

UNIVERSITY OF ULSTER

Paper No ASQEC/19/15j

ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE

17 June 2019

Agenda Item 6.3

EXTENSION OF APPROVAL

Faculty of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences

BSc Hons Interactive Media

COVER SHEET

To note that Chair's action has been taken on behalf of the Committee to approve the one-year extension to the period of approval.

SECTION A: FACULTY REQUEST

FACULTY:

Arts, Humanities and Social Science

SCHOOL:

Communication and Media

SUBJECT UNIT NUMBER AND NAME:

Media Studies 19bi and 19bii

MONTH/YEAR CURRENTLY SCHEDULED:

PERIOD OF EXTENSION REQUESTED:

(eg one year to include the September 2018 intake)

One year only

COURSE(S):

(Identify specific courses unless the whole unit)

Whole unit which comprises BSc(Hons) Interactive Media

REASON FOR REQUEST:

(a) Changes of campus are under negotiation for staff in Coleraine at present due to the move of BA Media Studies and Production (replacement course starting in Belfast called BA Screen Production) and BSc Interactive Media. These staff changes may be implications for the Interactive Media teaching. There may also be resource and support staff implications.

CURRENCY AND VALIDITY:

(Please confirm that the curriculum remains current and valid and provide evidence of this (eg extract from most recent external examiner reports and those of relevant professional, statutory and regulatory body)

The Interactive Media course is based on the synergies between media scholarship and experiential media practice. The methods of teaching and learning support and develop the knowledge, critical synthesis, and practical production skills, required for the Interactive Media students to develop innovative media outcomes.

The most recent external examiner report (2017/18) has identified that the students are exposed to a broad curriculum that is in line with similar programmes in this discipline. The examiner found evidence of scholarship informing the curriculum and its pedagogy, and lecturing staff having made a concerted and ongoing effort to ensure that the curriculum is current.

STANDARDS AND QUALITY:

(Please confirm that quality is high and there are no concerns. Provide evidence of this through external examiner reports and **annual monitoring datasets and reports**)

Please find attached the most recent external examiner's reports for the Interactive Media programme. The external examiner has identified evidence of effective student learning across all years of the programme and that this is in line with other programmes of this nature nationally and internationally. While there is currently no NSS data available as the student cohort reporting has been too small as to provide an indicator on this data set, an internal NSS style of survey has been carried out with the student cohort, to identify standards and quality.

PSRB (if applicable):


(Please confirm that any deferral will be accommodated by the PSRB and that accreditation will be ongoing for the full duration of the deferral)

DEMAND:

In the current cycle of the UCAS application process, Interactive Media has increased its applications by over 37% in comparison to the previous year.

FACULTY PARTNERSHIP MANAGER'S ASSESSMENT (for partner institutions only):

FACULTY CONFIRMATION:

SIGNED:  _____ DATE: 18th April 2019 _____
Associate Dean (Education)

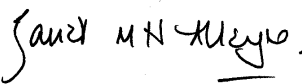
The completed form should be returned to the Academic Office, Room J410, Tower Building, Coleraine.

SECTION B: ACADEMIC OFFICE COMMENTS:

The BSc Hons Interactive Media course is part of revalidation unit 19A which was last revalidated in 2014/15 and was due for revalidation in 2019/20, however that revalidation was brought forward by one year to 2018/19 due to performance issues that were primarily associated with other Media courses in the revalidation unit (undergraduate Journalism was revalidated in 2017/18). The Interactive Media external examiner report for 2017/18 confirms that standards are appropriate and comparable to other similar programmes nationally and internationally. The Faculty is in the process of fundamentally revising the provision in Media Studies and a reversion to the original 2019/20 schedule for the revalidation of Interactive Media was agreed by ASQEC in order to provide time to incorporate course changes arising from the Faculty's revision process. This request seeks further time for the implementation of the revisions to University's Media Studies course provision (delaying the revalidation until the 2020/21 academic year) and, given that there is evidence of strong engagement with quality assurance and that standards are being maintained, the Academic Office endorses the request.

SIGNED:  _____ DATE 19 April 2019 _____
Academic Policy and Standards Manager or Head of Academic Office

SECTION C: QUALITY ENHANCEMENT ASSESSMENT (reflecting annual monitoring data)

SIGNED:  _____ DATE: 1 May 2019 _____
Head of Quality Enhancement

**SECTION D: ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND QUALITY ENHANCEMENT COMMITTEE
(delegated authority from Senate)**

DATE OF COMMITTEE MEETING:

DECISION: Approve (Yes/No)

Late requests (in-year and no imminent Committee meeting) (actioned by Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education) on behalf of ASQEC)

DECISION: Approve (Yes/No)

SIGNED: P. Bartholomew DATE: 14 May 2019
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Education)

DATE REPORTED TO ASQEC:

Academic Office
July 2018