

School of Built Environment And Engineering

Undergraduate

- BECIV Civil Engineering(UG)

Please indicate, below, whether you agree with the statements about the threshold standards of Leeds Beckett University's awards, student achievement and the conduct of the University's assessment processes, using as a reference the framework for higher education qualifications and applicable Subject Benchmark Statements / Qualification Characteristic Statements. Please also list any shortcomings and areas for commendation. You should expand on any issues you mention here in the main report. If any boxes are ticked "No" the Dean of School or nominee will be alerted and will oversee the response from the Course Director.

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Standards Set

	Yes	No
"In my view, the threshold academic standards set for the modules/awards meet with the requirements of the relevant National Qualifications Statement's."	X	

If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short:

Student achievement

	Yes	No	N/A*
"In my view, students' who have been awarded qualifications have had the opportunity to achieve standards beyond the threshold level that are reasonably comparable with those achieved in course(s) or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar." *Not applicable – if you are a practitioner and are not in a position to assess this statement, please note here:			

Please provide any further comment on the comparability of collaborative provision

If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short:

Conduct of process

Yes No

External Examiner's report summary

"In my view, the processes for assessment, examination and the determination of awards are reliable, rigorous and fairly conducted."

X

If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.

Actions from last year's report

(This will not be relevant if you are examining for the first time)

Yes

Areas of good practice/commendation

Any particular strengths or distinctive or innovative features in relation to learning, teaching and assessment:

Considering the disruption of Covid 19, the teaching and assessment online has been well organised and run smoothly. The students have reciprocated well, this is evident from the standard of course work and exam script. It's great to see the topic of sustainable concrete included in Materials, shows the university is focussing students on relevant topics for the industry. Excellent material provided to students along with a thorough module report during the lockdown.

Main report

In this section you are asked to describe more fully how the University has or has not maintained threshold academic standards and the quality of the student experience in relation to the course(s) for which you are the external examiner, using as a reference the framework for higher education qualifications and applicable Subject Benchmark Statements / Qualification Characteristic Statements.

Please complete all sections of the form fully and where not applicable please state N/A. Where applicable please also complete the sections for any collaborative provision sampled.

If you are an external examiner for any of the University's Pearson Licensed Centre Programmes (HND/HNC level) provision, please also complete the section on page 9 sections l, m and n entitled "for External Examiners Associated with Pearson Licensed Centre Programmes."

Professional Body Requirements

"In my view, the professional body requirements for this course have been met.

*Not applicable if the course is not a professional body course please indicate here.

Yes

No

N/A*

X

If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.

(a) The operation and conduct of the Progression and Award Board (and/or Module Board meeting you may also have attended).

External Examiner's report summary

Although I did not attend the Progression and Award Board meeting, we were sent Stage 2 and Stage 3 superseding decisions. It seemed the board meeting was conducted well, considering the current situation.

(b) The action, if any was required, taken in response to your report of last year. (This will not be relevant if you are examining for the first time.)

(c) The overall performance of the students, in relation to that of comparable levels of work in other institutions.

N/A I have no knowledge of other institutions as I am not an academic

(d) The strengths and weaknesses of the students in general with respect to knowledge, conceptual grasp or application of skills.

Strengths – Thorough research skills. This was evident from the student's project reports. Also, the agility and adaptation the students have demonstrated during the lockdown.

Improvement Areas- Need to learn to reference research as on some occasions it seemed to be copy/pasted from the internet.

Also, we need to prepare the students on current topics such as climate emergency and need to think of public health in design. The course material needs to be revised and topics such as sustainability, resilience and inclusive design introduced. Lectures from industry leaders can help in this area.

(e) The standards of the structure, organisation, design and marking of all examination papers and/or other forms of assessment.

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Generally good except the paperwork to show review by two examiners was missing in certain cases.

(f) The curriculum, teaching or resourcing of the programme of study as indicated by the performance of the students in the assessment

As a foundation to civil engineering, the curriculum is good but as stated above, concepts such as sustainability, climate resilience, public health and inclusive design need to be introduced to make the course in line with the real-world challenges.

(g) Comments on the use of My Beckett (Virtual Learning Environment) within the course (if applicable).

Excellent

(h) Module content, consistency of modules and module assessment across the course and the achievement of learning outcomes. (You may be asked by your School to provide detailed comments on the modules that you examine.)

Excellent

(i) Areas of student/staff engagement in teaching and learning, scholarship, research or professional practice.

very good standard

(j) The University welcomes external examiners' comments on its academic regulatory framework. Such comments may not have a direct bearing on standards set and achieved or the conduct of processes and so it may not be appropriate to include them elsewhere in this report or its summary. Please record any concerns or comments you may have here.

I like the fact that the Exam Board was conducted in a thorough manner during a lockdown.

(k) Collaborative Provision: please include here any comments you wish to make on elements of collaborative provision for which you have responsibility (in addition to those you may have indicated previously in this report).

N/A