

Guidance notes are available to support the completion of this Report via the Cardiff University Intranet [here](#) and from ExternalExaminers@cardiff.ac.uk.

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	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Georgina Pearson		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	St George's, University of London London School of Economics and Political Science		
Programme and / or Modules Covered by this Report	BSc Clinical Epidemiology (Intercalated)		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	2018-19	Date of Report:	9 th July 2019

Please complete all information in the spaces provided and submit within **six weeks** of the Examining Board (the dissertation stage Examining Board in the case of postgraduate Master's programmes).

Please note this form will be published online and should not make any reference to any individual students or members of staff in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation (2018).

Please extend spaces where necessary.

1. Programme Structure (curriculum design, programme structure and level, methods of teaching and learning)

The overall curriculum design and programme structure have not changed from last year. Students are required to take modules in research methods, as applied to public health, primary care and health services, with optional modules offering intercalating medical students opportunities to explore other aspects of clinical epidemiology and public health including those that are not covered extensively within their medical degree (e.g. Health economics). For their Research projects, students had been given excellent opportunities to work with supervisors within the University as well as external organisations and institutions. This provided varied opportunities for students to undertake research projects under supervision, broadening their experiences, including managing expectations on them and requirements of the project. There have been no significant changes to the optional modules offered this academic year. The level of teaching and learning are appropriate, and the modules provide a variety of teaching and learning methods, particularly in experiential and reflective learning. Students also receive feedback on their work.

2. Academic Standards (comparability with other UK HEIs, achievement of students, any PSRB requirements)

I was provided with the assessments and marking from across the modules in the programme. I therefore reviewed a variety of work from the students, and marks awarded, across the modules, including written exams, written assignments, poster presentations and research projects. The assessments and marks that I reviewed were fair and reasonable. Overall, the student's achievements were high, reflected in the final degrees awarded to students. The distribution of grades awarded was in keeping with previous years and the academic standards were comparable to my experiences of similar programmes elsewhere. Furthermore, I had the opportunity to meet four students at exit interview and felt confident that the students' achievements through this programme had been fairly recognised. Students clearly gain from pursuing this programme.

3. The Assessment Process (enabling achievement of aims and learning outcomes; stretch of assessment; comparability of standards between modules of the same level)

The variety of assessments across the modules assess the learning outcomes and aims, testing a range of applied skills. Some changes were made to the assessment of individual modules in response to feedback last year and to provide more comparability in assessment across modules (reflecting the number of credits per module). Presentations are currently not recorded, and this may be something to consider if appropriate. The assessments were fair and reasonable and overall, I am satisfied with the level and spread of assessments.

4. Examination of Master's Dissertations (if applicable) (sample of dissertations received, appropriateness of marking schemes, standard of internal marking, classification of awards)

[Where possible please complete this section following the dissertation examining board determining the final award.]

Not applicable (BSc).

5. Year-on-Year Comments

[Previous External Examiner Reports are available from the Cardiff University Website [here](#).]

The International Health module was not offered in 2017-18 academic year, following previous feedback and discussion, and has not been reinstated. The programme still offers a wide variety of choice for students to expand their understanding of clinical epidemiology in a number of contexts. The academic achievements of the students who go through this programme, as reflected in the the final degrees awarded, continue to be high – and are in keeping with previous years. The programme continues to develop in response to feedback and new opportunities arising.

6. Preparation for the role of External Examiner (for new External Examiners only) (appropriateness of briefing provided by the programme team and supporting

information, visits to School, ability to meet with students, arrangements for accessing work to review)

This is my second year as External Examiner for this Programme.

7. Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement (good and innovative practice in learning, teaching and assessment; opportunities for enhancement of learning opportunities)

The Programme offers intercalating students opportunities to explore and expand their understanding of a range of issues relating to clinical epidemiology and population medicine. Of particular note this academic year, some students were given the opportunity to conduct research projects with external organisations, broadening their experiences. Experiential and reflective learning is encouraged in particular modules, and the Programme continues to receive positive feedback from students.

8. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only) (significant changes in standards, programme/discipline developments, implementation of recommendations, further areas of work)

Not applicable.

9. Annual Report Checklist

Please include appropriate comments within Sections 1-7 above for any answer of 'No'.

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
Programme/Course information				
9.1	Did you receive sufficient information about the Programme and its contents, learning outcomes and assessments?	Y		
9.2	Were you asked to comment on any changes to the assessment of the Programme?			N/A
Commenting on draft examination question papers				
9.3	Were you asked to approve all examination papers contributing to the final award?	Y		
9.4	Were the nature, spread and level of the questions appropriate?	Y		
9.5	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	Y		
Examination scripts				
9.6	Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts to be able to assess whether the internal marking and classifications were appropriate and consistent?	Y		
9.7	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	Y		
9.8	Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	Y		

9.9	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the internal examiners?	Y		
9.10	In your judgement, did you have the opportunity to examine a sufficient cross-section of candidates' work contributing to the final assessment?	Y		
Coursework and practical assessments				
9.11	Was the choice of subjects for coursework and / or practical assessments appropriate?	Y		
9.12	Were you afforded access to an appropriate sample of coursework and / or practical assessments?	Y		
9.13	Was the method and general standard of assessment appropriate?	Y		
9.14	Is sufficient feedback provided to students on their assessed work?	Y		
Clinical examinations (if applicable)				
9.15	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of clinical assessments?			N/A
Sampling of work				
9.16	Were you afforded sufficient time to consider samples of assessed work?	Y		
Examining board meeting				
9.17	Were you able to attend the Examining Board meeting?	Y		
9.18	Was the Examining Board conducted properly, in accordance with established procedures and to your satisfaction?	Y		
9.19	Cardiff University recognises the productive contribution of External Examiners to the assessment process and, in particular, to the work of the Examining Board. Have you had adequate opportunities to discuss the Programme and any outstanding concerns with the Examining Board or its officers?	Y		
Joint examining board meeting (if applicable)				
9.20	Did you attend a Composite Examining Board, i.e. one convened to consider the award of Joint Honours degrees?			N/A
9.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?			N/A
9.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?			N/A

Please return this Report, in a **Microsoft Word format**, by email to:
externalexaminers@cardiff.ac.uk

Your fee and expenses claim form and receipts, should be sent electronically to the above email address or in hard copy to:

External Examiners, Registry, Cardiff University, McKenzie House, 30-36 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0DE