

*Excerpt from the External Examiners' report for the academic year 2006-7...*

**Comments on the courses available in the degree programme:**

- This programme continues to be, arguably, the best of its kind in the U.K. Its quality is demonstrated by standards that are consistently high and meet the criteria of validity and reliability.
- As stated in previous External Examiner reports, the linkage between academic and professional aspects is critical to its success. The distinctive nature of this programme relies heavily on a well-tested, demanding approach that integrates the curriculum, the learner and the teaching staff to produce a collective experience that, frankly, is inspirational.
- The excellent relationship that exists between students and staff is pivotal. This is, in no small measure, attributable to the competence, commitment and unfailing diligence of core teaching staff whose contributions and reputations are widely respected by students past and present.
- The content of the programme, its construction, variety, balance, its recognition of individual student abilities and its practical administration reflect insightful monitoring and evaluation and, of course, previous success in the achievement of learning outcomes. As a result, individual courses and elements are presented in a logical, developmental way in which space for and pace of student learning are characteristic features.
- It is pleasing to report that the overall impression is one of excellence, it being clear that, during this programme, students are exposed to a contemporary, professional and well-rounded view of the subject area.