

OVERARCHING QUALITY & STANDARDS CODE

Introduction

Content

1 The University of Law (the University)'s Quality and Standards Code consists of the documents (including Policies, Supporting Policies, Protocols and Processes) listed in the University's Quality and Standards Code Policy Hierarchy.

Organisation

2 For the University of Law organisation structure, see Appendix 1.

Key values

3 Delivering a world-class learning experience to students is a key goal for the University. In order to achieve this, the University applies the highest possible educational standards to everything it does and is committed to the assurance and enhancement of the quality of its academic provision. This ethos is reflected in the University's Quality and Standards Code, which has been informed by the UK Quality Code for Higher Education and encapsulates the key values of that Code, as follows:

- 3.1 all students are treated fairly, equitably, with dignity, courtesy, respect and as individuals;
- 3.2 students have the opportunity to contribute to the shaping of their learning experience;
- 3.3 students are properly and actively informed at appropriate times of matters relevant to their programmes of study;
- 3.4 all policies and processes relating to study and programmes are clear and transparent;
- 3.5 strategic oversight of academic standards and academic quality is at the highest level of academic governance of the University;
- 3.6 all policies and processes are regularly and effectively monitored, reviewed and improved;
- 3.7 sufficient and appropriate external involvement exists for the maintenance of academic standards and the quality of learning opportunities;
- 3.8 staff are supported, enabling them in turn to support students' learning experiences.

The University's commitment to law

4 The University serves law students and legal services providers around the world, with the following aims, which inform the University's strategic approach to development and review of the University's Quality and Standards Code:

- 4.1 to deliver excellence in learning and development for law students and those engaged in legal services;
- 4.2 to produce intelligent, client-focused professionals for the global legal services market;
- 4.3 to maximise employability prospects for its students;
- 4.4 to lead innovation in legal learning and development;
- 4.5 to provide thought leadership within the legal services sector;
- 4.6 to promote access to legal education and awareness of the social and ethical responsibilities of lawyers;
- 4.7 to promote access to education in other areas to meet the needs of the modern, commercial, legal services provider, including business and management.

Development and review of The University's Quality and Standards Code

5 The University takes a long-term strategic approach to development and review of its Quality and Standards Code, taking into account its key values and commitment to law and its service to the developing legal services market. It monitors and evaluates all areas of operation of the Code to ensure that key values are observed, its commitment to law and the changing legal services market is effective, and that policies and processes are improved. In particular the University ensures that policies in the following areas are aligned with its commitment to law and the legal services market:

- 5.1 setting and maintaining academic standards;
- 5.2 programme design and approval;
- 5.3 recruitment and admission;
- 5.4 learning and teaching;

- 5.5 enabling student development and achievement, including allocation of roles and responsibility;
- 5.6 student engagement;
- 5.7 assessment;
- 5.8 recognition of prior learning;
- 5.9 external examining;
- 5.10 programme monitoring and review, including processes for enhancement;
- 5.11 academic appeals and student complaints;
- 5.12 managing higher education provision with others.

Responsibility for development and review of the University's Quality and Standards Code

6 Responsibility for development, review and giving effect to the Quality and Standards Code of the University is shared across all staff and functions, both individually and collectively, of the University.

The Academic Board

7 Ultimate responsibility for the development of clear and effective processes and procedures associated with the maintenance of standards and quality assurance of academic provision and overseeing their application lies with the Academic Board, supported by Academic Governance, Quality & Standards.

- 7.1 The Academic Board oversees the University's academic management, including the curriculum and all aspects of quality and standards associated with the University as a degree-awarding body.
- 7.2 Academic Board meetings concentrate on major issues of academic strategy, policy, priority and performance. It receives and considers reports from its committees in order to inform its decisions.
- 7.3 Where appropriate, the Academic Board recommends policies to the Board of Directors, through the Academic Standards Committee. The Academic Board also makes recommendations to the University's Executive Management Board regarding the directions of academic strategy and policy, and the academic aspects of the University's strategic and development plans.

Version history:

Version	Amended by	Revision summary	Date
V1.0	VP – AGQS	Initial drafting group	15/07/13
V1.1	Head of Clients	QA group	22/07/13
V1.2	External Consultant	Coherence activity amendments	21/08/13
V1.5	Academic Registrar	Review	26/09/13
V1.6	Academic Board	Approval	03/10/13
V1.7	Student Officer	Review	13/11/13
V1.8	Centre Head – Chester and Manchester	Final review team	24/04/14
V1.9	VP – AGQS	Sign-Off	16/09/14
V1.10	Registry Officer	Change to the document coding convention	March 2020
V1.10	Registry Assistant	extension to term of approval of 4 years.	October 2021

Appendix 1

University of Law Management and Committee Structure

