

Academic Quality and Standards at the University

Every provider of higher education in the UK is responsible for ensuring the quality and standards of its provision. At Huddersfield we are committed to doing everything we can to develop and further improve the excellent educational opportunities we provide. To ensure we are providing students with the best available learning opportunities, we have developed and implemented a suite of academic regulations, policies and procedures to maintain our high academic standards and to encourage their further enhancement.

Internal Structure

Responsibility for our academic standards lies with Senate, a committee chaired by the Vice-Chancellor, and it is the academic decision-making authority for the University. Senate is supported by the Director of Registry. Senate has three main sub-committees which look after standards in teaching and learning, research and enterprise and our international activities.

Internal Processes

The day-to-day maintenance and development of our quality assurance and enhancement (QAE) framework is overseen by the University's Registry where we have a dedicated team responsible for the policies, procedures and processes that assure high standards across our academic programmes. These processes include:

- Annual evaluation of each course where the course team reflect on how things went and seek improvements to delivery next time.
- Quality appraisals where an audit of a particular process is undertaken by the Registry's QA team and recommendations for improvements are made.
- Thematic reviews of cross-cutting areas of concern for the University to help us share good practice and suggest enhancements.
- Periodic review of each of our academic subject areas where course tutors, students and external advisers look at curriculum developments and improvements.
- Involvement of external examiners who help to ensure our standards of assessment are comparable with others in the sector.
- An annual review of academic governance recommended to Council by the Senate.

External Regulation

Our QAE framework is informed by the UK Quality Code for Higher Education, which was developed by the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) on behalf of the UK Standing Committee for Quality Assessment, in consultation with the higher education sector.

Our registration with the Office for Students (OfS) requires us to work within their regulatory framework. This sets out the behaviours we are expected to follow in order to ensure our quality and standards.

Around 70% of our courses are accredited with Professional, Regulatory and Statutory Bodies (PSRBs). These external bodies formally accredit, approve and recognise our courses, setting standards and regulating entry into particular professions. This helps us ensure that professional standards and quality are maintained, and that students gain the skills and knowledge required by employers.

Student Voice

Feedback from our students is essential to help us assure our quality of teaching and learning. We include student members on all formal committees within our academic governance structure. These include course meetings and student panels to get students' views on their teaching and learning experiences. The University runs its own student experience survey annually and participates in the National Student Survey (NSS), Postgraduate Taught and Research Surveys (PTES PRES), and acts on the feedback obtained to bring about further improvements.