

THEMATIC REVIEW OF INSTITUTION-WIDE LEARNING AND TEACHING ISSUES

Overview

Heriot-Watt University has a **three-part quality assurance process for periodic review**: Academic Review; Internal Audit; Academic-Related Review of Professional-Services. These are the responsibility of the University Committee for Quality and Standards.

Thematic Review is a **topic-led approach to institution-wide review of learning and teaching matters** which have been identified as key University priorities. The University Committee for Learning and Teaching is responsible for Thematic Review.

Thematic Review has an **enhancement** focus and purpose.

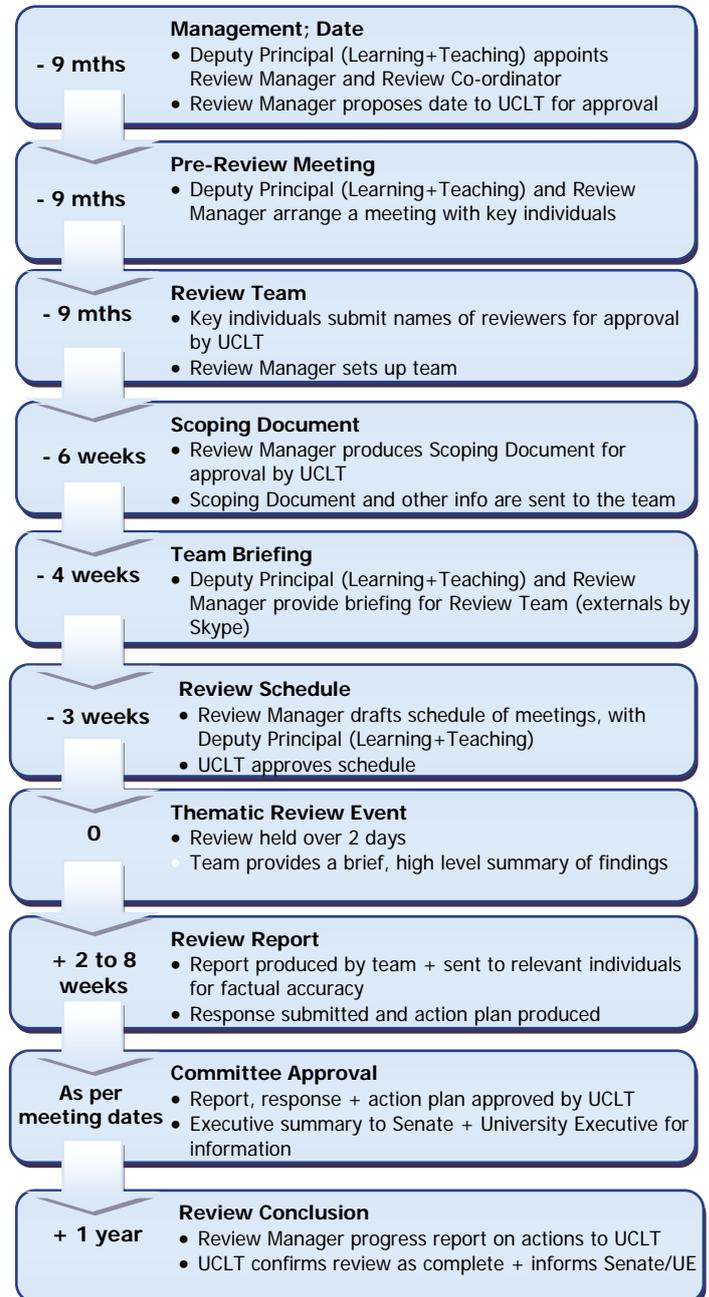
Thematic Review

The process for the Thematic Review of key institutional learning and teaching issues was introduced in 2015/16. The **Key Features** are:

- One topic per year within a 5-year programme;
- Aligned to institutional priorities for learning and teaching;
- Selected from analyses of institutional summaries of reports on quality assurance/enhancement activities;
- Enhancement-focused and forward-looking;
- Institution-wide (all locations and modes; all Schools and relevant Professional Services);
- Based on a Scoping Document (rather than a Reflective Analysis);
- Reviews internal approaches, and best practice and emerging initiatives across the sector;
- Aims to support and enhance the student learning experience;
- Identifies areas of positive practice and areas for development;
- Reports to University Committee for Learning and Teaching (UCLT); managed by Quality and External Partnerships.

The Thematic Review Process

The Thematic Review Process and Timeline:



References and Further Information

Thematic Review Handbook: <https://www.hw.ac.uk/services/docs/thematic-handbook.pdf>

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

Learning and Teaching Briefing Papers

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