
2.26	Did you receive clear guidelines on UCL's reporting requirements for External Examiners reports?	Yes
2.27	Did you receive information about relevant UCL policies that was required to fulfil your role?	Yes
2.28	Did you receive contact details for the departmental / divisional examination liaison officer?	Yes
2.29	Did you receive previous External Examiners' reports and any responses?	Yes
2.30	Did you receive copies of relevant programme / module documents in good time (e.g. syllabuses, marking schemes etc)?	Yes
2.31	Were you given access to the Virtual Learning Environment (e.g. Moodle)?	No
2.32	Did you see a sufficient number of scripts and other assessed work, including those of all borderline students and all those awarded distinction, to be able to assess whether the internal marking was appropriate and consistent?	Yes

Recommendations

Essential	
3.01	Areas of concern which, in your opinion, place academic standards and/or the student learning experience at Immediate risk and requires action before the start of the next academic year.
Advisable	
3.02	Areas of concern regarding threshold standards which, while currently being met, in your opinion, could be significantly improved.
Desirable	
3.03	Areas where, in your opinion there is potential for enhancement
Additional Comments	
3.04	Please include any additional comments you may have for instance, suggestions for improving the University's procedures or observations of good practice. If this is your final year as an External Examiner, please comment on developments at the programme or procedural level, during your period of tenure.
Uploaded Document	
3.05	If you wish to attach a document with reference to your recommendations, please upload it here. Limited to one.  Notes on UCL exams June 2016.pdf

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Tuesday, 14 June 2016

Notes on UCL exams.

The exams are very, very high standard. The admin is great. I have the following thoughts.

1. I would still like the department to keep its coursework, or rather lack of it, policy under review. Can they remind me what feedback the students get during the year, even if they don't have coursework assessment, as I understand it?
- 2.1 think I have asked in the past that previous exams might be sent along to help the examiners who currently cannot take any view on overlap? I don't know what the department view is on that.
- 3.1 was sent some papers on Saturday night before the Wednesday meeting. I cannot promise to get views back that fast, especially since I am teaching weekends at the moment. That said, Prof [REDACTED] came over personally to deliver a large pack of papers to me which I was very grateful for.

I hope that helps,

Yours,

[REDACTED]

External for UCL Economics

