



Senate

Paper Title	Taught Programmes Board
Outcome requested	Senate is asked to note the following proposals relating to programme and module academic developments that have taken place between 27 February 2024 and 28 May 2024.
Points for Senate members to note and further information	The Taught Programmes Board met on 20 March and 24 April 2024. This paper provides a high-level overview of the meetings and of the wider academic development activity during the current academic year. Full papers and meeting minutes are available on the TPB webpage .
Questions for Senate to consider	Comments from the Senate would be welcomed regarding the programme development process to strengthen the quality of the proposals submitted to TPB.
Regulatory/statutory reference points	
Strategy and risk	
Reporting/consideration route for the paper	Senate only.
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Taught Programmes Board 20 March 2024

The Board:

1. CONFIRMED the minutes and reviewed the actions of its previous meeting.
2. NOTED approval of the below listed programmes by Chair's action.

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

- Summer School: SUM506P Clinical Legal Education, Access to Justice and Pro Bono Law method

3. CONSIDERED and APPROVED the below listed programme, subject to it also receiving the approval of the Senior Executive Team (SET) required for new distance learning programmes.

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

- BSc Pharmacology and Drug Discovery (Distance Learning)
- BSc Pharmacology and Drug Discovery (Part Time Distance Learning)

4. CONSIDERED and SET CONDITIONS FOR THE APPROVAL of the below listed programme.

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

- MSc & PgDip Cancer Biology

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

- MSc Transport Analytics and Management
 - Please note this programme was then withdrawn from consideration on 20 May 2024.

5. CONSIDERED and APPROVED the below listed programme amendment.

Faculty of Medicine and Dentistry

- MSc Gastroenterology

6. REVIEWED the list of proposed new programmes for launch in 2024-25 and 2025-26.
7. NOTED a module amendment to the TNE Module: EBU5212 Communications and Networks.
8. NOTED concerns regarding late programme amendments submitted after the December deadline. The concerns were regarding compliance with requirements under consumer protection law (CPL) which would negatively impact on providing a good service to prospective and current students.
9. NOTED that Schools would benefit from further guidance providing more details on the differences between major and minor amendments to programmes and modules and the related deadlines and the external regulatory frameworks which need to be complied with when setting deadlines.

Taught Programmes Board 24 April 2024

The Board:

1. CONFIRMED the minutes and reviewed the actions of its previous meeting.
2. NOTED that the Principles of Academic Degree Programme Design would be represented to the June meeting of the Senate and would be applied to all new programmes from July 2024 onwards.
3. NOTED changes to membership.
4. CONSIDERED and APPROVED the below listed module amendment.

Faculty of Science and Engineering

- EBU5303 Multimedia Fundamentals (EECS/BUPT)

5. CONSIDERED and SET CONDITIONS FOR THE APPROVAL of the below listed programmes.

Faculty of Science and Engineering

- BSc Digital and Technology Solutions Professional (Degree Apprenticeship)
 - This was an existing degree apprenticeship programme but has undergone a significant re-write for launch in September 2024.

Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

- MA in International Political Sociology

6. REVIEWED the list of proposed new programmes for launch in 2024-25 and 2025-26.
7. NOTED that future guidance should make clear that approval deadlines applied for the whole academic year (i.e. both September and January starts).
8. NOTED that the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) had recently published 13 updated Subject Benchmark Statements.

Summary of Academic Developments in the year 2023-24

The table below summarises the academic developments processed in the academic year (reporting date 28 May 2024).

Part 1 Programme proposals	15
Part 2 Programme proposals – approved by TPB	1
Part 2 Programme proposals – approved by TPB Chair’s Action (following conditional approval by the Board)	11
Part 2 Programme proposals – considered but not approved by TPB	2
Programme amendments	209
Programmes suspensions / withdrawals	47
Programme title changes	19
Module proposals	281
Module amendments	288
Module withdrawals	298
Total of proposals, amendments, and withdrawals	1,171

Comment on Academic Developments in the year 2023-24 to date

Taught Programmes Board has noted the following area that may benefit from review:

1. Guidance on major and minor amendments to programmes and modules, and clarity on when the deadlines for amendments are.

Taught Programmes Board would welcome the Senate’s views and support on strengthening the scrutiny of Part 1 Programme Proposals and overall compliance with the University’s academics development procedures with the aim of reducing the number of conditions set for approval and subsequent Chair’s actions required.