UNIVERSITY OF HERTFORDSHIRE
ACADEMIC STANDARDS AND AUDIT COMMITTEE

Amendments to UPR AS11 (Schedule of Awards) for 2021/22

This paper summarises the approved amendments to UPR AS11 for the 2021/22 academic year.

1. Permanent relaxation of Sandwich Award requirements

Previously, UPR AS11 identified that a sandwich award required the successful completion of at least 36 weeks full-time equivalent placement activity from a maximum of two separate approved placements. If students did not accumulate 36 weeks then there were three options within the regulations:

- To award a degree 'with Employment Experience' if the student has accumulated at least 12 weeks of experience;
- If they have completed between 12 and 35 weeks of experience, the balance could be made up by a separate 12-week (minimum) placement;
- Revert to a non-Sandwich route.

However, many placement students were leaving their placements early because of the Covid-19 outbreak. It was agreed that the University should be more flexible with respect to students who could not complete their 36 weeks. The following temporary arrangements were agreed for 2019/20 and 2020/21, in these exceptional times:

- Reduction of the 36-week minimum requirement to 30 weeks minimum (in line with the requirements of most other Universities);
- In exceptional circumstances, the Director of Academic Quality Assurance is able to approve a Sandwich award where a student has accumulated down to the 24 weeks placement activity, which is the HESA minimum expectation of a Sandwich Year.

The temporary amendment to the regulations reassured students finishing their placement early, and those wanting to but worried of the consequences of doing so. However, UH Careers and Employment service reported increasing difficulties for students to secure Sandwich placements in the current environment. This situation is unlikely to improve in the foreseeable future. The following permanent amendment has therefore been approved to UPR AS11, section 2.4:

2.4   Award titles acknowledging employment experience

2.4.1   Sandwich awards

A sandwich award requires the successful completion of at least **30** weeks full-time equivalent placement activity from a maximum of two separate approved placements, neither of which will be normally less than **12** weeks in duration, in order for the award to be made. The sandwich award title should be:

<Award title (Sandwich)>

*In exceptional circumstances, the Director of Academic Quality Assurance is able to approve a Sandwich award for the successful completion of at least **24** weeks full-time equivalent placement activity.*

27th July 2021

2. Approval of two-year taught Master's degrees

A number of full-time, two-year Master's degrees have been approved by the University's Academic Development Committee (ADC) in the past three years, primarily to attract the international market. These awards have been distinguished from standard one-year Master's degrees through the use of the following adjuncts:
- Award (Sandwich)
- Award 'with Advanced Research'
- Award 'with Research'
- Award 'with Further Study'

The Sandwich award is achieved through the successful completion of a two or three Semester placement. However, the other awards are achieved through the successful completion of an additional 60 credits of level 7 taught or project/dissertation modules (in order to meet the expectations of full-time study and therefore satisfy UKVI rules).

These requirements have been formalised in the University's regulations, to avoid confusion where Schools are applying for ADC initial approval of a new two-year Master's degree. The following amendments have been approved to UPR AS11, section 4.3:

4.3 Master's degrees (taught)

Total credit at specified Level(s) normally required for an award (credit at a specified Level can be replaced by credit at a higher Level)	Typical duration of study required full-time	Minimum University of Hertfordshire credit and Level	Maximum combined APCL/ APEL, and Level					
			Total	0	4	5	6	7
Taught Master's Degree (other than *awards specified below*): 180 credits, to include at least 150 credits @ Level 7 (with no more than 15 credits below Level 6)	3 Semesters	45 @ 7	135		15		15	105
Taught Master's Degree 'with Advanced Research', 'with Research' or 'with Further Study': *240 credits, to include at least 210 credits @ Level 7 (with no more than 15 credits below Level 6)*	*4 or 5 Semesters*	*60 @ 7*	*180*		*15*		*15*	*150*
Master of Architecture: 240 credits @Levels 6/7, to include at least 180 credits @ Level 7	4 Semesters	60 @ 7	*180*				60	120

3. Master of Business Administration (MBA)

The following amendments have been approved to UPR AS11, section 4.3, to more clearly distinguish between the Executive and non-Executive routes on the University's MBA programme:

4.3 **Master's degrees (taught)**

4.3, C   Master of Business Administration (Executive) (MBA Executive)

The title 'MBA (Executive)' is reserved for programmes which focus on the general principles and functions of management and the development of management skills. Students entering MBA (Executive) programmes ~~must have appropriate practical experience and should normally be at least 23 years old on admission.~~ *should normally have at least three (3) years relevant experience in a management role.*

4.3, D   Master of Business Administration (MBA)

The title 'MBA' is reserved for programmes which focus on the general principles and functions of management and the development of management skills.

~~Students entering MBA programmes should normally have a first degree at 2:2 or above and at least three (3) years relevant experience in a management role.~~

4. Doctorate in Health and Social Care (DHaSC)

To note the approval of the Doctorate in Health and Social Care (DHaSC), as recommended by the Research Degrees Board. The following amendment has been approved to UPR AS11, section 3.4:

3.4   Initial Doctorate (professional doctorate)

DBA   Doctor of Business Administration
DClinPsy   Doctor of Clinical Psychology
CSecD   Doctor of Cyber Security
DDes   Doctor of Design
EdD   Doctor of Education
EngD   Doctor of Engineering
DFA   Doctor of Fine Art
DHaSC   *Doctorate in Health and Social Care*
DHRes   Doctor of Health Research
DHeritage   Doctor of Heritage
DMan   Doctor of Management
MD   Doctorate in Medicine
DrPH   Doctor of Public Health
DPsych   Doctor of Psychotherapy
ClinicalMD Doctor of General Internal Medicine

3.4, A   Professional doctorate

(See UPR AS10[8].)

Doctor of Business Administration (DBA); Doctor of Clinical Psychology (DClinPsy); Doctor of Cyber Security (CSecD); Doctor of Design (DDes); Doctor of Education (EdD); Doctor of Engineering (EngD); Doctor of Fine Art (DFA); *Doctorate in Health and Social Care (DHaSC);* Doctor of Health Research (DHRes); Doctor of Heritage (DHeritage): Doctor of Management (DMan); Doctorate in Medicine (MD), ……….