



EXTERNAL EXAMINER ANNUAL REPORT FORM

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	For completion by External Examiner:		
Name of External Examiner:	Prof. Matt Cook		
Home Institution / Employer of External Examiner:	Birkbeck, University of London		
Programme and / or Subjects Covered by this Report:	History BA <i>BA in History, BA in History with Welsh History, BA (Jt Hons) with History, BScEcon in Politics and Modern History (Modern British History)</i>		
Academic Year / Period Covered by this Report:	2014/15	Date of Report:	8.7.15

For completion by External Examiner in the spaces provided. Please extend spaces where necessary. **Please note this Form will be published online.**

1. Programme Structure

I continue hugely impressed with this programme and it's structure – and in particular the ways in which students are supported in developing an understanding of and appreciation for historiography and different methodologies in historical research.

2. Academic Standards

Standards are high. Modules are well-structured and there is an impressive range of assessment methods. Students benefit from a carefully structured programme and from highly constructive feedback on their work.

3. The Assessment Process

Marking was robust and comments were detailed and clearly geared towards helping students improve their performance. The whole process is transparent and easy to follow. Support for me as external was great. Teething troubles in the moderation system have been ironed out effectively – and it now works very effectively.

4. Year-on-Year Comments

The department has worked well in ironing out teething troubles with the moderation process. I continue to be very happy with the conduct of the assessment process and the standard of work.

5. Preparation / Induction Activity (for new External Examiners only)

6. Noteworthy Practice and Enhancement

Only to reiterate comments from previous year: feedback to students is exemplary and really helps in their progress through the degree.

7. Appointment Overview (for retiring External Examiners only)

8. 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				
8.1	Did you receive sufficient information about the Programme and its contents, learning outcomes and assessments?	x		
8.2	Were you asked to comment on any changes to the assessment of the Programme?	x		
Draft Examination Question Papers				
8.3	Were you asked to approve all examination papers contributing to the final award?	x		
8.4	Were the nature, spread and level of the questions appropriate?	x		
8.5	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?	x		
Marking Examination Scripts				
8.6	Did you receive a sufficient number of scripts to be able to assess whether the internal marking and classifications were appropriate and consistent?	x		
8.7	Was the general standard and consistency of marking appropriate?	x		
8.8	Were the scripts marked in such a way as to enable you to see the reasons for the award of given marks?	x		
8.9	Were you satisfied with the standard and consistency of marking applied by the internal examiners?	x		
8.10	In your judgement, did you have the opportunity to examine a sufficient cross-section of candidates' work contributing to the final assessment?	x		
Coursework and Practical Assessments				
8.11	Was the choice of subjects for coursework and / or practical assessments appropriate?	x		
8.12	Were you afforded access to an appropriate sample of coursework and / or practical assessments?	x		
8.13	Was the method and general standard of assessment appropriate?	x		
8.14	Is sufficient feedback provided to students on their assessed work?	x		
Clinical Examinations (if applicable)				
8.15	Were satisfactory arrangements made for the conduct of clinical assessments?	n/a		
Sampling of Work				
8.16	Were you afforded sufficient time to consider samples of assessed work?	x		
Examining Board Meeting				

		Yes (Y)	No (N)	N/A (N/A)
8.17	Were you able to attend the Examining Board meeting?	x		
8.18	Was the Examining Board conducted properly, in accordance with established procedures and to your satisfaction?	x		
8.19	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?	x		
Joint Examining Board Meeting (if applicable)				
8.20	Did you attend a Composite Examining Board, i.e. one convened to consider the award of Joint Honours degrees?	x		
8.21	If so, were you made aware of the procedures and conventions for the award of Joint Honours degrees?	x		
8.22	Was the Composite Examining Board conducted according to its rules?	x		

Please return this Report, preferably in a Microsoft Word format, by email to:

ExternalExaminers@cf.ac.uk

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

Clive Brown, Registry Officer, Registry & Academic Services, Cardiff University,
McKenzie House, 30-36 Newport Road, Cardiff, CF24 0DE