

Periodic Programme Revalidation Policy



Summary			
This document lays out the University's Policy for Periodic Programme Revalidation (PPR), which is a strategic process undertaken by each School at subject level as part of a rolling programme.			
Scope - This document applies to:			
UoB Staff			
For applicants entering in:	n/a	Applies to academic year:	2019/20 onwards
Document Control			
Owning team	AQPO		
Division	Education Services		
Lead contact	Elinor Davies		
Type	Policy	Status	Approved
Asset number	EPIR00020	Version	V1.0
Approved by	AQSC / UEC	Date current version approved	05/05/2022 (AQSC)
Date current version published	09/05/2022	Date first published	04/07/2019
Revision schedule	e.g. 2 years	Next review date	2024
Superseded documents	Periodic Programme Review (PPR) overview		
Related documents			
Keywords	Periodic Review, Validation, Re-validation, Quality, Assurance		

Periodic Programme Revalidation: Policy

Overall purpose

1. Periodic Programme Revalidation (PPR) is a strategic process undertaken by each School at subject level as part of a rolling programme that considers the quality, validity, and viability of all academic provision (across taught programmes) and the educational experience supported by the University.

This guidance applies to all taught programmes, including those taught at partner institutions and the taught components of PGR programmes. A list of current programmes can be found in the [Code of Practice for Taught Programmes](#).

Underpinning Principles

2. The PPR process provides the mechanism through which the University routinely evaluates and confirms that its taught programmes continue to be well designed and high-quality by reviewing the academic standards, content, validity, viability, and relevance of taught programmes, with external input and student involvement.
3. The process provides the school with a formal opportunity for broad thinking about the student educational experience, with the purpose of ensuring continuous improvement.
4. Accreditation activity will be considered when planning revalidation of programmes. This means that:
 - a. The University Academic Quality and Standards Committee agrees the level of external accreditation scrutiny as being either full-scale, mid-scale, or low-scale.
 - b. Programmes that are subject to full or mid-scale accreditation visits are precluded from having a full PPR. Instead, an extended UQT review will occur in the academic year when both the external accreditation report and School response is available. This allows revalidation to be based on both the accreditation outcomes and review/discussion of internal parameters (i.e. metrics and fit with strategic drivers) as achieved via an extended UQT review. This is designed to maximise the benefit of the work Schools undertake as part of an external accreditation process whilst allowing internal dialogue with programmes teams.
 - c. For programmes with low-scale accreditation scrutiny, a full PPR will be carried out.
5. The key characteristics of PPR are that it is:
 - i. A flexible process that is proportionate and tailored to individual schools in respect of accreditation and other review activities;
 - ii. Strategic in its focus and action planning for the future;
 - iii. Linked to the University Education Strategy and the Curriculum Enhancement Programme, where appropriate;
 - iv. Evidence-based and founded on an analysis of a portfolio of information that includes relevant student data and metrics, including those used for external regulation;
 - v. Dovetails with the programme approval process by exploring aspects of the academic case with existing programmes, and ensuring that where appropriate any newly approved programmes are excluded from PPR;
 - vi. Undertaken in full partnership with students, with an emphasis on the student experience;
 - vii. Includes external scrutiny.

Reporting

6. A full PPR will generate a report with recommendations. PPR undertaken by means of external accreditation together with an enhanced UQT will also generate a report, albeit of a shorter nature. Revalidation of the programmes will be confirmed when the school satisfactorily responds to any recommendations as reflected by the School EAP, and confirmed by UAQSC.
7. Failure to address a recommendation required for programme revalidation will result in the Dean and PVC Education being informed and taking action. If a programme is not revalidated, then the School will be required to implement a teaching out plan.