The aim of the QA newsletter is to provide:

- a summary of changes in QA procedures and processes approved by the Education Board and the Graduate School Board;
- an update on external QAA (Quality Assurance Agency) reviews, consultations and developments;
- an update on developments in collaborative provision,
- a note of KentVision (SITS)-related matters.

More information can be accessed through the relevant weblinks below and any queries should be forwarded to qa@kent.ac.uk.

If you currently do not get this newsletter and would like to be informed when a new QA newsletter is available, please send an email to qa@kent.ac.uk and we will arrange for you to be added to the QA News alert.

**Key Quality Assurance weblinks**

- Code of Practice for Taught Programmes of Study: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/taught/code_taught.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/taught/code_taught.html)
- Annexes to the Taught Code of Practice: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/index.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/index.html)
- Code of Practice for Research Programmes of Study: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/research/code_research.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/research/code_research.html)
- Annexes to the Research Code of Practice: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/research/index.html?tab=research-programmes](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/index.html?tab=research-programmes)
- Credit Framework: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/creditinfo.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/creditinfo.html)
- Annexes to the Credit Framework: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/index.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/index.html)
- Academic Regulations – Taught Programmes: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/index.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/index.html)
- Managing Higher Education With Others: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/collaborative/index.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/collaborative/index.html)
- Collaborative Provision: Policies and Procedures: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/collaborative/policies.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/collaborative/policies.html)
- Guidance, Policies and Procedures: [https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/guidance/index.html](https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/guidance/index.html)
Contents:

1. Code of Practice for Taught Programmes of Study
   - Annex C
2. Credit Framework
   - Annex 4
3. Regulations for Taught Programmes of Study
4. Collaborative Partnerships Developments

1. Code of Practice for Taught Programmes of Study

Annex C: Approval and Withdrawal of Taught Programmes

The annex has had the following inserted:

5. Collaborative Provision

5.3.1 In addition to the requirements of section 3.2 above, the following matters must also be presented and considered:

   vii) Adherence to Annex 4: Minimum Credit Requirements for Awards of the Credit Framework;

Annex C can be accessed at https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/codes/taught/annexc.html

2. Credit Framework

The Credit Framework has had the following two additions inserted to make explicit the current practice:

6.3 Compensation

Where a student fails a module or modules but has marks for such modules that are within 10 percentage points of the pass mark for the module in question …

7.4 Referral

Where a student is not permitted to progress to the next stage of a programme, or at the end of a year of study other than the end of a stage of a programme has failed a module or modules, the Board of Examiners may permit the student to undertake further assessment in failed modules, with marks capped at the pass mark (refer to Annex 7 for details).

The Credit Framework has had the following regulation inserted:
University of Kent  
Quality Assurance Office  

13 Special Dispensation

13.3 Where the request is for a deviation from the programme specification, but it does not require an exemption from the Credit Framework, the request can be considered and approved/not approved by the Associate Dean.

The Credit Framework can be accessed at https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/creditinfo.html

Annex 4: Minimum Credit Requirements for Awards

The annex has had the following inserted:

3. When an award is delivered through a Dual Award/Multiple Award arrangement, 50% of the standard Kent minimum credit requirements for awards must be University of Kent credits.

Annex 4 can be accessed at https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/credit-framework/creditinfoannex4.html.

3. Regulations for Taught Programmes of Study

The following update to the regulation has been inserted:

8. Examination Duration

8.1 The duration of each individual examination shall be either two hours or three hours, to be stated in the relevant module specification.

8.2 An exception to 8.1 may be permitted in certain circumstances, where the examination is administered locally by the School (i.e. not by the Examinations Office), is specifically for blended learning contexts and is to be less than two hours.

8.2.1 Such exceptions must be approved in advance, i.e.; the School in question must make its case to the QA Office in writing; the QA Office will liaise with the DVC Education (or his/her nominee) and will relay the decision to the School and Faculties Support Office.

8.2.2 Where an exception is permitted the School will undertake responsibility for ensuring that the examination and its administration is subject to Kent’s quality assurance procedures.

The Regulations can be accessed at https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/regulations/taught/regs_taught.html

3. Collaborative Partnerships Developments

A register of all approved partner institutions can be viewed at https://www.kent.ac.uk/teaching/qa/collaborative/documents/collabprovregister11-02-19.pdf