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 Quality and Standards Committee.

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 Learning and Teaching Board 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 by the Learning and Teaching Board 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 Learning and Teaching Board (LTB); managed by Quality and External Partnerships.

References and Further Information

Thematic Review Handbook: http://www1.hw.ac.uk/committees/ltb/ltb-policies.htm#Thematic Review

Learning and Teaching Policies and Procedures: http://www.hw.ac.uk/committees/ltb/ltb-policies.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.