

# IDENTICAL ACADEMIC STANDARDS; DIVERSITY OF LEARNING EXPERIENCES

Heriot-Watt University offers high-quality education across multiple campuses, global partnerships, and flexible options like online distance learning, allowing students to choose environments that best meet their needs. This briefing paper outlines the University’s commitment to maintaining rigorous academic consistency across all programmes while embracing a variety of learning experiences - a principle summarised as: “*identical academic standards; diversity of learning experience*”.



## Identical Academic Standards

All programmes, regardless of mode or location, uphold the same high academic standards, supported by a University-wide assurance framework.

PROGRAMME CONSISTENCY	POLICY COMPLIANCE	QUALITY ALIGNMENT	REGULATORY ADHERENCE
All programme versions share identical learning outcomes, titles, mandatory courses, and core competencies.	Compliance with policies like Globally Connected Learning, Moderation of Assessment, and Examinations in Different Time Zones.	All programmes align with the UK Quality Code, SCQF, and relevant Subject Benchmark Statements.	Programmes meet requirements from CAA (Dubai) and MQA (Malaysia).



## Diversity of Learning Experiences

Heriot-Watt University offers students varied study options through different modes and locations.

MULTIPLE STUDY PATHWAYS	ENRICHED EXPERIENCES	DISTINCT CAMPUS FEATURES	SUPPORT FOR DIVERSE LEARNERS
On-campus study, global partnerships, and Independent Distance Learning (IDL).	Campus transfers, academic placements, and internships add depth to learning.	Each campus provides unique environments, yet consistently achieves learning outcomes.	Programmes recognise and adapt to varied student backgrounds.

While experiences vary, the commitment to identical academic standards ensures that all students achieve the same programme learning outcomes, regardless of location or learning mode.

## Resources

See the [Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes and Courses: Policy](#) for further details, including permitted variants, and the [Learning and Teaching Policy Bank](#).

**Reviewed:** This Learning & Teaching Briefing Paper was produced as part of a series of Academic Quality advice and guidance. Visit our [SharePoint Hub](#) for further information.  
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