

FdSc Computing: Systems and Networking 2014/15

External Examiner's report summary

Please indicate in the relevant boxes below whether you agree with the statements about the standards of Leeds Metropolitan University's awards, the standards of student performance and the conduct of the University's assessment processes.

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 the Faculty or nominee will be alerted and will oversee the response from the course leader.

Standards set		
"In my view, the standards set for the awards are appropriate."	Yes	No
	YES	
If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.		

Student performance			
"In my view, the standards of student performance are comparable with similar course(s) or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar." I have reviewed a sample of student work from the collaborative institution and in my view the standards of student performance are comparable with students studying the award(s) at Leeds Met	Yes	No	N/A *
	YES		
* Not applicable – if you are a practitioner and are not in a position to assess national standards please indicate here.			
If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.			

Conduct of processes		
"In my view, the processes for assessment, examination and the determination of awards are sound and fairly conducted."	Yes	No
	YES	

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

Areas for commendation

Any particular strengths or distinctive or innovative features in relation to standards and assessment processes

Outstanding support for the cohort with good clear feedback on the work submitted.

Main report

In this section you are asked to describe more fully how the University has or has not maintained academic standards and the quality of the student experience in relation to the course(s) for which you are the external examiner.

Please write a report (in addition to completing the Summary) in sections under all the following areas. Where applicable please also reference the sections to any collaborative provision you have sampled.

If you are an external examiner for any of the University's Edexcel (HND/HNC level) provision, please also complete the section on page 8 entitled "for External Examiners Associated with Edexcel Courses."

(a) The operation and conduct of the Board of Examiners (and any Mitigation Panel or Examination Committee meeting you may also have attended).

The Examinations board was effectively managed and the process fair

(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.)

None

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

Again the course team continue to show good performance and standards across all of the modules under review, clear range of marks showing good overall understanding of the material which is inline with other institutions within HE. A clear level of progression shown within the students cohort.

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

Again the students have shown a good level of understanding of the material, this is reflected in the module marks.

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

Very good level of feedback provided to the students across all of the module that I have reviewed, Good to see both 1st and 2nd marking and clear justification for the marks awarded to the work submitted.

Clear evidence of moderations and checking seen within the work reviewed.

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

None

(g) Comments on the use of X-stream (VLE) within the course (if applicable)..

Good use of Moodle as the VLE, clear and well presented information for the students.

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

All modules reviewed are at the correct level and are challenging and detailed, Lo's are clearly stated, and have been met by the students across the reviewed modules

(i) Areas of good practice you have identified – please expand on the key areas for commendation listed in the summary.

Again very clear and well presented review process from the teaching team, clear feedback to the students, good level of work set and submitted.

(j) The University welcomes external examiners' comments on its developing 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.

(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).

NA

External Examiners' Report Checklist

Please comment for all boxes

Course Materials				
Did you receive?		Yes	No	N/A
a.	Course Handbook(s)?	√		
b.	Academic Regulations including any Professional Statutory Body requirements where appropriate (these may be included the Course Handbook)?	√		
c.	Module specifications (these may be in the Course Handbook)?	√		
d.	Assessment briefs/marking criteria?	√		

Draft examination papers				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	(i) Did you receive all the draft papers?	√		
	(ii) If not, was this at your request?			√
b.	(i) Was the nature and level of the questions appropriate?	√		
	(ii) If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			√
c.	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	√		

Draft coursework				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	(i) Did you receive all the draft coursework?	√		
	(ii) If not, was this at your request?			
b.	(i) Was the nature and level of the coursework appropriate?	√		
	(ii) If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			
c.	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	√		

Marking Examination Scripts				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	(i) Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts from both home and (if appropriate) collaborative partner students?	√		
	(ii) If you did not receive all the scripts, was the method of selection satisfactory?			
<p>Recommended sample sizes at Leeds Metropolitan University are as follows:</p> <p>a) Samples should be determined by a square root of cohort size, no smaller than 6, no larger than 15. However it should be borne in mind that not all work is assessed in a way that makes a square root sample possible and allowance should be made. For example in subjects such as the performing arts where there may be a requirement for an external to come and view a performance instead, or to visit the exhibition of art work.</p> <p>b) Samples to include all classification categories, and it is helpful to concentrate around the boundaries to include some fails.</p> <p>c) Samples to consist of internally moderated work, clearly evidencing the moderation process.</p>				
b.	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	√		
c.	Were the scripts marked in such a way to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	√		

Dissertations/project reports				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	Was the choice of subjects for dissertations appropriate?			√
b.	Was the method and standard of assessment appropriate?			√

Coursework/continuously assessed work				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	Was sufficient coursework made available to you for assessment from both home and (if appropriate) collaborative partner students?	√		
b.	Was the method and general standard of marking and consistency satisfactory?	√		

Orals/performances/recitals/appropriate professional placements				
		Yes	No	N/A

a.	Were suitable arrangements made for you to conduct orals and/or moderate performances/recitals/appropriate professional placements?			√
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Examination Committee/Board of Examiners				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	Were you able to attend the meetings?	√		
b.	Were the meetings conducted to your satisfaction?	√		
c.	Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Examination Committee/Board of Examiners?	√		