

External Examiner Annual Report 2024-25

SECTION 1 – GENERAL INFORMATION			
Name:	Dr [REDACTED]		
Partner Organisation(s)	["Bloomsbury Institute"]		
Academic Faculty:	Faculty of Social and Life Sciences		
List all programme titles and awards examined in this period:	LLB (Hons) Law and Legal Practice (LAW504-Feb-25 LAW505-Feb-25 LAW506-Feb-25 LAW507-Feb-25 LAW604-Feb-25 LAW606-Feb-25 LAW611-Feb-25 LAW506- Oct-24 LAW507-Oct-24 LAW607-Oct-24 LAW611-Oct-24 LAW504- Oct-24 LAW505-Oct-24)		
External Examiner's home institution (or other affiliation):	[REDACTED]	Professional registration number and expiry/renewal date (if applicable):	N/A
Year of Tenure:	First	Have you completed the Advanced HE External Examiner professional development course?	No

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>Qualifications Frameworks Subject Benchmark Statements Characteristics Statements</p>	Yes
<p>Were the academic standards comparable to similar programmes in other UK institutions with which you are familiar?</p>	Yes

SECTION 2 – ACADEMIC STANDARDS	
Please provide feedback on academic standards	
<p>Please provide detailed feedback in relation to academic standards.</p>	<p>On all modules that I moderated, the marking was consistent and followed appropriate metrics. The rubric was easily identifiable and the markers took time and care to link relevant feedback to the relevant rubric. The substance of the marking was strong and helpful, with it being easy for a reader to understand and with an effective guidance for the student going forward. I was particularly impressed that specific resources, including appropriate contacts, were included in the marking. There was excellent evidence of second marking and moderation and the second marker clearly identified their reasons for agreeing with the mark given. The range of assessments was clear and appropriate, with the students being given a diverse range of ways to demonstrate their skills. My only request for the next academic year is to have a link to oral assessments (if feasible) as it was not possible to link the feedback for those to the actual assessment. Overall, an excellent job by all involved.</p>
<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>Characteristics Statement - Higher Education in Apprenticeships</p>	<p>n/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>	<p>Yes</p>
<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>	<p>Yes</p>

SECTION 3 – THE STANDARDS OF STUDENT PERFORMANCE	
Do students have the opportunity to achieve standards beyond the threshold level?	Yes
Please provide a detailed summary of your findings in relation to student performance.	There was a range of student performance as I would expect at any academic institution. There was clear evidence of strong performance with students demonstrating both theoretical and practical skills.

SECTION 4 – A RELEVANT CURRICULUM	
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 covered both theory and practical skills with a strong focus on integrating skills that are valuable to employers, including drafting.

SECTION 5 – ASSESSMENT PRACTICE		
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

SECTION 5 – ASSESSMENT PRACTICE

Please provide detailed feedback relating to assessment strategies and practice, noting any areas for development and observed good practice.	These have already been noted earlier. The assessments were clear and appropriate for the level. There were times when the assessments seemed to involve a heavy workload but not disproportionately.
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SECTION 6 – LEARNING AND TEACHING

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
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.	There was a clear link between the feedback given and the teaching together with ways for the student to improve.	

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.	No comment- ran very smoothly

SECTION 8 – ENHANCEMENT AND INNOVATION	
Please highlight examples of best practice and innovation in learning, teaching and assessment, including any commendations.	The active use of second markers was very strong and they added a great deal to the marking. If it were not impossible for workload it would be useful to have two markers as a standard.
Please note any recommendations you would like to make to enhance the quality and standards of provision below.	N/A

SECTION 9 – COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS (if applicable)	
Select the partner which the following feedback will relate to.	
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).	
Please provide any partner specific feedback that you have not already covered in any of the previous questions in this report.	
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Select the partner which the following feedback will relate to (if applicable).	
Please provide any partner specific feedback that you have not already covered in any of the previous questions in this report.	
<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>(if applicable)</p>	

SECTION 10 – ANNUAL REPORT CHECKLIST	
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>(If applicable)</p>	

SECTION 10 – ANNUAL REPORT CHECKLIST	
This section provides confirmation that you have received sufficient evidence and support to fulfil your role.	
Did you have adequate time to consider samples of work and contribute to examination boards?	Yes
Please provide details as to why you did not have adequate time and if the matter was resolved. <i>(If applicable)</i>	
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
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>	n/a
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>	n/a

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.	n/a
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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):	LLB (Hons) Law and Legal Practice (Bloomsbury) (LAW504-Feb-25 LAW505-Feb-25 LAW506-Feb-25 LAW507-Feb-25 LAW604-Feb-25 LAW606-Feb-25 LAW611-Feb-25 LAW506-Oct-24 LAW507-Oct-24 LAW607-Oct-24 LAW611-Oct-24 LAW504-Oct-24 LAW505-Oct-24)
Name of programme leader:	Kirsty Allison
Collaborative partners (if applicable)	
Period of report:	2024/25
Date of report:	August 2025
Date of response:	11 August 2025

Dear [REDACTED]

Thank you for your recent report on the above programme. It has been considered by the programme team and by the Principal Lecturer. Our response to the issues you have raised is set out below.

We are pleased that you found the marking across the moderated modules to be consistent and transparent. The program team has worked hard to ensure that feedback is clear and accessible and it is good that this has been recognised. The department will continue its practice of including specific resources and relevant contacts in feedback, a practice that has been positively received by students with law students making good use of the learning enhancement service. We also appreciate your positive comments on the second marking and moderation process, particularly the clear recording of the rationale behind decisions.

We value your feedback on our assessment methods. Following the recommendation from the previous External Examiner, we're pleased that our efforts to increase the variety of opportunities for students has had a positive impact. However, we also note your comment regarding workload and will continue to monitor assessments to ensure the workload remains balanced and proportionate.

We understand your request for a link to oral assessments to enable direct reference to the feedback given. We agree, this would benefit both students and assessment transparency, and we will explore how to best utilise our new FLEX system (introduced in June 2025) to provide this. We are optimistic we will be able to implement this by the next academic year.

We're extremely pleased to receive positive feedback on our program's ability to prepare students for employment in the sector. This is a testament to our team's hard work. We will continue to look for opportunities to develop our curriculum effectively so that it continues to equip graduates with the skills and competencies for success in the legal profession.

Thank you again for your feedback.

Signed: *L. Allan*

Programme Leader