

## External Examiner Annual Report: 2018/2019

Examiner's Name	Dr Alison Lui		
Report for Programme(s) / Subject Area	LLB Law		
<b>Lead Faculty</b> Please tick appropriate box			
Faculty of Arts, Science & Technology (FAST)			
Faculty of Business & Law (FBL)	x		
Faculty of Education & Humanities (FEH)			
Faculty of Health & Society (FHS)			

**Modules covered** – please insert module codes, e.g. ART4321

LSBM313	LSBM319L			
LSBM319	LSBM321			
LSBM 324 (temporarily)	LSBM213			

Delete **YES** or **NO** as appropriate below

### Education with others

This report covers programmes or modules delivered by support providers/delivery organisations/partners other than the University of Northampton.

**YES/NO**

### Professional recognition

This report covers programmes subject to accreditation by a Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body

**YES/NO**

### Other awards

The report covers awards delivered under licence from Pearson Education Ltd (e.g. HNC/HND)

YES/NO

## Section A - Threshold Academic Standards

Please indicate [X] your level agreement with each of the statements in each section and comment in more detail in the space below.

<b>A1. Maintaining Academic Standards</b>	Strongly agree	Generally Agree	Generally Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not applicable
1.1. The outcomes of the programme(s) and/or component modules are well-aligned with the relevant FHEQ descriptors and applicable subject benchmark statements.	X				
1.2. The curriculum is coherent and remains current.	X				
1.3. The programme reflects any additional PSRB requirements. <i>(also see question A5 below)</i>	X				
1.4. Assessments in modules of the same level are of a comparable standard.	X				
1.5. Assessment criteria and marking schemes are set at the appropriate level.	X				

### Comment on Academic Standards:

Academic standards are commensurate with other universities where I am an external examiner. I received the assessment questions in good time to review. The questions are set at the right level and the internal marking and moderation process are thorough. The assessment criteria and marking schemes are clear.

<b>A2. Measuring achievement, rigour and fairness</b>	Strongly agree	Generally Agree	Generally Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not applicable
1.6. The types of assessment are appropriate for the subject, the students (taking proper account of the diversity of the student body), the respective level of study and the expected outcomes.	X				
1.7. The marking scheme/grading criteria have been properly and consistently applied such that internal marking is of an appropriate standard, fair and reliable.	X				
1.8. The assessment processes are carried out in accordance with the University's regulations and procedures.	X				
1.9. Procedures governing mitigating/extenuating circumstances, academic integrity/misconduct and borderline performances have been considered fairly and equitably applying institutional regulations.	x				
1.10. The quality and quantity of written feedback to students on their assessed work is consistent and appropriate.	x				

**Comments on the assessment strategy, processes and procedures:**

Assessments at BIL are in the forms of essays and problem questions, which are expected on the LL.B programme. These assessments test the students' skills in communication, problem-solving and advising clients. In some modules, I would like to see annotations or markings in the actual body of the students' assessments. I have mentioned this point in the feedback forms of the relevant modules.

Last year, I mentioned my concerns of the high amount of extensions given to students in some modules. I am pleased to see that this year, there are fewer extensions granted.

<b>A3. Comparability of standards and student performance</b>	Strongly agree	Generally Agree	Generally Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Not applicable
1.11. Based on my experience of other institutions, standards are comparable with other UK HEIs.	X				
1.12. Based on my experience of other institutions, student achievement is comparable with other UK HEIs.	X				
1.13. Standards and student achievement are comparable across the modules within my remit.	X				
1.14. Standards and student achievement are comparable across all cohorts and delivery sites. <i>(For multiple site delivery and/or delivery by different collaborative partners only – also see question A4 below)</i>	X				

**Comments on the comparability of standards and student performance:**

Since becoming an external examiner at BIL, I have noticed that the results in some modules are rather polarised: there are some very strong results at one end and very weak results at the other end. I think the standards at BIL are comparable with other universities generally.

#### A4. Off-campus provision

We attach particular importance to the standards and quality of our modules and programmes delivered off campus.

##### 4a. HE Provision – working in partnership with others

If you are examining provision involving total or partial delivery at a partner organisation(s), please comment on any trend, from year to year (where possible), or between centres, and on the comparability of the quality of learning opportunities, standards, marking practices and internal moderation across sites where appropriate. **Please specify which delivery site(s) you are referring to, and distinguish between centres where relevant.**

##### 4b. Provision delivered by University of Northampton staff at other venues

If you have examined any provision delivered by the University at other locations, **please comment on the comparability of standards, achievement and the student experience between different cohorts.**

N/A		
<i>For modules delivered at <b>more than one location</b></i>	YES	NO
I confirm that I received an adequate sample of work from students at all delivery sites		

#### A5. Professional, statutory & regulatory bodies

We attach specific importance to the standards and quality of our provision regulated by professional, statutory or regulatory bodies. If you are examining this type of provision please comment on standards in relation to assessment of practice, supervision of practice and support for practice assessment.

Please specify which PSRB(s) you are referring to.

As far as I am aware, the modules I have moderated comply with the SRA requirements.
--

#### A6. HNC/HND Awards (delivered under the Pearson HE Licence Agreement)

If your remit includes work leading to HNC/HND awards *in addition to* University of Northampton degree programmes, please comment here on the comparability of standards, achievement and the student experience between different cohorts.

N/A

### SECTION B - Quality and Enhancement

Please comment and/or provide recommendations (*the text boxes will expand as you type*)

B1. Identification of good practice relating to learning, teaching & assessment that you have observed

The learning materials, syllabus and communication with students are very good. The assessments are of a suitable standard. Good use of videos in some modules. Useful to have employability advice on Canvas as well.

B2. Opportunities to enhance the quality of learning opportunities provided to students

I can see that module leaders have provided discussion fora on Canvas for students to ask questions and debate. However, I cannot see any posts or threads of discussion. Perhaps module leaders need to encourage students to take advantage of such facilities.

B3. Please comment on any meetings you have had with students on the programme(s) / modules in your remit during the year (including 'virtual' meetings, if relevant)

N/A

B4. Please note any issues requiring attention **by the Faculty and/or University**

N/A

B5. Your previous report (where applicable). Please state whether issues raised in your previous report(s) have been / are being addressed to your satisfaction.

As mentioned earlier, I am pleased to see that action was taken by staff at BIL on reducing the number of extensions given to students.

B6. The University does not wish to limit the issues on which an external examiner may comment. If you wish to raise any points other than those listed above, please do so in the section below. In particular, if during the academic year you have been asked to consider minor amendments to the curriculum, you may wish to comment on these in this section.

B7. Please indicate here if you would like to be forwarded a copy of the Annual Review Final Rolling Action Plan for the provision for which you are appointed as external examiner when it is produced.

Yes

No

B8. *(For external examiners in the final year of their period of office)*

The University is grateful for the contribution of external examiners to the ongoing work of the institution. Please provide here a brief overview covering your term of office.

I have enjoyed my third year as an EE for BIL. I have sufficient time to review the assessment questions and moderate students' work. The staff at BIL are friendly and helpful. I participated in the exam board via Skype this year as I was unable to attend in person.

## Checklist

<b>Programme materials - Did you receive:</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. Programme handbooks	X		
B. Programme regulations (these may be in the programme handbook)	X		
C. Module descriptions (these may be in the programme handbook)	X		
D. Assessment briefs / marking criteria			
<b>Draft exam papers</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. (i) Did you receive all draft papers?	X		
A. (ii) If not, was this at your request?			x
B. (i) Was the nature and level of the questions appropriate?	X		
B. (ii) If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			
C. Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	x		
<b>Marking examination scripts</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. (i) Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts?	x		
A. (ii) If you did not receive all the scripts, was the method of selection satisfactory?			x
B. Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	x		
C. Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	X (see below)		
<b>Dissertations / project reports</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. Was the choice of dissertations appropriate?			x
B. Was the method and standard of assessment appropriate?			x
<b>Coursework / continuously assessed work</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. Was sufficient coursework made available to you for assessment?	x		
B. Were the method and general standard of marking and consistency satisfactory?	x		
<b>Orals / performances / recitals / appropriate professional placements</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. Were suitable arrangements made for you to conduct orals and/or moderate performances/recitals/appropriate professional placements?			x
<b>Final examiners' meeting</b>	Yes	No	n/a
A. Were you able to attend the meeting?	x		
B. Was the meeting conducted to your satisfaction?	x		
C. Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Board of Examiners?	x		
<b>Please add any further comments on administration and communication:</b> Efficient.			

Date completed: 22<sup>nd</sup> July 2019

University of Northampton - External Examiner Annual Report Form 2018/2019

