

Departmental Annual Report on Undergraduate Education: 2019/2020

Report Submitted by	
Department/Division	
School	

Program(s)* Covered

* Indicate "CC" if a Department/Division contributes significantly to the University Common Core Program.

Prepared by	
Name of Committee/Authors	

Departmental Review of the Report
<p>Has the Annual Report been considered by faculty members in a formal meeting at Departmental level? Yes/No [If No, please briefly explain how the report was reviewed in the Department.]</p> <p>_____</p> <p>_____</p>
<p>Endorsed by: _____ (Department Head) _____ (Signature)</p>
<p>Date: _____</p>

Submission Timeline
<p>i) Departments submit reports to Schools/IPO on or before November 30, 2020 (Monday).</p> <p>ii) Schools/IPO submit reports, including their respective Departmental/Divisional, School/IPO-based Ug, and TPg program reports, to CTLQ on or before January 29, 2021 (Friday).</p>

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Part A: Quality Assurance of Undergraduate Education

A1. Follow-up Action Items from Last Year's Report

List completed action items from last year's Action Plan as at November 2020. Include outstanding action items in the Department's Action Plan (see B3).

<i>Completed action items</i>	<i>Commentary, as appropriate</i>

A2. Implementation of Quality Assurance Framework [see Note 1]

A2.1 Indicate if the Department/Division has in place committees, equivalent forums or designated personnel to consider the following issues.

<i>Quality assurance issues</i>	<i>Name of committee/ responsible personnel</i>
• Admissions and induction of students	
• Academic programs, courses and the co-curriculum delivered by the department/division/program	
• Mentoring and advising	
• Student assessment and academic progress	
• Student feedback	

A2.2 Briefly evaluate the effectiveness of the above structures. Where appropriate, indicate **any changes made** during the reporting period **or any proposed changes** to enhance their effectiveness in (i) assuring the quality of the student learning experience and (ii) maintaining the academic standards of undergraduate programs and awards.

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A3. Stakeholder Feedback

A3.1 Identify (maximum 5) areas for improvement or of concern arising from stakeholder feedback (SF) during the reporting period (e.g. student questionnaires, other student feedback such as Student Staff Liaison Committee or focus group meetings, alumni/employer surveys, or other external reviews related to the Department/Division). Indicate those items to be included in this year's Action Plan (see B3).

Area for improvement or of concern SF #1:	Source (e.g. SESQ, 2019/2020):	In Action Plan? Y/N
Explain the area and indicate outcome(s) of Departmental discussion:		
Area for improvement or of concern SF #2:	Source (e.g. SFQ, 2019/2020):	In Action Plan? Y/N

Explain the area and indicate outcome(s) of Departmental discussion:		
Area for improvement or of concern SF #3:	Source (e.g. SSLC, 2019/2020):	In Action Plan? Y/N
Explain the area and indicate outcome(s) of Departmental discussion:		

Add additional boxes, if necessary.

A3.2 Briefly comment on any area of concern listed in last year's A3.1 that are not covered in this year's report.

A4. External Review/Accreditation

Summarise the progress as at November 2020 in addressing recommendations from the most recent accreditation/external review and/or Advisory Committee/Board meeting related to the Department/Division.

A5. Good Practice in Quality Assurance

Summarise any particularly innovative and/or successful good practices or changes in quality assurance arrangements to maintain or improve educational quality and indicate how these will be disseminated for wider consideration and possible adoption. (A list of good practice in teaching and learning by year / by category is available at http://qa.ust.hk/goodpractice_by_year.html/http://qa.ust.hk/goodpractice_by_category.html for reference.)

Part B: Teaching, Learning and Assessment [see Note 2]

B1. Self-Reflection

B1.1 List no more than 3 areas for improvement or of concern identified through self-reflection (SR) (i.e. other than those listed in A3), taking into account the Areas listed under Note 2.

#	Area for improvement or of concern	Departmental discussion/decision
SR1		
SR2		
SR3		

B1.2 Briefly comment on any area for improvement or of concern listed in last year's B1.1 that are not covered in this year's report.

B1.3 Provide brief details of any significant changes made to/planned for the curriculum and/or co-curriculum.

B2. Quality Enhancement and Good Practice

B2.1 Summarise any particularly successful aspects of specified programs and indicate the **evidence** of success. [The relevant information would include **data available at <http://qa.ust.hk/TL Data Warehouse.html>**]

B2.2 Briefly describe good practices in **teaching, learning and/or assessment** which have had a positive impact on the student learning experience and/or success of specified programs **during the reporting period**. (A list of good practice in teaching and learning by year / by category is available at <http://qa.ust.hk/goodpractice by year.html> / <http://qa.ust.hk/goodpractice by category.html> for reference.)

B2.3 Indicate how items in B2.2 have been disseminated within the Department. Provide details of any good practice from last year's CTLQ Report to the Senate (see [http://qa.ust.hk/TL Data Warehouse.html](http://qa.ust.hk/TL_Data_Warehouse.html)) that has been adopted by the Department.

B3. Action Plan

Based on the above review and discussion in A3 and B1, determine **3-5 priority action items** and include them in an Action Plan indicating tasks, timelines and responsibilities for each action item and the area(s) of concern being addressed. Attach the Action Plan to this Report. (An example Action Plan template is available at [http://qa.ust.hk/preparing annual reports.html](http://qa.ust.hk/preparing_annual_reports.html) for reference.)

B4. Other Information and Comments

B4.1 List any new initiatives in teaching, learning and/or assessment **over the reporting period**, including those that support the School's/University's strategic endeavours, where appropriate.

B4.2 Indicate any data not currently available centrally that the Department would find helpful.

B4.3 List below any statistical observations, special events or activities, or **significant achievements** relating to teaching, learning and/or assessment **over the reporting period**.

NOTES

1. In completing **Part A** Departments/Divisions/Programs may make reference to the quality assurance framework of the University: *Assuring Quality and Academic Standards at HKUST* available at <http://qa.ust.hk/>. The major requirements are:
 - The Department/Division/Program has in place committees or equivalent forums to review: admissions (to majors in the case of Ug students) and induction of students; academic programs, courses and the co-curriculum delivered by the department/division/program; mentoring and advising; student assessment and academic progress; student feedback (e.g. from SFQ/SESQ/TPg Exit survey or other forums including Student Staff Liaison Committees or focus group meetings).
 - The role of individuals and committees is clearly assigned within a system that is designed to maintain and improve the quality of teaching and learning.
 - These committees: provide for a range of views to be expressed; consider evidence relevant for evaluating performance; share good practice; determine an agenda for action; and follow up on planned action. In particular:
 - The Department/Division/Program has taken advantage of external peer review and input from employers, professional bodies and others to benchmark academic standards and the quality of educational provision and the preparation of graduates for employment or graduate studies.
 - There are regular opportunities for students/student representatives to meet with faculty responsible for courses and programs and to freely express their views.
 - Students are informed of changes made as a consequence of their feedback.
 - The relevant committees have met regularly and have documented their work.

2. In completing **Part B** Departments/Divisions/Programs may wish to consider the following checklist of areas but reports are **NOT** expected to cover all areas:

Areas
<u>Admissions, orientation, induction and advising of students</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recruitment and selection • Admissions data and quality of admissions • Orientation and induction activities for new students • Advising and mentoring of new students
<u>Curriculum, co-curriculum, teaching, learning and assessment</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Development of program/course objectives and outcomes • Difficulties and issues in developing/delivering the curriculum and/or co-curriculum • Innovation in delivery of teaching and learning • Support for professional development of faculty, instructors and teaching assistants • Incentives and recognition for good performance • Teaching effectiveness and student feedback • Facilities, including: laboratories, study space, classrooms • Learning resources, including: Library, on-line resources • Availability of elective courses requested by students • Class size, access to faculty, student campus engagement • Review of assessment results, including course grade distributions and degree classifications • Application of Senate policy for grading, plagiarism and academic integrity
<u>Graduation and placement</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Opportunities and preparation for graduate employment or further study