HERIOT WATT UNIVERSITY

IMPLEMENTING THE POLICY ON PROGRAMME TITLES, LEARNING OUTCOMES & COURSES

The **Policy on Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes, and Courses** outlines the permissible and non-permissible variations between multi-location, multi-mode programmes. A set of criteria has been developed to guide the implementation of this policy by the School Studies Committees and the University Studies Committee.

! **MANDATORY (CREDIT-RATED) COURSES**	Mandatory, credit-rated courses must be provided across all versions. They: • Must have **identical learning outcomes and core curriculum** • May vary in course content and in formative or summative assessments A rationale for variations in content and assessment (formative, summative or overall weighting) of courses must be made to the School Studies Committee.
OPTIONAL COURSES	Optional courses may be included, subject to the following conditions: • Different options may be offered, provided that stage and programme learning outcomes remain identical across versions. • The various offerings of the programme must comprise courses with identical learning outcomes and core curriculum. Due to the restricted number of optional courses available, some of these courses might effectively become mandatory courses.

Exceptions to the Policy

The University Studies Committee may consider exceptions to this policy in cases where different mandatory courses are proposed for multi-location, multi-mode programmes.

Any such request must:

- ✓ Ensure that programme learning outcomes remain identical across all variants.
- ✓ Demonstrate that the proposed subject cannot be included as an optional course.
- ✓ Be based on the recognised research expertise of academic staff at a particular campus location.
- ✓ Explain how risks will be mitigated, particularly if the proposed course relies on the expertise of a single staff member.

Resources

- Read the full Policy on Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes, and Courses and the associated Briefing Paper for comprehensive guidance, including the Key Principles for developing programmes.
- See the Programme Directors' Toolbox on the LTA Hub for help with programme development, approval, and review processes