

Individual Report

MSc in One Health (Infectious Diseases), 2013/14

Professor Mark Eisler

The Programme

Please comment, as appropriate, on the following aspects of the programme:

1.1 Course content

The course content is appropriate and of a commendably high educational quality.

Response from college requested: **NO**

1.2 Learning objectives, and the extent to which they were met

The learning objectives are well set, and appear to have been met by the majority of students.

Response from college requested: **NO**

1.3 Teaching methods

The teaching methods are appropriate for a taught MSc.

Response from college requested: **NO**

1.4 Resources (in so far as they affected the assessment)

The resources are suitable for the assessment.

Response from college requested: **NO**

Student performance

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

2.1 Students' performance in relation to those at a similar stage on comparable courses in other institutions, where this is known to you

The range of students' performance is similar to that of those on other taught MSc courses with which I am familiar, such as at the University of Bristol and the University of Edinburgh

Response from college requested: **NO**

2.2 Quality of candidates' knowledge and skills, with particular reference to those at the top, middle or bottom of the range

At the top end I was impressed by the exceptional knowledge and skills of a couple of the candidates in conducting their dissertation projects.

Response from college requested: **NO**

Assessment Process

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

3.1 Assessment methods (relevance to learning objectives and curriculum)

The assessment methods are appropriate and relevant to the learning objectives and curriculum.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.2 Extent to which assessment processes are rigorous

The assessment processes are rigorous, and I was impressed by the level of detail of discussion of individual candidates performance by the exam board.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.3 Consistency of the level of assessment with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)

The assessment is consistent with the Framework.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.4 Standard of marking

The standard to the marking was appropriate in most cases. It is however important that markers who are more familiar with laboratory projects are fully briefed in the difficulties in conducting fieldwork, particularly in low-middle income country situations, in which students are often challenged by difficult circumstances beyond their control.

Response from college requested: **NO**

The marker in this instance was relatively inexperienced but double marking worked effectively to ensure the student was not disadvantaged.

3.5 Opinion on changes to the assessment process from previous years in which you have examined

This is the first year I have examined on this programme.

Response from college requested: **NO**

3.6 Please provide any additional comments and recommendations regarding the assessment process

The assessment process differs from other MSc taught programmes with which I have been associated in that students are allowed to progress to the dissertation project prior to successful completion of all the examined elements. There is no particular recommendation following from this other than to note that this difference may have resulted in the assessment process being complicated compared with that at other institutions by the possibility that a student might have passed the dissertation element without having passed the examinable elements.

Response from college requested: **NO**

If a student gives sufficient cause for concern that they will not complete the MSc successfully they may be advised not to proceed with the dissertation.

Assessment Procedures

Please comment, as appropriate, on:

4.1 In your view, are the processes for assessment and the determination of awards sound and fairly conducted?

The processes are sound and fair. I was impressed by the care taken by the exam board to consider individual students marks in detail and in a fair and unbiased manner.

Response from college requested: NO

4.2 Opinion on changes to the procedures from previous years in which you have examined

This is the first year in which I have examined this programme

Response from college requested: NO

General Statements

5.3 I approved the papers for the Examination

No

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

The examination was considered primarily by another external examiner.

Response from college requested: NO

5.4 I was able to scrutinise an adequate sample of students' work and marks to enable me to carry out my duties

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.5 I attended the meeting of the Board of Examiners held to approve the results of the Examination

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.6 Candidates were considered impartially and fairly

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.7 The standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.8 The standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.9 I have received enough support to carry out my role

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.10 I have received sufficient information to carry out my role (where information was insufficient, please give details)

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.11 Appropriate procedures and processes have been followed

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

5.12 The processes for assessment and the determination of awards are sound

Yes

Additional comments, particularly if your answer was no:

Response from college requested: NO

