

Academic & Student Support Services
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Simon Wright LLB



Sent by email to nasar.meer@strath.ac.uk

17 July 2015

Dear Dr Meer,

Re: Institutional Response: External Examiner Annual Report 2014 – 2015

I am writing further to the receipt of your External Examiner's Report for the MA/PG Diploma in Islam in Contemporary Britain.

Your Report has been considered by the School in accordance with our approved procedures. I am, therefore, now in a position to respond on behalf of the Vice-Chancellor to the main points you had raised.

Issue(s) Highlighted:

1. Your comments regarding the introduction of a dissertation primer introducing students to different techniques in the social scientific study of press, broadcast, electronic and perhaps also social media.

The following response has been provided on behalf of the School:

1. The preparation for the dissertation is covered by the 'Research Skills' module (HST 900), where students have first to prepare a presentation (normally using powerpoint) and prepare a research design. The presentation certainly gives them some 'media skills', or at least tests their ability to communicate with an audience. The need for further training in 'media studies' is something we can consider at the next Board of Studies in September. It should be noted that the MA in Islam in the UK degree scheme has recently re-jigged its research training element in the social sciences, and this point could (in principle) be accommodated within that module.

The University is pleased to note your positive comments including:

1. Your positive indications regarding the programme structure, academic standards and assessment process;
2. Your commendation of the content and delivery of the programme;
3. Excellent dissertation submissions

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I hope that you will find this response satisfactory and thank you for your continued support of the programme. We are most grateful for your valuable input into this process.

In order to meet the expectations of the QAA Quality Code, both the External Examiner Annual Report and this Institutional Response will be published on the University Student Intranet and will be available to all students and staff.

The University's provision of the formal Institutional Response is not intended to constrain direct communication between schools and their External Examiners. Schools are encouraged to discuss with their External Examiners any matters of detail raised in their Reports and, more widely, any issues impacting on the quality and standards of awards, including possible changes to programmes.

We are most grateful for your comments and for your support in this matter.

Yours sincerely,



Mr Simon Wright
Academic Registrar