

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

Paper No ASQEC/20/21e)

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

22 October 2020

Agenda Item 8.5

DEPARTURES AND VARIATIONS FROM THE UNIVERSITY'S REGULATORY  
FRAMEWORK:

Advanced Diploma in Intelligence Practice

COVER SHEET

To note that Chair's action has been taken to approve a request from the Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences to depart from the regulation for automatic progression between semesters.

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ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE  
22 October 2020

**FACULTY OF ARTS, HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES**

**Advanced Diploma in Intelligence Practice: Departure from Regulations**

The evaluation event for the above programme was held on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> August 2020 when the programme was approved without conditions or recommendations.

The programme will be delivered in part-time mode only over two years with one module per semester being taught. Each module would be a prerequisite of the following module which must be passed to permit progression. Since University regulations permit automatic progression between semesters [regulation 12], ASQEC approval is required to depart from this regulation.

A Board of Examiners would be held at the end of each semester to facilitate student progression.

The request for departure from the general regulations is based on the following.

Although the University now discourages the identification of 'prerequisite' modules, there is a strong case for their inclusion in the programme.

All modules on the programme are assessed on a pass/fail basis as there is a high degree of oversight of the competencies required for intelligence practice. Therefore, students must be deemed competent in each element of assessment within each module before progressing to the next stage of the course as they work in a high-risk environment, and this assurance protects both the student and communities.

It should be noted that the same case for a departure to regulation 12 was made in 2014 for two PSNI Intelligence programmes (the two programmes have now been combined as pathways within the new programme) and supported by the Learning and Teaching Committee (min 14.22 refers).

As the next ASQEC meeting is not until 22 October, and the programme is due to start on the 12 September 2020, the Faculty is requesting Chair's action be taken on behalf of ASQEC in respect of 1) the use of prerequisite modules which must be passed before progression is permitted and 2) departure from the normal automatic progression between semesters regulation in order that the Faculty can proceed to register students in line with PSNI contract requirements.



PROFESSOR RUTH FEE

Associate Dean Education AHSS

20 August 2020