

## External Examiner Annual Report 2024-25

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION			
Name:			
Partner Organisation(s)	Bloomsbury Institute		
Academic Faculty:	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences		
List all programme titles and awards examined in this period:	BSc (Hons) Accounting & Finance at Bloomsbury Institute (validated provision)		
External Examiner's home institution (or other affiliation):		Professional registration number and expiry/renewal date (if applicable):	N/A
Year of Tenure:	Second	Have you completed the Advanced HE External Examiner professional development course?	Yes

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC STANDARDS	
Please provide feedback on academic standards	
<p>Were the threshold academic standards consistent with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications and relevant characteristic/subject benchmark statement(s)?</p> <p><a href="#">Qualifications Frameworks</a>  <a href="#">Subject Benchmark Statements</a>  <a href="#">Characteristics Statements</a></p>	Yes
<p>Were the academic standards comparable to similar programmes in other UK institutions with which you are familiar?</p>	Yes
<p>Please provide detailed feedback in relation to academic standards.</p>	<p>All academic standards as expected, the assessments were up to date, relevant and interesting. The marking criteria is also detailed.</p>

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC STANDARDS	
Please provide feedback on academic standards	
<p>If you have examined any of the degree apprenticeship programmes, please provide detailed comments on the programme delivery and its alignment with QAA Degree Apprenticeship Characteristics Statement with specific reference to learning, teaching and assessment.</p> <p><a href="#">Characteristics Statement - Higher Education in Apprenticeships</a></p>	
<p>If the programme(s) being examined are accredited/regulated/endorsed by a Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB), were the academic standards of the programme in line with the PSRB requirements.</p>	Yes
<p>Please detail how the academic standards were not in line with the PSRB requirements.</p> <p><i>(if applicable)</i></p>	

SECTION 3 – THE STANDARDS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE	
<p>Were the standards of student academic performance (and where applicable, professional competence) comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK Higher Education institutions with which you are familiar?</p>	Yes
<p>Do students have the opportunity to achieve standards beyond the threshold level?</p>	Yes
<p>Please provide a detailed summary of your findings in relation to student performance.</p>	<p>Assessments were answered in detail and showed very good performance in the modules moderated. The feedback provided was also detailed and provided specific comments on improvements.</p>

<b>SECTION 4 – A RELEVANT CURRICULUM</b>	
How well does the programme equip students for future employment in the profession/sector?	Extremely well
Please provide detailed feedback in relation to the currency and relevance of the curriculum and employability of graduates in the profession/sector.	The curriculum remains current and aligned with industry standards, reflecting recent developments within the sector. Modules are well-structured to address both theoretical knowledge and practical application. There is clear evidence that graduates are equipped with the skills and competencies sought by employers e.g. the understanding of current market situation and affairs, as seen in the assessments. This helps in enhancing their overall employability. It would be good to have partnerships with some industry partners.

<b>SECTION 5 – ASSESSMENT PRACTICE</b>		
Please confirm if the following assessment expectations have been met:		
	Assessment practices were appropriate in relation to the programme(s) and/or module(s) and their intended learning outcomes.	Agree
	Assessment processes were sufficiently rigorous.	Agree
	The standard of marking applied by internal examiners was sufficient to assess student performance against appropriate standards.	Agree
	Assessment processes were clear and fair for students.	Agree
	Assessments were fairly conducted within institutional regulations.	Agree
Please provide detailed feedback relating to assessment strategies and practice, noting any areas for development and observed good practice.	Assessments were authentic and were created around latest issues.	

<b>SECTION 6 – LEARNING AND TEACHING</b>		
Please confirm if the following expectations have been met:		
	Assessment feedback made reference to the learning outcomes.	Strongly Agree
	Assessment feedback identified opportunities for improvement.	Strongly Agree

SECTION 6 – LEARNING AND TEACHING	
Please provide detailed feedback on the appropriateness of the learning and teaching strategies, the quality of feedback provision, and the extent to which these enabled students to achieve their learning outcomes and meet the set standards.	The feedback provided on assessments is detailed, constructive. Evidence of teaching strategies through the use of teaching materials was seen and it was current and up to date. Use of rubric could have been clearer. The feedback clearly highlights strengths and areas for development. Overall quality of feedback is as per expectations.

SECTION 7 – ASSESSMENT BOARDS	
For the Assessment Board(s) you attended, was the conduct of the Assessment Board professional and did it follow procedure?	Yes
Please provide any additional comments or feedback relating to the conduct of Assessment Boards.	-

SECTION 8 – ENHANCEMENT AND INNOVATION	
Please highlight examples of best practice and innovation in learning, teaching and assessment, including any commendations.	-
Please note any recommendations you would like to make to enhance the quality and standards of provision below.	Introduction of categorical marking will add further value in assessments.

SECTION 9 – COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS (if applicable)	
Select the partner which the following feedback will relate to.	

<b>SECTION 9 – COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS (if applicable)</b>	
Please provide any partner specific feedback that you have not already covered in any of the previous questions in this report.	
Select the partner which the following feedback will relate to (if applicable).	
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<b>SECTION 9 – COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS (if applicable)</b>	
<p>If you have more partner institutions to provide feedback on, please use the space to the right.</p> <p>Please ensure you clearly identify the name of the partner site your feedback relates to.</p> <p><i>(if applicable)</i></p>	

<b>SECTION 10 – ANNUAL REPORT CHECKLIST</b>	
This section provides confirmation that you have received sufficient evidence and support to fulfil your role.	
Did you receive sufficient evidence to enable you to fulfil your role as an External Examiner?	Yes
<p>Please provide details as to why the evidence was not sufficient and if the matter was resolved.</p> <p><i>(If applicable)</i></p>	
Did you have adequate time to consider samples of work and contribute to examination boards?	Yes
<p>Please provide details as to why you did not have adequate time and if the matter was resolved.</p> <p><i>(If applicable)</i></p>	
If you are an Examiner of a programme that is delivered in a language other than Welsh and English, have you verified the translation of ALL assessment briefs and exam papers which contribute to the award?	Not applicable



## SECTION 10 – ANNUAL REPORT CHECKLIST

This section provides confirmation that you have received sufficient evidence and support to fulfil your role.

Please confirm whether the recommendations raised in your previous report have been, or are being, considered and addressed to your satisfaction.	Not applicable (first report or as no recommendations raised in previous report)
Please provide details of any progress towards addressing the recommendations raised in the previous annual report.	
If you have acted as a mentor to new External Examiners, or have been allocated a mentor this academic year, please provide feedback on how this process could be improved. <i>(if applicable)</i>	
Please provide any feedback that you wish to make that has not already been covered in any of the previous questions in this report. <i>(if applicable)</i>	

## SECTION 11 – EXIT REPORT (FINAL YEAR)

Only complete this section if this is your final term in office

Please comment on any significant changes in standards over your term in office and/or any other recommendations which you feel appropriate, and which may assist your successor.	
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## SECTION 12 - DECLARATION

Please confirm that the information I have provided in this report is, to the best of my knowledge, true and accurate.	I confirm
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**RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL EXAMINER'S REPORT**

Name of External Examiner:	Dr [REDACTED]
WU Faculty:	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences
Programme/s examined (if specific modules please specify):	BSc (Hons) Accounting and Finance
Name of programme leader:	Dr Mubashir Qurashi
Collaborative partners (if applicable)	Bloomsbury Institute
Period of report:	2024/25
Date of report:	
Date of response:	11/09/2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent report on the above programme. It has been considered by the programme team and by the Associate Dean/Principal Lecturer, and our response to the issues you have raised is set out below. External Examiner reports are also considered by senior managers at faculty and institutional level, and an institutional summary report is produced by the Quality and Regulations Manager. This analysis will highlight key areas for consideration by the University in order to maintain and enhance the academic standards of provision and identify examples of good practice for further dissemination.

**Response to the External Examiner Report 2024-25**

The programme team at the Bloomsbury Institute was delighted to hear that you acknowledge that the academic standards are comparable to those of similar programmes in other UK institutions, and that the assessments were up-to-date, relevant, interesting, and that the marking criteria are detailed. We are pleased to note your positive comments on the assessments, in which you mentioned that the assessments were authentic and created around the latest issues, and were answered in detail, showing outstanding student performance. You strongly agreed that the detailed constructive feedback was provided to the students, which helped them improve because it clearly highlights strengths and areas for development. You kindly recognised that the curriculum remains current and aligned with industry standards, reflecting recent developments within the sector. You agree that the modules are well-structured to address both theoretical knowledge and practical application, and there is clear evidence that graduates are equipped with the skills and competencies sought by employers, which helps in enhancing their overall employability.

We have noted your recommendations regarding the use of the rubric and the introduction of categorical marking. Your recommendation on the use of the rubric will be reviewed by the academic team and implemented in the modules where these changes enhance the quality of assessment, feedback and student performance. Your recommendation on categorical marking cannot be implemented on our side, as we strictly follow the Wrexham University grading system.

Thank you for your positive comments and your support in the last academic year.

Signed: M.Qurashi

Dr Mubashir Qurashi  
Programme Leader

Signed:

**Associate Dean / Principal Lecturer (for home and franchised provision) or Academic Link  
(for validated provision only)**