

University Taxonomy

Institutional Level Collaborations:

Proposals for new collaborative arrangements must be notified to and approved by ADPC before proceeding to the appropriate institutional approval process. Details of how the partnership will be managed will be included in the Academic Cooperation Agreement (ACA) to be agreed and signed by both institutions following the approval process.

Associate College:

The Associate College cooperates with the University in providing HE within the University's QA systems and procedures. The Associate College may design its own HE programmes in collaboration with subject teams within Faculties and Academic Registry – Partnerships/Plymouth Global. Alternatively, partners may deliver programmes designed by Faculties.

Affiliated College:

The Affiliated College normally delivers HE programmes, which may be designed by the Affiliated College and approved by the University. The Affiliated College may run its own QA systems if they meet OfS conditions and will comply with University requirements for Annual Review, Approval and Review and appointment of external examiners.

Apprenticeships:

Apprenticeships area relationships formed and managed for the delivery of Higher or Degree Apprenticeship standards (HA/DA). The work with the University is governed under sub-contract terms, as required by the Education and Skills Funding Agency (ESFA). Where an HA/DA includes a prescribed HE qualification awarded by the University, the University's standard quality assurance arrangements would be augmented by the requirements of the ESFA.

Outreach:

University approved programmes which are delivered by University staff off-campus using another organisation's premises and/or learning resources.

Research:

Arrangements which have associated research degree programmes. Research arrangements are approved at University level by the Doctoral College.

Credit rating:

The university grants specific credit to modules offered (and sometimes designed) by a partner organisation.

Programme Taxonomy:

Where an institutional collaboration has been put in place new programme developments can be brought online and defined as follows. As the awarding body the University will continue to provide QA and support for students and staff for these new programmes as defined in the existing agreement. New programme proposals must be approved by ADPC before progressing through the appropriate approval process.

Articulation Arrangements:

Arrangement with a partner institution (usually overseas) in which the University recognises specific credit and advanced standing to cohorts of students progressing to appropriate programmes identified by University staff. Articulation differs to APE/CL arrangements which only apply to individuals. No University credit is awarded for the study at the partner institution.

Co-designed Programme:

The programme is designed jointly by staff from the partner institution and the University. The University may provide additional support in terms of materials and/or learning resources. Delivery may be by partner staff approved by the University to teach on the programme and may also include input from University staff. Exact arrangements will be approved during the programme approval process and will be reflected in the ACA.

Validation:

The programme is designed and offered by the partner and approved and recognised by the university as an award. Delivery will be by partner staff with the university providing guidance and support relating to procedures for maintaining and enhancing quality and standards.

Contracted out:

The university contracts out all or part of an approved university programme to a partner to provide. Contracted out provision will include Continuing Professional Development arrangements agreed with Health and Education providers in the UK. Examples include individual Health modules being taught by NHS Trusts; PGCE delivery by partner colleges.

Please be aware that the university does not currently offer Dual or Joint Awards. Any potential Dual or Joint Awards must be discussed with the Academic Policy and Quality Office in advance of any proposal being put to ADPC.

Dual Award:

Dual awards are granted by two awarding bodies usually for the same, or an overlapping, course of study involving study at each institution.

Joint Award:

A joint award is a single qualification granted for successful completion of one programme offered collaboratively by 2 or more awarding bodies. Any proposal for a joint award requires careful consideration of the regulatory framework under which the programme will be delivered and assessed.

Programme links with other providers:

Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies:

UK PSRBs sometimes limit their accreditation, approval or recognition of programmes to particular modes or location of delivery. It is therefore essential that appropriate checks are made with the relevant PSRB if a proposal to deliver at or by a partner requires accreditation.

Study Abroad/Exchange:

Where students study abroad or participate in exchanges as part of their programme. Arrangements for credit recognition for study abroad will be agreed between the partners involved but should reflect the university's principles of due diligence and assessment regulations. Responsibility for ensuring that arrangements for study abroad are at an appropriate level to ensure learning outcomes can be achieved lies with the faculty.

Placements:

Placements form part of an approved university programme. Support for placements will be discussed at approval and arrangements must be formalised in an agreement with the relevant authority/work experience host.