IMPLEMENTING THE POLICY ON COURSES AND LEARNING OUTCOMES: LOCAL MODIFICATIONS

HERIOT WATT UNIVERSITY

This Briefing Paper specifies where local modification and contextualisation of courses offered in different locations and modes are permitted and encouraged as per the [Policy on Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes, and Courses](#). Schools should support and encourage local adaptations in line with the University's fundamental principle of "identical academic standards; diversity of learning experiences".

Identical vs Local Variability

IDENTICAL	LOCAL VARIABILITY
Learning outcomes Core curriculum	Course content Course assessment (both formative and summative) Teaching materials, resources and approaches Learning activities Optional courses

Managing local variability

COLLABORATIVE DEVELOPMENT
The University's global academic management structures support the creation of cross-campus collaborative teaching teams, which jointly develop and revise multi-location/mode courses.

EMPOWERING STAFF
Schools should support local adaptations and provide a framework that empowers staff at all campuses to take responsibility for developing, implementing, and reviewing local adaptations of the courses they teach.

LEADERSHIP OPPORTUNITIES
Global teaching teams are encouraged to promote local adaptations and offer staff at the Dubai and Malaysia campuses opportunities to take on the roles of Course Leader and Global Course Leader.

STUDENT AWARENESS
Students should be informed that variations between campuses are encouraged by the University and do not imply differences in quality. They should, in fact, be encouraged to recognise the value of these local variations.

Resources

- Access the full [Policy on Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes, and Courses](#) and the associated [Briefing Papers](#) for comprehensive guidance.
- View the [Global Academic Management Structures Briefing Paper](#)
- See the [Programme Directors' Toolbox on the LTA Hub](#) for help with programme development, approval, and review processes