

ACADEMIC APPROVAL PROCESSES

Approval Processes

The academic approval of disciplines, programmes and courses of study underpins the assurance of academic standards across the University. The University **Senate** is ultimately responsible for all approvals, but has delegated certain responsibilities to other Committees. These include:

- School Studies Committees
- Studies Committee
- Research Degrees Committee
- University Committee for Quality and Standards (UCQS)
- University Committee for Research and Innovation (UCRI)
- Senate Committee for Interim Business and Effectiveness

Senate Approval

Senate has delegated some operational aspects of approval to University Committee of Quality and Standards and University Committee of Research and Innovation. The Studies Committee is a standing sub-committee of UCQS and the Research Degrees Committee is a standing sub-committee of UCRI. The extent of this delegation is summarised below:

Academic Body	Approves
Senate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New campus - New discipline - New mode of learning - New type of academic partnership arrangement
Senate Committee: UCQS (<i>delegated to Studies Committee for Taught programmes</i>) UCRI (<i>delegated to Research Degrees Committee for Research programmes</i>)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - New programmes in an existing discipline - New mode of learning for an existing programme - Major modifications to existing programmes
School Studies Committee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Minor modifications to existing programmes - New courses - Modifications to courses

Approval Stages

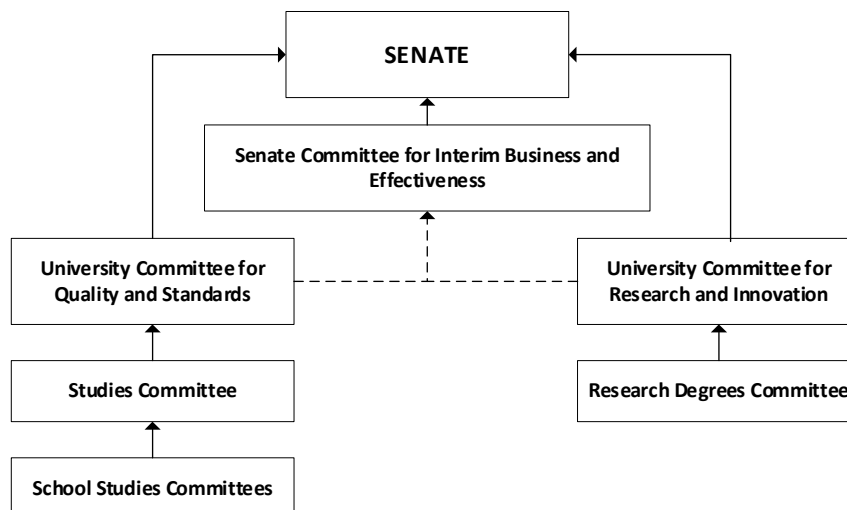
First stage - scrutiny and approval at School level:

- the School Studies Committee

Second stage - scrutiny and approval at University level by:

- Studies Committee or Research Degrees Committee

The Senate Business Committee may act under the delegated authority of the Senate on business requiring immediate attention.



References and Further Information

Other Quality Assurance briefing papers:

<https://www.hw.ac.uk/services/academic-registry/quality/ga/quality-assurance-briefing-papers.htm>

Policies and Procedures: <https://www.hw.ac.uk/services/academic-registry/quality/learning-teaching/policy-bank.htm>

Contact: quality@hw.ac.uk

Quality Assurance Briefing Papers

This briefing paper has been produced by Academic Quality and is one of a series related to Quality Assurance procedures. The briefing papers aim to provide a concise, informative overview of key processes, and include links to relevant policies, procedures and templates.