Guidelines for Examinations

Definition

For the purposes of this document, the University of London International Academy will refer to the central academic body of the University of London, which, in collaboration with the Colleges of the University, offers the suite of study programmes called the University of London International Programmes.

For more information on the re-naming, please visit our website at the following address: www.londoninternational.ac.uk/renaming

Please email all queries, including requests for additional copies of the Guidelines for Examinations, to examiner.contract@london.ac.uk

An electronic copy of the Guidelines for Examinations can be found on the International Programmes Website at the following address: http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/examiners
University of London International Programmes

Guidelines for Examinations 2012-13 (2013)

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Key Dates and Deadlines - Spring/Autumn and Summer Term

Chairs of Boards & Examiners: Please note dates and deadlines shown in bold and italic

30 November  Deadline for student module registration (September starters)

**December/January**  Majority of advance timetable dates for May/June become available and are published on the web
http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/advancetimetables

1 February  Deadline for Undergraduate and Postgraduate Examinations Registration (May/June exams)

Various dates  Deadline for student module registration (January starters)

**15 February**  Deadline for submission of final (Camera-ready) exam question papers for UG Laws (May/June examinations)

**25 February**  Deadline for submission of final (Camera-ready) exam question papers for PG Laws (May and October examinations)

**1 March**  Deadline for submission of final (Camera-ready) exam question papers for all other programmes (May/June exams)

Around mid March  Graduation Ceremony for previous year’s graduates

Beginning of April  Despatch of students’ admission notices for May/June examinations

End of April/Beginning of May  Start of the examination period

**May/June**  Prompt despatch of scripts to examiners as soon as scripts are received at Stewart House from examination centres worldwide

Mid June  End of examination period

**Early - mid July**  Deadline for receipt of student examination marks (May/June exams)

**Early – mid - late July**  Dates for Boards of Examiners meetings (May/June exams)

Prior to Board meetings, all Chairs will be sent extenuating and mitigating circumstances papers received in Stewart House

1 August  Deadline for Postgraduate Examinations Registration (October exams)

**1 August**  Deadline for submission of final (Camera-ready) examination question papers (September/October exams) except UG and PG Laws

From early August  Online release of results to students (May/June exams)

**Mid August**  Advance timetable dates for October exams become available and are published on the web
http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/advancetimetables

Mid to late August  Despatch of students’ admission notices for September/October examinations

**15 September**  Deadline for submission of final (Camera-ready) examination question papers for UG Laws October exams

September/October  Examination period for UG Laws and PG courses
Throughout

**October**

*Prompt despatch of scripts to examiners as soon as scripts are received from test centres worldwide*

November/December

Issue of Graduation Documents to students (Graduates from May/June exams)

**December/January**

*Dates for Board of Examiners meetings (September/October exams)*

December/January

Online release of results to students for October exams

March

Issue of Graduation Documents to students (Graduates from October exams)

**Statistical Numbers in delivering above:-**

Registered distance learning students : 52,000 plus

Study programmes : 110

Question papers : 1000

Annual Candidatures : 129,000 plus

Overseas Test Centres supervising exams : 600 plus in 190 countries

Scripts : 125,000

Approximate number of Graduates per year : 7,500

*For any queries please don’t hesitate to contact the Senior Assessments Manager: Examinations, International Academy on 020 7862 8333, or by email on tim.palmer@london.ac.uk*
Part 1: Boards of Examiners and conduct of assessment

The information contained within the document refers to policies and procedures for managing summative assessment.

1 Constitution of Boards of Examiners

1.1 Reporting Lines and Terms of Reference:

1.1.1 University of London International Academy (International Academy) Boards of Examiners should be constituted according to Section 1: Reporting lines and Terms of Reference, on page 23.

1.2 Composition and Function:

1.2.1 Lead Colleges may adopt one of three options for the composition of International Academy Boards of Examiners:

- Model A (traditional), in which all Examiners are expected to mark scripts and to attend meetings of the Board of Examiners.
- Model B (standardised), in which the Board devolves responsibility for ensuring the appropriate assessment of individual papers, courses or modules to Chief Examiners.
- Model C, in which membership is made up of examiners from Tier 1 boards, which comprise the individual programmes and/or consortium that contribute to the programme and to which marking responsibility is devolved. The Tier 2 Board of Examiners will agree on matters concerning progression and award.

1.2.2 The Terms of Reference for the Board should record the model adopted, together with any agreed minor variations.

1.3 Membership:

1.3.1 The membership of the Board of Examiners comprises

- the Chair
- the Deputy Chair
- the External Examiner(s)/Intercollegiate Examiner(s)
- the Chief Examiners (if appointed)
- the Examiners
- the Associate Examiners (if appointed).

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1 References to the Lead College in this document include the University of London International Programmes Undergraduate Laws Consortium, the Postgraduate Laws consortium and the Combined Degree Scheme.

2 Tier 1 boards are responsible for a suite of courses/modules specific to a particular programme or programmes of study and will confirm the mark awarded for each course/module.

3 A Tier 2 board has oversight of a student’s whole record and authority to determine overall outcomes based on the confirmed marks provided by the Tier 1 boards.
1.3.2 Assistant Examiners may be appointed to assist Boards of Examiners if their appointment is consistent with Lead College policy. They are not members of the Board and they do not have voting rights.

1.3.3 Associate Examiners (Examiners from outside the University of London) should be appointed, if consistent with Lead College policy, when the specific nature of a programme calls for expertise from a wider pool of Examiners than is available within the University.

2 Categories of Examiner and their duties

2.1 Chair of the Board of Examiners:

2.1.1 The Chair of a Board of Examiners shall be a Professor, Reader or Teacher of the University unless the College, after consideration of a reasoned statement justifying exceptional treatment, shall determine otherwise. The Chair should have expertise and experience of examining College-based students of the University.

2.1.2 The Chair of the Board of Examiners has the duty, and the authority, to:

- ensure that all Examiners/Assistant Examiners required to take part in assessment are nominated by the relevant Lead College or Subject Panel;
- determine the overall distribution of work between members of the Board of Examiners, including External/Intercollegiate Examiners and Assistant Examiners if appointed;
- request specific Examiners to attend the final meeting of the Board of Examiners in order to ensure that all subject areas being assessed are represented;
- exercise a casting vote, in addition to his/her own vote, if the Board is unable to reach a decision concerning a candidate's results;
- take action on behalf of the Board, after such consultation as he/she deems appropriate, on any matters of urgency;
- direct arrangements for the preparation of examination papers to ensure the fair and equitable treatment of students and limit any possible allegation of unfair advantage by subsets of students (see 4.2.4-4.2.6). In the event of concern, the Chair should consult the Senior Quality Officer in the Lead College and International Academy’s Corporate Performance & Quality Directorate.

2.1.3 The Chair of the Board of Examiners is responsible for the following areas:-

Paper setting and return of papers

- ensuring that papers are set for all assessments by the deadlines indicated in the Key Dates and Deadlines on page 3, including separate papers for different time zones, where this has been agreed, and that all papers have been approved by an External/Intercollegiate Examiner;
- ensuring that all papers are scrutinized and submitted to the International Academy by specified deadlines, see Key Dates and Deadlines, to ensure timely despatch to examination centres;
- agree with the International Academy the wording to appear in the Notice to candidates which is sent to candidates regarding permitted materials.
Marking of scripts and return of marks

- ensuring that newly appointed examiners are fully inducted into the International Academy’s examinations policies and procedures.
- setting a timescale by which marking and moderation must be completed and marks moderated by External/Intercollegiate Examiners are returned to the International Academy in good time for the Board of Examiners meetings.
- assigning Examiners into pairs appropriately for the purpose of double marking and ensuring that the performance of pairs of Examiners is consistent;
- ensuring that all examiners are provided with information to enable them to reach sound decisions, in accordance with agreed procedures for the assessment of students;
- ensuring that agreed marks are consistent across any assessment which is marked by a number of different examiners;
- ensuring that all marks returned are recorded as percentage marks, irrespective of the allocation of marks used;
- ensuring that adequate procedures have been followed to guarantee that all parts of scripts have been marked and correct totals recorded;
- ensuring that all scripts have been marked and their marks returned to the International Academy;
- reporting incidents of alleged plagiarism to appropriate Lead College bodies and to the Corporate Performance and Quality Directorate, International Academy (see section 4.13);
- ensuring that a representative selection of scripts is made available after second marking to the External and Intercollegiate Examiners;
- duties relating to the administrative re-check of marks;
- where no chief examiners have been appointed, performing any of the duties of that position which are not covered by other members of the board.

Board of Examiners Meeting

- overseeing the arrangements for meetings of the Board of Examiners;
- ensuring that the Board has all necessary documentation at its disposal;
- asking if there be any conflicts of interests and recording them in the minutes;
- ensuring that the Board of Examiners carries out its duties and responsibilities in a proper and impartial manner and in accordance with programme regulations;
- ensuring that procedures governing mitigating/extenuating circumstances and borderline performances have been considered fairly and equitably across all candidates;
- retaining, on behalf of the Board, responsibility for all decisions and action taken and not taken;
- ensuring all decisions affecting the final result of students are taken in consultation with the External/Intercollegiate Examiner(s), particularly including any business delegated to the Chair for action after the final Board meeting;
- co-ordinating the Board’s participation in Lead College procedures for considering and responding to External and Intercollegiate Examiners’ Reports;
• ensuring that the Board reviews candidates' overall performance across papers and compared with previous years;
• ensuring that all assessment for which the Board is responsible has been carried out and that this has been done to the same standard as assessment for College-based Students in equivalent programmes;
• ensure that minutes of Board meetings are taken, that they cover all necessary detail accurately, and that they are agreed and distributed as necessary in a timely manner;
• ensuring a record of precedents is kept for future years;

Additionally
• provide an induction to new External Examiners
• consider and confirm any changes to the timetable of examinations for a candidate/group of candidates;
• perform duties relating to the process for handling illegible scripts (see section 4.6);
• perform duties relating to the process for lost scripts (see section 4.7);
• perform duties relating to procedure for consideration of representation concerning decisions of Boards of Examinations;¹
• agree to membership, where required, of the University of London panel which considers and agrees special examination arrangements;
• consider credit for prior learning that may be awarded to candidates, particularly with regard to credit transfer from University of London schools and colleges;

2.1.4 The Chair may call for the administrative support of University of London International Academy and/or Lead College colleagues, according to the individual arrangements agreed for each programme, in order to fulfil his or her responsibilities. See Section 5: Servicing University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners, on page 33.

2.1.5 Chairs of Boards of Examiners (and their deputies) will be appointed annually and may serve for a maximum period of four consecutive years, after which they shall not normally be eligible for re-appointment until after a lapse of two further years.

2.2 Deputy Chair of the Board of Examiners:

2.2.1 A Deputy Chair shall be appointed to each Board of Examiners. The Deputy Chair's role is to fulfil the Chair's duties and responsibilities, as set out above, in the absence of the Chair. S/he may also be required to perform additional duties and provide support to the Chair.

2.2.2 In the case of the appointment of joint Chairs to the Board, joint responsibility for the Chair’s duties shall be assumed and the Chairs will deputise for each other.

¹ Refer to Regulation 1, Annex 3 of the University of London Regulations http://www.london.ac.uk/976.html
2.3 **External and Intercollegiate Examiners:**

2.3.1 External and Intercollegiate Examiners must be appointed, and their reports submitted and considered, according to Section 2: External and Intercollegiate Examiners and External/Intercollegiate Examiner Annual Report Form, on page 24.

2.4 **Chief Examiners:**

2.4.1 Chief Examiners appointed to Boards have specific responsibility for ensuring that assessment in a particular question paper or papers is conducted to a consistent standard.

In particular, Chief Examiners must co-ordinate:
- paper-setting;
- script marking;
- assignment of marking duties to Examiners and nominating additional examiners as required;
- sampling scripts;
- review of marginal scripts;
- resolution of significant differences between first and second of markers;
- consistency of standards in marking, normally through standardisation meetings at which all Examiners assigned to the paper are present;
- attendance at meetings of the Board of Examiners;
- production of Examiners’ Commentaries (a form of generic examination feedback which is made available, with past papers, to students to help them prepare for the examinations). See 4.14 for further information.

2.5 **Examiners:**

2.5.1 Examiners are appropriately qualified and experienced serving members of academic staff of the University of London, including all its College members. They are sometimes called Internal Examiners or College Examiners.

2.5.2 Examiners appointed to Model A Boards participate in setting and marking work for the purpose of assessing candidates and may be expected to attend any meetings of the Board held to determine the outcome of examinations.

2.5.3 Examiners appointed to Model B Boards participate in setting and marking work for the purpose of assessing candidates. They have the right, but not the duty, to attend meetings of the Board.

2.5.4 Examiners appointed to Model C Boards may have already participated in setting and marking work for the purpose of assessing candidates under a Model A or Model B Board. They have the right, but not the duty, to attend meetings of the Board.

2.5.5 Examiners have a duty to ensure consistency of marking across the scripts they mark.

2.5.6 Where both first and second marks are known to examiners, they must report to a chief examiner or chair any significant difference which cannot be resolved with the other marker.
2.5.7 Comments recorded by an examiner about the performance of a candidate in an examination, whether on the script or elsewhere, may be personal data and so available to a student making a subject access request (see paragraph 4.5.10).

2.6 Associate Examiners:

2.6.1 Associate Examiners are appropriately qualified and experienced colleagues who are not serving members of academic staff of the University or a member College, who may be appointed to fulfil the standard role of Examiner (or Chief/Lead Examiner if appropriate) if their appointment is consistent with Lead College policy. They have the same rights and duties as Examiners but their appointment is recorded in a separate category for reasons of transparency. Please see Section 4: the Appointment of Associate Examiners, on page 32. Membership of the International Academy examination Boards should include a preponderance of examiners drawn from the Lead College.

2.7 Assistant Examiners:

2.7.1 Assistant Examiners are appointed to assist in marking scripts at examinations where there are large numbers of candidates taking written papers or practical examinations. Assistant Examiners may be required to attend practical examinations.

2.7.2 Assistant Examiners are not members of Boards of Examiners and do not have voting rights. They are not entitled to set papers but should be encouraged, or may be required, to attend meetings of the Board.

3 Nomination and Appointment of Examiners

3.1 Procedures for the Appointment of Examiners:

3.1.1 The annual appointment of examiner process is managed by the Corporate, Performance and Quality Directorate, International Academy, in liaison with the Lead Colleges/Consortium. The specific lines of responsibility for each Lead College/Consortium are defined in Section 4 of the appropriate Quality Assurance Schedule5.

3.1.2 Information and rules concerning the appointment of External/Intercollegiate Examiners and Associate Examiners can be found at: Section 2: External and Intercollegiate Examiners and External/Intercollegiate Examiner Annual Report Form and Section 4: the Appointment of Associate Examiners.

3.2 Number of Examiners to be Appointed:

3.2.1 The number of Examiners appointed to any Board shall be sufficient to ensure the efficient conduct of the examination and its assessment. Boards should include a majority of Examiners who are employed in Colleges of the University and have experience of examining College-based Students.

5 http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/our-global-reputation/governance/quality-schedules
3.2.2 Sufficient External Examiners should be appointed, in terms of the number of scripts assessed and the range of subject areas covered, to ensure that the process of External Examining is properly carried out. If more specific Lead College guidelines are in place concerning the number of External Examiners to be appointed, these guidelines should be followed.

3.3 Register of Interests:

3.3.1 The Board of the University of London International Academy and the University have an obligation to ensure that conflicts of interest, whether actual or perceived, do not arise. The Register of Interests is intended to protect the University, the Lead Colleges and the individual staff members concerned.

3.3.2 For reasons of transparency, the University shall hold a Register of Interests and on acceptance of appointment all Examiners will be required to disclose details of any relationship with an independent teaching institution or institutions, or membership of any University, University of London or Lead College Board or Committee they may have.

3.3.3 In completing the return for the Register of Interests it is expected that any potential conflicts of interest, which may not be explicitly questioned on the form, will be disclosed. Guidance on this issue may be requested from the Corporate Performance & Quality Directorate, International Academy.

3.3.4 The Register of Interests must be completed and returned even if there is nothing to declare.

3.3.5 Appointment as an Examiner and payment of fees will only be made on submission of the Register of Interests.

3.3.6 In the event that the status of any individual submission changes, the Examiner must notify the Corporate Performance and Quality Directorate, International Academy, at the earliest opportunity so that their Register of Interests can be updated.

3.3.7 Examiners are reminded of their responsibility to declare potential conflicts of interest to the Board of Examiners separately.

3.3.8 Please see also Section 2: External and Intercollegiate Examiners, para. 2.3, Appendix 1: Code of Practice for Examiners when teaching students under private arrangements, page 38 and Appendix 2: Policy and Procedures for considering Conflicts of Interest, page 40.

4 Conduct of Examinations

4.1 Schemes of Award and Assessment Criteria:

4.1.1 The International Academy, the Lead College, and each Board of Examiners shall ensure that there is an agreed award scheme and assessment criteria, in accordance with Section 3: Schemes of Award and assessment criteria for University of London International Programmes provision, page 30, in place for every degree for which it is responsible, and that they are applied.
4.1.2 The International Academy, the Lead College, and Boards of Examiners for undergraduate degrees should ensure that the award scheme makes provision for the award of First Class Honours, Second Class Honours (Upper and Lower division), Third Class Honours and a Pass classification where appropriate. Boards of Examiners for Intermediate awards, Diplomas and Masters degrees must ensure that there is an agreed scheme for the award of Credit, Merit and Distinction where the Programme Regulations make provision for the award of these classes.

4.1.3 The International Academy, the Lead College, and Boards of Examiners should ensure that there is an agreed scheme for the award of any exit qualifications associated with the degrees for which it is responsible.

4.1.4 Schemes of Award and assessment criteria should be approved by the appropriate body within the Lead College, as identified in the Quality Assurance Schedule, in advance of the examinations. These are made available to members of the Board of Examiners and Assistant Examiners and copied to the International Academy for report to the University.

4.2 Examination Papers:

4.2.1 Question papers, appropriately scrutinised and approved by the External or Intercollegiate Examiners, must be prepared and submitted to the University by the deadlines specified in Key Dates and Deadlines on page 3 to ensure timely distribution to examination centres.

4.2.2 Examiners are required to preserve absolutely the security and confidentiality of examination papers at all stages until the papers have been worked by the candidates (see the Code of Practice in Appendix 1). The contents must not be disclosed to any persons other than members of the Board of Examiners or officials of the University except where the University has specifically approved the disclosure to candidates of the topics to be covered in specific papers before the examination.

4.2.3 It is a condition of the appointment of every Examiner that the University shall, without payment, be licensed to reproduce sufficient copies of examination papers (or material contained therein) prepared by the Examiner for the University, either alone or in collaboration with others, for the purpose of conducting the examination. The University shall also have the exclusive licence thereafter to publish the paper(s) as a whole provided that the University shall not assign or transfer this exclusive licence in any way to any other person.

4.2.4 The International Academy and the Lead College shall ensure that no reasonable case could be advanced that a subset of students has been unfairly advantaged through arrangements which might inadvertently provide information about an

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6 Intermediate awards include: Certificate of Higher Education (named or unnamed), Diploma of Higher Education (named or unnamed), Postgraduate Certificate (named or unnamed), and Postgraduate Diploma (named or unnamed).

7 QA Schedules for each Lead College and consortium are available online at: www.londoninternational.ac.uk/our-global-reputation/governance/quality-schedules
examination paper which is not equally available to all students entered for the same examination.

4.2.5 It is acknowledged that the International Programmes is characterised by a wide variation between programmes in student numbers and models of interaction of staff and students. Consequently, there is likely to be variation across the International Programmes in the measures which are judged to be necessary to ensure that no subset of students could be unfairly advantaged. Therefore, Chairs of Boards of Examiners and Chief Examiners are charged with making arrangements for the preparation of exam papers that implement this aim (see the Code of Practice in Appendix 1).

4.2.6 In the event that a Chair of Board of Examiners (or Chief Examiner) has any doubt as to the robustness of arrangements to ensure a subset of students has not been unfairly advantaged, the Chair should consult the appropriate Lead College Senior Quality Officer and the Corporate Performance & Quality Directorate, International Academy.

4.2.7 Appropriate scrutiny of question papers must be completed by each Board to ensure that no errors appear in the rubric or content of the paper. The scrutiny process must also guard against, and seek to ensure, there is no significant overlap in different question papers sat by the same candidate within corresponding subject areas.

4.3 Source Materials and Calculators:

4.3.1 The use of source materials and calculators in examinations is restricted by General Regulations\(^8\) and in some case by Programme-Specific Regulations.

4.3.2 If the Regulations for the relevant programme permit the use of source materials in the examination room, the Board of Examiners is authorised to specify precisely what materials are to be provided or permitted. Such materials may not include dictionaries for the specific purpose of enabling students to overcome any deficiency in their command of the English Language.

4.3.3 If source materials are to be provided to candidates, Boards of Examiners must agree any proposals having financial implications with the Chief Operating Officer, University of London International Academy.

4.3.4 Subject to Lead College regulations, Boards of Examiners are authorised to determine whether, and in which examinations, candidates are permitted to use their own electronic calculators.

4.3.5 The International Academy must ensure that all candidates are informed about permitted materials and calculators through the Notice to Candidates.

4.3.6 Examiners shall ensure that question paper rubrics include details of permitted materials and permitted calculators and also the requirement that candidates state clearly on their scripts the name and type of calculator used.

\(^8\) Refer to Materials and aids permitted within the examination room, section 4 of the Programme Specification and Regulations document [http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/regs](http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/regs)
4.4 Oral Examinations:

4.4.1 The location of an oral examination is restricted by the General Regulations and in some cases by the Programme Specific regulations.

4.4.2 Oral examinations shall be conducted by no fewer than two Examiners acting together. Where an oral examination is an examination element in its own right or makes a significant contribution to an element which forms part of the final assessment, one of those Examiners must be an External or Intercollegiate Examiner. If a selection of candidates is to be given an oral examination, an External or Intercollegiate Examiner should be present.

4.4.3 An Assistant Examiner may be appointed with the prior approval of the Lead College and the Examination Centre concerned to conduct oral examinations overseas for International Programme Students.

4.4.4 No one (Including External Examiners) may attend an oral examination except the Examiners appointed for that oral and the candidate. Comments recorded by an examiner about the performance of a candidate in an oral examination may be personal data and so available to a student making a subject access request (see paragraph 4.5.10).

4.5 Marking:

4.5.1 The guidance below is to be followed by all Boards of Examiners.

4.5.2 Every script and every essay/report/dissertation which is an examination element in its own right shall be marked by at least two Examiners or by one Assessor and one Examiner, who shall afterwards prepare an agreed list of marks. The Board is responsible for resolving any significant disparities between the marks of different markers. The marking of scripts and essays/reports/dissertations should be subject to internal moderation and sampled by an External or Intercollegiate Examiner.

4.5.3 The Chair of the Board of Examiners should assign Examiners into pairs for the purpose of double marking and should ensure that the performance of pairs of Examiners is monitored by the Board. Assistant Examiners must always be paired with Examiners. Experienced Examiners should be paired with less experienced Examiners wherever possible.

4.5.4 The University and all Examiners are required to comply with the Data Protection Act 1998 which establishes legal rights for individuals with regard to the processing of their personal data, including examination marks and results, on computing, word processing, or similar equipment.

4.5.5 General Regulations contain details about what constitutes plagiarism and the action that must be taken when it occurs.

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9 Refer to Assessment methods, section 4 of the Programme Specification and Regulations document http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/regs

10 Refer to Assessment offences and penalties, section 6 of the Programme Specification and Regulations document http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/regs
4.5.6 Online plagiarism detection software is available for use to those University of London International Programmes whose assessment includes assignments, projects, reports or dissertations. Student work may be submitted to the online service in bulk and the results fed into the marking or moderation process as necessary and administered according to the logistics of the programme concerned. Further information on the administration of the process for a particular programme and access to the online similarity reports can be obtained from Programme Directors.

4.5.7 Examiners are required to be vigilant in their assessment of all elements of the examination in relation to plagiarism and to refer any cases of suspected plagiarism or examination irregularity found within coursework, dissertations or other reports, and within examination scripts, to the Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations, Student Assessment Office, International Academy. Other examination offences which may be apparent within the work presented by the candidate, e.g. collusion, or presentation of unauthorised material, should likewise be referred to the Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations.

4.5.8 Examiners are responsible for agreeing the final mark of each element of assessment and ensuring the correct recording of marks on all scripts/essays/course-work, dissertations/reports and upon mark sheets presented to the University. All scripts, coursework etc. marks should be signed by the Examiners. Examiners should follow any detailed instructions from the International Academy which are attached to scripts or sent under a separate cover.

4.5.9 Where there is a divergence of opinion between Examiners and in the mark awarded by each, Examiners are required to display how these differences have been resolved.

4.5.10 Examiners are reminded that candidates may ask for a copy or summary of any comments regarding their performance which is held on the script or course-work or in another form, such as a separate marking sheet which allows the comments to be applied to the original script or coursework. Under the Data Protection Act, comments, including any light marks which call attention to an item, are considered personal data and therefore students may make a subject access request to access them. Under the Act, there is only a right of access to the comments and/or summary of the comments, not the script itself. Candidates who ask for information about their marks under the provisions of the Data Protection Act should be referred to the Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations, University of London International Academy.

4.5.11 Where agreed by the International Academy Inclusive Practice Assessment Panel, Examiners will be informed of the specific access requirements\(^{11}\) of a candidate which will need to be taken into account by the Examiners in the assessment of the element concerned.

4.5.12 Examiners are required to ensure the confidentiality of candidates by reference to the candidate number only in all documentation.

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\(^{11}\) Examples include, but are not limited to, dyslexia, potential problems with syntax or clear expression of language. English as a secondary language is not considered a specific access requirement in this regard.
4.5.13 Where there is a large number of candidates to be assessed for a particular course/module, Examiners must ensure that appropriate methodologies are employed to secure consistent standards of marking by all pairs of Examiners throughout. This may include but is not limited to: the employment of a detailed marking scheme and guidelines; the appointment of a Chief Examiner for the course/module concerned; the establishment of a standardisation meeting for all Examiners involved.

4.6 Illegible Examination Scripts:

4.6.1 If an examination script, or part thereof, is considered to be illegible or incomprehensible by the markers, the following procedure will apply:

4.6.2 If the first pair of markers is unable to understand the relevant passages, it will be referred through the Chair of the Board of Examiners to a second set of markers.

4.6.3 If a second pair of markers is not available, the Chair of the Board of Examiners will refer the script to an External or Intercollegiate Examiner.

4.6.4 If the second pair of markers (or External/Intercollegiate Examiner) is also unable to read the passages, a mark of zero will be awarded for those parts.

4.6.5 The decision to award a zero mark for all or a substantial part of a script should be taken in consultation with the Chair and the External/Intercollegiate Examiner(s).

4.6.6 If a mark of zero is awarded on the above basis the candidate will be notified of the reason for the zero mark on release of the results.

4.6.7 No scripts will be transcribed.

4.6.8 Please note: The examination admission notice and the cover of the examination answer book remind candidates of the importance of writing legibly.

4.7 Missing / Lost Examination Scripts:

4.7.1 If an examination script should be suspected of being missing/lost, the Lead College and Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations, of the University of London International Academy should be contacted as a matter of priority.

4.7.2 The Senior Assessment Manager shall be responsible for investigating the whereabouts of a missing/lost examination script and for subsequent liaison with the relevant parties, including the candidate(s), the Examiner(s), and officers at examination centres and in University of London International Academy, and the Lead Colleges. Lead College staff and Examiners should not discuss the missing/lost script/s with candidates; all correspondence in this regard should be channelled through the Senior Assessment Manager at the International Academy.

4.7.3 The Senior Assessment Manager shall be responsible for informing the candidate(s) whose script are deemed missing/lost of the options available to them, detailed in paragraphs 4.7.4 - 4.7.8. These options are designed to neither advantage nor disadvantage any candidates as a result of the loss of the script.
4.7.4 Candidates may be awarded the mark attained in the corresponding coursework element (where applicable) to the lost script element as the overall mark or grade for that module. The mark for formative or summative coursework may be awarded, as deemed appropriate.

4.7.5 Candidates may be offered the opportunity to sit a take home seen written examination as an alternative means of assessment. The Senior Assessment Manager shall make arrangements with the Chair of the relevant Board of Examiners for an examination to be set, where candidates choose this option.

4.7.6 Where it is possible to compile an appropriate averaged mark from the results of other modules completed at the same level as the lost script, or where an averaged mark from results across levels or across all levels can be appropriately compiled, an averaged mark may be awarded for the module for which the script has been lost.

4.7.7 Candidates may re-sit the module for which the script has been lost under normal examination conditions at the next examination session. If this option is taken, the University shall waive the examination entry fee for the relevant paper(s).

4.7.8 Candidates may be offered the opportunity to progress without re-sitting the relevant assessment element for which the script has been lost. In this instance, the candidate will be deemed to have satisfied the rules of progression on which passing the assessment element is dependent. The formula used for classification will be adjusted accordingly, by the Board of Examiners, as if the candidate had been exempted from the examination in the course/module for which the mark is not available.

Related provisions

4.7.9 If an examination script goes missing after it has been assessed and the mark assigned to the script has been recorded on the mark sheet, the mark will stand, subject to confirmation by the Chair of the Board of Examiners.

4.7.10 Where the Chair of the Board of Examiners confirms the mark (in the circumstance identified in paragraph 4.7.9), the confirmation shall be explicitly minuted by the Secretary of the Board.

4.7.11 Where the Chair of the Board of Examiners decides not to confirm the mark (in the circumstances identified in paragraph 4.7.9), the Senior Assessment Manager shall contact the candidate under the provisions made in paragraph 4.7.3, offering the range of options detailed in paragraphs 4.7.4 – 4.7.8.

4.7.12 If an examination script deemed to be missing/lost is located before the candidate has chosen or undertaken one of the alternative assessment options identified in paragraphs 4.7.4 - 4.7.8, it shall be treated as a ‘late’ script. The Senior Assessment Manager shall liaise with the Chair of the Board of Examiners to arrange for the assessment of the script as a matter of priority.

4.7.13 If an examination script deemed to be missing/lost is located after the candidate has chosen or undertaken one of the alternative assessment options identified in
paragraphs 4.7.4 - 4.7.8, the script will be assessed. If the mark awarded to the
located script is higher than the mark awarded to the alternative assessment
element, the former mark will supersede the latter mark. If the mark assigned to the
located script is lower than the mark awarded for the alternative assessment, the
alternative assessment mark will stand.

4.7.14 A resit due to a lost script for a first attempt will be treated as a first attempt in
respect of the capping of marks. If resit marks are capped within a particular
programme, the resit for the lost script will therefore not be capped and the mark
will carry the full weight.

4.8 Meetings of the Boards of Examiners:

| Please Note: All summative academically assessed student work, marks achieved, progressions and awards considered by a Board of Examiners must be conducted on an anonymous basis by reference to candidate numbers only. |

4.8.1 The Chair of the Board of Examiners has the authority to request that specific
members of the Board attend the final meeting, so that representatives are present
for all subject areas being assessed.

4.8.2 Proceedings shall not be invalidated by the absence of an Examiner or Examiners
through illness or other unavoidable cause. In such cases the Examiner(s) should
endeavour to be available for consultation.

4.8.3 If the Lead College has established guidelines for a quorum of Boards of Examiners,
those guidelines must be recorded in the Board’s Terms of Reference and adhered
to. If these are not established the following should apply:

- For Model A Boards, the final result of an examination shall be determined
  at a meeting at which the Examiners eligible to vote are required to be
  present in addition to the Chair or Deputy Chair and at least one
  External/Intercollegiate examiner.
- For Model B Boards, the final result of an examination shall be determined
  at a meeting at which the Chair or Deputy Chair, at least one
  External/Intercollegiate Examiner and Chief Examiners or their deputies are
  required to be present.
- For Model C Boards progression and awards shall be determined at a
  meeting at which the Chair or Deputy Chair, at least one
  External/Intercollegiate Examiner and Examiners from one or more parent
  boards are required to be present.

4.8.4 Proceedings of any Board meeting held to determine the outcome of examinations
will not be valid unless the Chair or deputy chair and at least one External or
Intercollegiate Examiner is in attendance.

4.8.5 The agenda for the Board of Examiners meeting should include the following items:

- membership of the Board of Examiners;
- confidentiality notice;
- statement on conflicts of interest;
• confirmation of the minutes of the previous year’s meeting and matters arising;
• report on chair’s actions taken since the previous Board;
• review of the assessment criteria and scheme of award;
• extenuating and mitigating circumstances;
• consideration of progression and awards;
• decisions on University or other prize allocation for achievement;
• summary by External/Intercollegiate examiners;
• chairs comments;
• signing of documentation;
• procedure for the release of results;

A template agenda is available from the secretary of the Board.

4.8.6 The Board of Examiners should be serviced in accordance with **Section 5: Servicing University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners.** A record must be kept by the International Academy and the Lead College of each meeting of the Board and it should detail particularly those cases which required special consideration.

4.8.7 No persons other than the members and designated administrative staff shall be permitted to attend meetings of any Board of Examiners without specific invitation from the Chair. Assistant Examiners may be invited to attend for discussion as required.

4.8.8 The proceedings and minutes of the Board are confidential.

### 4.9 Determination of Results:

4.9.1 Unless Lead College policy states otherwise, Boards of Examiners shall not amend candidates’ agreed marks.

4.9.2 Decisions concerning the classification of candidates shall be arrived at by majority vote of eligible members present at the meeting. The views of the External and Intercollegiate Examiner(s) must be particularly influential in the case of disagreement.

4.9.3 The Board of Examiners may use its discretion if it considers it right to do so in the proper discharge of its duties and with the endorsement of the External/Intercollegiate examiner(s). In all circumstances where discretion is applied, clear reasons must be identified for doing so and a record kept. Similarly, a record should be kept why discretion has not been exercised in any case involving lengthy discussion and consideration.

4.9.4 The Chair shall have a casting vote in addition to his/her own vote. Administrative officers do not have a vote and should not act as Chair to the Board.

4.9.5 The Board of Examiners, the International Academy and the Lead College shall not place on any published list of successful candidates the name or number of any candidate who:
4.9.6 The Chair and External/Intercollegiate Examiner(s) shall certify that the examination was conducted in accordance with the programme regulations and confirm that the International Programmes Students have been examined to a comparable standard with comparable examinations for college-based students and have sat comparable examinations. A form will be provided to the Chair and External/Intercollegiate Examiners for this purpose and the form should be signed and returned to the University together with the final report (see 4.9.7) of the Board of Examiners. If such confirmation cannot be given for any reason.

4.9.7 A final report confirms the agreed results of all candidates for the year/ session, and includes any marks and results agreed and confirmed by Chair’s action since the previous meeting of the Board. This must be signed by the Chair and the External and Intercollegiate Examiners and lodged immediately with the Student Assessment Office, University of London International Academy. The Final Report Form will be filed alongside the Minutes of the Board meeting, the terms of reference and the University Pass list.

4.9.8 Candidates’ results will be published via the reporting lines described in Section 1: reporting lines and Terms of Reference for University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners.

4.10 Consideration of Special Cases:

4.10.1 The guidance below shall be followed by all Boards of Examiners. If more specific guidelines on the consideration of special cases exist within the Lead College, those guidelines must also be followed.

4.10.2 Each Board of Examiners shall agree in advance the procedures it will follow for considering significant adverse, extenuating or mitigating circumstances experienced by candidates. These procedures should be attached to the Board’s Terms of Reference.

4.10.3 Mitigating circumstances should only be taken into account if the candidate has provided relevant documentary evidence, such as a medical certificate. Boards, or their sub-groups, should consider each case on an individual basis.

Please note: Where a candidate has been permitted special examination arrangements due to a disability, in certain instances a note may be attached to the completed examination script with regard to the special arrangements granted.

4.10.4 Boards of Examiners may wish to establish sub-committees to consider the detail of each case and recommend the action to be taken. However, any recommendation
affecting a candidate’s progression or classification must be agreed and endorsed by the full Board of Examiners.

4.10.5 Where a candidate’s mark or classification has been amended in view of mitigating circumstances, details of the Board’s discussions shall be explicitly minuted by the Secretary of the Board.

4.10.6 For reasons of anonymity, medical and other evidence should not generally be made available to all members of the Board without the prior removal of personally identifying information.

4.10.7 Significant medical and other extenuating circumstances will normally only be taken into account in cases of borderline marks, results, or classifications or, in the case of a failure, marks which may be condoned or not recorded as an attempt.

4.11 Representations from Candidates:

4.11.1 The International Programmes will conduct an administrative re-check of results for those candidates who request it. The process for applying for a recheck is described in the General Regulations\textsuperscript{12} and this process must be followed. To ensure equity Chairs and Examiners should not communicate with candidates about their performance in the examinations.

4.11.2 No decision of a properly convened and constituted Board of Examiners, acting in accordance with these and any other relevant Instructions for the conduct of examinations and the Regulations for the particular examination, may be modified except as provided for in the \textit{University of London Regulations}\textsuperscript{13}.

4.12 Suspension of Regulations

4.12.1 The Board of Examiners may seek to assist a candidate’s progression through, or completion of, a programme where the general or programme specific regulations do not permit such progression or completion. In exceptional circumstances (i.e. a candidate’s serious medical or other extenuating circumstances) the Board may request a suspension of regulations.

4.12.2 International Programme general or programme specific regulations may not be suspended if they are in breach of University of London Ordinances or Regulations.

4.12.3 An application to suspend regulations must be made to the International Academy Corporate Performance and Quality Directorate. All applications must follow the procedures specified by the Directorate. All applications will be kept on file and a summary with the decision reported to the International Academy Academic Committee.

\textsuperscript{12} Refer to \textit{Administrative re-check of marks}, section 4 of the Programme Specification and Regulations document \url{http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/regs}

\textsuperscript{13} Refer to Regulation 1, Appendix 3 of the University of London Regulations \url{http://www.london.ac.uk/976.html}
4.13 Assessment Offences:

4.13.1 Any case of suspected assessment offence, including plagiarism, collusion and all categories of examination hall misconduct, will be governed by the *Procedures for the Consideration of Allegations of Assessment Offence, University of London International Programmes.*

4.13.2 All cases of alleged assessment offences should be reported to the Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations, University of London International Academy. Examination hall offences must be reported directly to the Senior Assessment Manager by examination centres. For allegations relating to coursework, or for suspected irregularities discovered during the marking process (including irregularities on answer scripts), examiners should report cases to the Chair of the Board of Examiners for onward referral to the University of London International Academy.

4.13.3 Further information can be obtained from the Programme Director or the Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations.

4.14 Examiners Commentaries:

4.14.1 Examiners’ commentaries are a key feedback mechanism for students and are valued by both current and future students. The aim of the examiners’ commentaries is to help students to understand how the syllabus for each course/module is examined, the kinds of questions they will be asked and the quality of answers that the examiners expect. They may also indicate some of the common mistakes students have made in the past, so that these can be avoided the future, and include advice on any significant changes to examination format for the next year.

4.14.2 Detailed guidance for producing commentaries will be forwarded to examiners, where applicable. However, examiners may contact the International Academy Publications team for further information.

4.14.3 Completion of a commentary may be a requirement of an examiner’s appointment. Full payment for work as an examiner, in these circumstances, is contingent on submission of the examiners commentary/commentaries for which the examiner is responsible. Deadlines for submission may also apply.

4.14.4 The completion of standardised commentaries is noted by the International Academy’s Quality Assurance and Student Life-cycle Sub-Committee (QASL, October 2011) as an area of good practice. This supports the recommendation arising from the QAA’s Institutional audit of the International Programmes in 2011.

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Part 2
Section 1: Reporting lines and Terms of Reference for University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners

1. University of London International Academy (International Academy) Boards of Examiners are University of London Boards. They may also report within Lead College structures which should be identical to or comparable with those established for the assessment of College-based Students.

2. Boards of Examiners must ensure the application of the scheme of award and assessment criteria approved by the Lead College committee identified in the Quality Assurance Schedule. For further information on the scheme of award please refer to Section 3: Schemes of Award and Assessment Criteria.

3. Marks and classifications or recommendations for the award of Honours should be ratified or approved through Lead College/University mechanisms as appropriate. Wherever possible, reporting mechanisms parallel with those in place for Boards of Examiners assessing College-based Students should be used.

4. Examination results are confidential and may be released only via the agreed University procedure.

5. Terms of Reference should be drawn up for each International Academy Board of Examiners and agreed by the relevant Lead College. Detail relating to the Terms of Reference may vary between Lead Colleges depending on College policy and individual committee and academic management structures. Each year, the terms of reference should be lodged with the Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations, Student Assessment Office, International Academy, no later than 1st May and will be sent to members of the Board together with the agenda of the Board meeting.

6. Terms of Reference will set out:

   (i) the reporting lines established for the Board of Examiners;

   (ii) the decision making and advisory powers of the Board, to include agreed procedures for the consideration of extenuating circumstances submitted by candidates and an account of the circumstances, if any, under which the Board may amend candidates' marks after the marks have been agreed by the marking team.

   (iii) The constitution of the Board, to include categories of Board member and others appointed to assist the Board as well as a note of the officers and committees responsible for nomination and appointment.

7. Chairs of Boards of Examiners are required to complete the Terms of Reference for their Boards and ensure they are approved through appropriate Lead College mechanisms.
Section 2: External and Intercollegiate Examiners appointed to University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners and External/Intercollegiate Examiner Annual Report Form

These guidelines apply to all University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners. They may only be varied in exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the University of London International Academy Academic Committee.

1. The role of External and Intercollegiate Examiners

1.1 External Examiners are appointed from outside the University of London. All programmes must appoint at least one External Examiner to its Board. An External Examiner’s role is to provide impartial and independent advice as part of the decision making process of the Board of Examiners and offer informative comment and recommendations upon whether or not:

- threshold academic standards set for the award are being maintained in accordance with the framework for higher education qualifications and applicable subject benchmark statements.
- the academic standards and achievements of students are comparable with those in other UK Higher Education institutions of which the External Examiner has experience;
- the processes for the assessment of International Programme Students are sound and have been rigorously and fairly applied, in line with International Academy policies and the programme regulations;
- good practice and innovation relating to learning, teaching and assessment is in evidence;
- there are opportunities to enhance the quality of the learning opportunities provided to students;

1.2 Intercollegiate Examiners are members of the academic staff of a College of the University other than the Lead College. An Intercollegiate Examiner’s role is identical to that of an External Examiner, except that he or she has the additional duty of ensuring that the standards of the award are comparable with those of other Colleges of the University of London. Intercollegiate Examiners do not fulfil the requirement for an External Examiner to be appointed.

1.3 External and Intercollegiate Examiners should be persons with:

- relevant qualifications to at least the level being examined and/or extensive practitioner experience in the fields covered by the programme of study;
- familiarity with the standard to be expected of students to achieve the award being assessed;
- expertise in designing and operating the range of assessment tasks appropriate to the subject;
- sufficient standing, credibility and breadth of experience within the subject discipline to command the respect of academic and professional peers;
- fluency in English, and where the programmes are delivered and assessed in languages other than English, fluency in the relevant language;
- knowledge of UK sector agreed reference points and standards to be expected of students to achieve the award being assessed;
• awareness of current developments in design and delivery of the relevant curricula and in enhancement of the student learning experience.

In addition, any applicable criteria from a Professional, Statutory or Regulatory Body, will be required to be met.

2. Nomination and Appointment of External and Intercollegiate Examiners

2.1 At least one External Examiner shall be appointed to every University of London International Academy Board of Examiners.

2.2 External and Intercollegiate Examiners shall be nominated and appointed using Lead College mechanisms which are parallel with the mechanisms used for the appointment of such Examiners to Boards/Sub-Boards of Examiners assessing College-registered Students. The administrative process of appointment shall be carried out by the International Academy.

2.3 In order to preserve the independence and objectivity essential to the role of External and Intercollegiate Examiners, Lead Colleges should ensure that any potential conflicts of interest are identified and resolved prior to appointment. Potential conflicts of interest for an External and Intercollegiate Examiner might include:

• any prior or concurrent role in the (re)development, (re)validation of a programme, or parts thereof, for which they are acting as Examiner;
• any prior or concurrent role in the periodic review of a programme, or parts thereof (i.e. acting as an external subject specialist), for which they are acting as Examiner;
• any membership of a governing body or committee of the University of London International Academy or one of its collaborative partners, or a current employee of the University or Lead College
• any close professional, contractual or personal relationship with a member of staff or student involved with the programme of study
• any requirement to assess colleagues who are recruited as students to the programme of study
• any circumstance where the examiner knows they will be in a position to influence significantly the future of students on the programme of study
• any recent or current substantive collaborative research activities with a member of staff closely involved in the delivery, management or assessment of the programme(s) or courses/modules in question
• any former employment or registration as a student with the University of London International Programmes or Lead College unless a period of five years has elapsed and all students taught by or with the external examiner have completed their programme(s)

2.4 Lead Colleges must not appoint more than one external and intercollegiate examiner from the same department of the same institution, and should ensure that they do not hold more than two external examinerships on taught programmes.

2.5 The appointment of External and Intercollegiate Examiners must not be part of any reciprocal arrangement involving cognate programmes at another institution, or part of any arrangement whereby a former external examiner is succeeded by a colleague from their home department or institution
2.6 While recognising the value of experience as an important factor in the effective discharging of the duties of External Examiners, Lead Colleges should ensure that otherwise well-qualified candidates are not excluded on the grounds that they have no previous experience as external examiners.

2.7 External and Intercollegiate Examiners will be appointed annually. An External or Intercollegiate Examiner may serve for a maximum period of four consecutive years, after which he or she shall not be eligible for re-appointment until after a lapse of five or more years, and then only in exceptional circumstances.

2.8 Nominated External and Intercollegiate Examiners will be asked to formally accept their offer of appointment. In doing so, they will agree to fulfil the role and carry out the responsibilities set out in these Guidelines.

2.9 The contract for services may be terminated either by the External/Intercollegiate Examiner or by the University by giving six week’s notice in writing.

3. **Fees and expenses**

3.1 External and Intercollegiate Examiners will be paid according to fee and expenses schedules agreed annually by the University of London International Academy Finance Committee. Fees will be paid upon receipt of the External/Intercollegiate Examiner’s Annual Report. All payments will be made by University of London International Academy in accordance with the University’s Financial Regulations.

3.2 Due to Home Office legislation changes to visa rules, it will not be possible to pay External Examiners who are based outside the European Economic Area (EEA)\(^{15}\).

4. **Information provided to External and Intercollegiate Examiners**

4.1 Nominated External and Intercollegiate Examiners must be provided with appropriate information so that they are able to decide whether they will be able to carry out their responsibilities effectively and to ensure that, once appointed, they can fulfil those responsibilities. External and Intercollegiate Examiners should receive in either hardcopy or softcopy or via the appropriate web site/web pages and Virtual Learning Environment, access to:

- Details of the term of appointment and arrangements for its termination;
- Fees and expenses rates and procedures for remuneration;
- University of London International Programmes Guidelines for Examinations;
- The relevant Programme and General regulations, including the full syllabus;
- Programme specifications;
- The relevant Scheme of award and assessment criteria and/or scheme for the award of honours;
- Past examination question papers;
- The programme prospectus or similar;
- A list of the learning materials available to students;
- University of London International Academy Overall Annual Report;
- Board of Examiners list;

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\(^{15}\) Home Office, *Border Force Operation Manual, Appendix B. P.3*
4.2 External and Intercollegiate Examiners may ask the Chair of the Board of Examiners for any other information or documents (such as materials permitted in examinations) which they consider necessary to discharge their responsibilities and this information or material will, if possible, be provided to the External/Intercollegiate Examiner.

5. Duties, Powers and Responsibilities of External and Intercollegiate Examiners

5.1 The Chair of the Board of Examiners shall determine the distribution of duties between External/Intercollegiate Examiners. The duties, powers and responsibilities of External and Intercollegiate Examiners are set out below.

6. Paper-setting and Approval of Examination Question Papers

6.1 External and Intercollegiate Examiners shall be invited to participate in the setting of examination papers. Each individual examination paper must be approved by at least one External/Intercollegiate Examiner. Where requested by the Chair of the Board, External and Intercollegiate Examiners may be involved with the overall scrutiny process of question papers for a programme of study to guard against overlap in corresponding subject areas.

7. Marking, sampling and moderation

7.1 External and Intercollegiate Examiners have the right to inspect any script or other assessed examination material.

7.2 External and Intercollegiate Examiners may be asked to sample scripts or other assessed examination material and to take part in oral and practical examinations where these are specified.

7.3 External and Intercollegiate Examiners should see enough assessed examination material to be able to assess whether marking and classifications are of an appropriate standard and are consistent. This should normally include:

- A sample of scripts from the top, the middle and the bottom of the range.
- A sample of scripts with borderline marks.
- A sample of scripts assessed by Examiners as first class and as failures.

7.4 External and Intercollegiate Examiners should not be involved with double marking of scripts.

7.5 External and Intercollegiate Examiners may be asked to moderate where first and second markers have failed to agree a mark.

8. Meetings of the Board of Examiners and endorsement of decisions made

8.1 External and Intercollegiate Examiners are required to attend meetings of Boards of Examiners at which significant decisions are to be taken. This may include pre- or Sub-board meetings. The Chair of the Board of Examiners must ensure that External and Intercollegiate Examiners are invited to attend such meetings. Decisions without the presence of an External Examiner shall be considered invalid.
8.2 In cases of disagreement on the final classification of a particular candidate, the views of the External/Intercollegiate Examiner(s) must be particularly influential. The decision shall be arrived at by majority vote of those members of the Board of Examiners present.

8.3 External and Intercollegiate Examiners should be invited to endorse formally the decisions of the Board of Examiners before candidates’ examination results are released.

8.4 External and Intercollegiate Examiners have the right to withhold their endorsement of the Board’s decisions if, in their belief, the assessment process has not been conducted properly.

8.5 If an External or Intercollegiate Examiner is not able to endorse the Board’s decisions, the Chair of the Board of Examiners and the External/Intercollegiate Examiner shall make written statements to the Dean, University of London International Programmes and to the senior academic officer of the Lead College, who will assess and, if possible, resolve the issue.

8.6 If an External or Intercollegiate Examiner has not been able to endorse the Board’s decisions, the matter, whether resolved or not, shall be referred to the University of London International Academy Academic Committee for consideration. The matter shall also be reported to the Board of the University of London International Academy. If the matter relates to the academic direction of a specific programme, it should also be given consideration through appropriate Lead College mechanisms.

9. Annual Reports

9.1 External and Intercollegiate Examiners should make a written report after each exam board to the International Academy, on the proforma provided\(^\text{16}\), within one month of the date of the final meeting of the Board of Examiners.

9.2 External and Intercollegiate Examiners’ reports will be copied to various parts of the International Academy, including its administrative system, committees and Lead Colleges, for consideration and follow-up under the mechanisms outlined below. If an External or Intercollegiate Examiner so wishes, he/she may send a separate confidential report to the Dean, University of London International Programmes.

9.3 External and Intercollegiate Examiners will be asked to include a summary of their findings in their reports, using a template provided by the Corporate Performance and Quality Directorate. This summary will be made publicly available by the University.

9.4 If an External and Intercollegiate Examiner has a serious concern about systematic failings with the academic standards of a programme or programmes and has exhausted the procedures described above without satisfactory response(s) they may revert to the QAA’s concerns scheme\(^\text{17}\).

\(^{16}\) [http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/examiners](http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/examiners)

\(^{17}\) [http://qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/QAA_concerns_guidance_external_examiners.aspx](http://qaa.ac.uk/Publications/InformationAndGuidance/Pages/QAA_concerns_guidance_external_examiners.aspx)
Procedure for the receipt, consideration and follow-up of External/Intercollegiate Examiners’ reports on University of London International Programme provision

10. The University of London International Programmes

10.1 The University of London International Programme operates through a partnership between the Colleges of the University and the University centrally. Within this partnership, the University of London is the awarding body for University of London International Programme provision and all International Programmes Students are registered centrally. Lead Colleges are responsible for the academic direction of individual programmes, while the University of London International Academy provides the business management, administrative infrastructure and development resource.

10.2 It has been agreed that Lead Colleges, the University of London International Academy and the central University will consider, as appropriate, issues raised by External and Intercollegiate Examiners. It will also be necessary to produce co-ordinated feedback for External and Intercollegiate Examiners and for report to the University.

Consideration of External and Intercollegiate Examiner Reports

To facilitate proper consideration of specific issues, External and Intercollegiate Examiners are asked to use a standard pro forma (http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/examiners) to produce their annual reports. Parts 1-4 will be made publicly available, in accordance with national requirements.

External and/or Intercollegiate Examiner report is submitted to the Quality team, Corporate Performance and Quality Directorate (CPQ)

Report circulated to Head of Lead College, Lead College Academic Register (or equivalent) and either the Programme Director or the Subject Committee and Programme Director if the programme is offered by a consortium of Lead Colleges

System wide and administrative issues are considered by CPQ in consultation with the Lead College

The Dean, University of London International Academy, responds to External and/or Intercollegiate Examiners on system wide or administrative issues, if required

Consolidated report of External and/or Intercollegiate Examiner issues is considered by the Quality Assurance and Student Lifecycle Sub-Committee (QASL) and reported to the Academic Committee.

Lead College considers programme specific issues in the report through their central academic management structures

Lead College responds to the External and/or Intercollegiate Examiner on programme specific issues

External and/or Intercollegiate Examiners reports are summarised in an overall annual report and reported to the QASL, Academic Quality Advisory Committee (AQAC) and the Collegiate Council
Section 3: Schemes of Award and Assessment Criteria for University of London International Programme Provision

1. Each University of London International Programme must have an agreed award scheme and assessment criteria.

2. Schemes of award should have regard to the totality of the programme of study, the requirement for progression within it and the requirement for the student to achieve a satisfactory standard overall. They should include the following:
   2.1 Number of units, modules, papers or courses to be attempted and number to be passed;
   2.2 Rules of progression and pre-requisites;
   2.3 Mark scale used (alphabetical grade, percentage etc)
   2.4 Position on the mark or grade scale of Pass marks, Class boundaries or points at which any awards of Credit, Merit and Distinction are made;
   2.5 The weighting or mark allocation of each individual component of the programme;
   2.6 Weighting/capping of resit marks and rules relating to any other penalties;
   2.7 Rules or conventions for the condonation of failed units and award of credit;
   2.8 Means of calculation of classification, including use of aggregates, weighting, average marks etc.

3. Assessment criteria should include a descriptive account of the achievement expected in each Class or mark range. If the College has assessment criteria in place for College-registered Students, these criteria should also be applied to International Programme Students.

4. Schemes of award and assessment criteria are a matter of regulation and should be approved formally before the examinations take place by the appropriate committee(s) within the Lead College, as specified in the Quality Assurance Schedule. Any subsequent changes to schemes and criteria should also be formally agreed. A copy of the scheme and criteria should be lodged with Senior Assessment Manager: Examinations, Student Assessment Office, International Academy by 1 October for the following year of the examinations.

5. Schemes of award and assessment criteria should be made available to International Programmes Students and will be published in the relevant Programme Regulations.

6. The Board of Examiners may also wish to establish additional guidelines or conventions, which should also be endorsed by the appropriate Lead College body if this is consistent with College policy. Such guidelines or conventions might include:

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18 [www.londoninternational.ac.uk/our-global-reputation/governance/quality-schedules](http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/our-global-reputation/governance/quality-schedules). University mechanisms will apply to the LLB and Diploma in Law
6.1 Guidance on marking at high and low ends of the scale (outstanding firsts, borderline fails etc);

6.2 Position and range of the borderline in which the Board will apply discretion;

6.3 Ways in which the Board may use its discretion, for example:
   - significant adverse circumstances in respect of an individual student’s performance or groups of students and/or academic factors.
   - Preponderance of marks in higher class;
   - "Exit velocity";
   - Distribution of marks across the cohort.

6.4 The extent to which the Board of Examiners, if circumstances make it necessary and appropriate, may depart from its award scheme and assessment criteria;

6.5 Use of additional supplementary or qualifying tests for progression purposes.
Section 4: The appointment of Associate Examiners to University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners

1. Associate Examiners are Examiners external to the University of London who are appointed to fulfil the standard role of Examiner (sometimes called Internal or College Examiner) on International Academy Boards of Examiners. They are appointed when the specific nature of a programme calls for expertise from a wider pool of Examiners than is available within the University and if their appointment is consistent with Lead College policy.

2. Associate Examiners should be appointed on an annual basis under the same Lead College or University procedures used for the appointment of Internal or College Examiners to International Academy Boards of Examiners.

3. Associate Examiners may be appointed, as necessary and appropriate, to either of the two models for Boards of Examiners in use within the International Academy. In the case of Model B Boards, Associate Examiners may be appointed to fulfil the duties of Examiners or to fulfil the duties of Chief/Lead Examiners. The Associate Examiner will be a full member of the Board of Examiners with responsibilities identical to his or her internal counterpart. Where an Associate Examiner is appointed as a Chief/Lead Examiner, this should be indicated on the appointment documentation.

4. Associate Examiners, although external to the University of London, are not External Examiners and do not have their moderating or evaluative responsibilities.

5. Before appointing a proposed Associate Examiner, the appointing body must satisfy itself that the Associate Examiner has suitable relevant experience and academic standing equivalent to that of an Examiner who is a member of the academic staff of a College, School or Institute of the University of London.

6. Lead Colleges should indicate the appointment of Associate Examiners in the appointment lists for Boards of Examiners when the lists are sent to the International Academy, which will conduct the administrative process of appointment and will maintain a record of Associate Examiner appointments.
Section 5 Servicing University of London International Academy Board of Examiners

These guidelines are intended to enable Boards of Examiners to carry out their responsibilities and exercise their academic judgement with appropriate administrative support. They are also intended to enable the University of London International Academy to maintain, on behalf of the University of London, a record of decisions made by University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners.

Status of University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners

1. Boards of Examiners for the University of London International Academy are University of London Boards, awarding the University of London degrees and diploma. Assessment of International Programme Students is carried out by the academic staff of the University who, as members of University Boards of Examiners, set and mark papers and determine candidates’ performance. Under the quality assurance arrangements agreed for the University of London International Academy, Boards of Examiners are also integrated into Lead College academic management structures where necessary. In the case of the University of London International Programme Undergraduate Laws Programme, University academic management structures apply. University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners make reports to the University of London International Academy Academic Committee so that the University can fulfil its responsibilities as the awarding body for awards made through the University of London International Academy.

2. Boards of Examiners are important bodies within the University of London International Academy and their correct operation is of fundamental importance.

3. Wherever possible, practices and procedures should reflect those in place for the assessment of College-based Students. However, as the University of London is the registering and awarding body for International Programme provision, it is important that a central record is kept of all decisions made by Boards of Examiners in respect of International Programme Students. This record is maintained by University of London International Academy. In addition, to ensure a common approach to the assessment of all International Programme Students, a number of centrally agreed guidelines and templates are used.

4. Terms of Reference, setting out the powers and constitutions of each Board of Examiners, will be drawn up and approved by the Lead College. Further details of the responsibilities and conduct of University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners are set out in the Guidelines for Examinations and the following associated documents:

   - Section 1: Reporting lines and Terms of Reference for University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners
   - Section 2: External and Intercollegiate Examiners appointed to University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners
   - Section 3: Schemes of Award and Assessment Criteria for University of London International Programme Provision
   - Section 4: The appointment of Associate Examiners to University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners
   - Section 5: Servicing External System Boards of Examiners.
Role and Duties of the Secretary to the Board of Examiners

5. Examination Boards must be properly serviced. Each meeting of each Board must have a formal agenda, and a record of the decisions of the Board meeting must be held with the marksheets tabled at the meeting which are confirmed via the Final Report Form signed by the Chair and Externals Examiners. A note of individual circumstances which required special attention and consideration must be recorded within the approved minutes. This assists the business of the meeting and is necessary to:

- provide a clear audit trail in the event that there is any question about the decision of a Board on any matter (student appeals);
- provide a clear record in the event that there is any challenge to the decision of the Board (for example, with a student requesting a review of the Board’s decision);
- enable the Board to examine precedents on any issue.

6. Each Board of Examiners should have a designated Secretary. The Secretary will normally be the Head of the relevant Section within the Student Assessment Department, University of London International Academy. Where this is not the case, the secretary will be identified by agreement between the Chair of the Board of Examiners and University of London International Academy. Alternatively, the responsibility for servicing the Board of Examiners might be shared between a University of London International Academy representative and a Lead College representative.

7. The Secretary, acting on behalf of the Chair of the Board of Examiners is responsible for:

- the circulation of information to members about the date, time and place of the meeting;
- the production of an agenda (in consultation with the Chair);
- tabling of all the necessary paper work for the meeting;
- assisting the Chair during the meeting;
- writing the minutes;
- noting and reporting as appropriate any issues identified by the Board as needing attention but outside its remit (for example a request for suspension or proposal for an amendment to regulations);
- compiling the Final Report Form for signature;
- filing the record of results and decisions made by the Board with the International Academy for future and historic reference.

The Agenda

8. The agenda should, wherever feasible, be circulated to members at least two weeks in advance of the meeting. Any papers (except for the marksheets) that the Board is being asked to consider should be circulated with the agenda, so that members have time to consider them.

9. The agenda should be drawn up by the appropriate secretary, University of London International Academy in consultation with the Chair. Refer to the template agenda\(^\text{19}\).

\(^{19}\) http://www.londoninternational.ac.uk/examiners
Documentation

10. Mark sheets should not be circulated with the agenda; they are normally tabled at the meeting. Mark sheets are normally produced by University of London International Academy; any variation to this practice must be agreed by the Chair of the Board of Examiners and the Dean, University of London International Programmes and the reasons for and nature of the variation fully documented in the minutes of the Board.

11. The Secretary should also circulate or table any other information that the Board will need to help it in its work – for example the agreed Schemes of Award and assessment criteria, schemes for the award of Honours where appropriate and any important precedents.

12. The Secretary should also ensure that the following documentation is available for the meeting:

- the terms of reference for the Boards of Examiners
- this Guidelines for Examinations and associated documents (see 4 above)
- the regulations for the programme of study concerned. If the regulations have recently changed, it is important to have all the sets of regulations that refer to the candidates under consideration.

Minutes

13. The minutes are designed to provide a clear summary of the decisions taken at the meeting, together with the discussion leading up to the decisions (where this is required to support the decision, or for the purpose of establishing precedent).

The minutes should also record any specific reports from markers and moderators on the marking procedures.

14. The decisions of the Board need not be listed in respect of every candidate within the minutes: the Final Report Form will provide the record of this information. The Pass List will be attached to the Report Form and stored together with the minutes. However, individual candidates should be recorded in the minutes where:

- the decision of the Board is not obvious from a candidate’s position in the rank order (e.g. the decision to award a lower second to a candidate with 58.5% is expected and does not require explanation; the decision to award that candidate an upper second should be explained in the minutes);
- the decision of the Board is not in accordance with past precedents;
- there is a request for the suspension of regulations;
- there are extenuating circumstances, whether or not the Board’s final decision was affected in any way (if the candidate requests a review of the Board’s decision, it is important to have a clear statement of whether extenuating circumstances were reported and, if so, what the Board’s decision was).

15. The minutes should record instances which deviate from the Guidelines.

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20 Individual Terms of Reference are being developed for the University of London International Academy; they should be made available at meetings of Boards of Examiners once they have been agreed.
16. The nature of extenuating circumstances should be referred to in the minutes, but there is no need to mention them in detail. Reference to domestic problems, health problems, death of a close relative etc. is adequate. Some Colleges delegate authority for this to a sub group of the Board. The decisions made by this group must be reported to the Board of Examiners.

17. The minutes should also summarise the comments of the External and Intercollegiate Examiners (even though they will also be producing written reports).

18. Any additional feedback received from External and Intercollegiate Examiners at the Board, not included in their reports, should be forwarded to the relevant Corporate Performance & Quality and College quality personnel.

19. The minutes should carry the words “STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL” at the top of every page.

20. The minutes should be approved by the Chair and circulated promptly by the Secretary to the External and Intercollegiate Examiners and to each member of the Board. If the Secretary of the Board of Examiners is not a representative of the University of London International Academy, the minutes must also be copied to the International Academy as soon as possible.

21. University of London International Academy will retain a central archive of all minutes of University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners.

22. In the event that Chair’s action becomes necessary the following will apply:
   - The Chair must request authority from the Board to act in all matters which may arise after the conclusion of the Board of Examiners’ meeting and the minutes should reflect this authority;
   - All actions taken after the meeting must be formally recorded via an addendum to the minutes, including the confirmation of scripts/coursework assessed after the meeting.
   - Where the action relates to a change to an individual mark, to the progression, overall result or classification, the Chair must consult the External or Intercollegiate Examiner. Written approval from the Chair is required to amend any mark or result previously confirmed at the Board;
   - Action taken by the Chair must be recorded via an addendum to the minutes and reported to the Board at its next meeting.

**Reporting the Board’s decisions and recommendations**

23. If the Board identifies or makes recommendations about any issue beyond its remit, such as a request for suspension or proposal for an amendment to regulations, the Secretary must ensure the issue is directed promptly to the appropriate person, body or Committee.

24. Following meetings of the Boards of Examiners at which students’ results are determined, the Final Report Form will be signed off by the Chair of the Board of Examiners and the External Examiners.

25. University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners have reporting lines corresponding to the internal arrangements in place for the relevant Lead College. In some cases, College-level ratification of the recommendations of the University of London International Academy Board of Examiners is necessary. This will be detailed in the QA Schedule. It is the responsibility of the Chair of the Board of Examiners to ensure that University of London International Academy Boards of Examiners report as appropriate within
the Lead College academic management structure and that any ratification process deemed necessary by the Lead College is carried out.

26. Whether or not College ratification is necessary, all Pass Lists are prepared by University of London International Academy, signed by the Associate Director: Assessment & Awards, checked again by the Academic Office and approved by the Vice-Chancellor via accompanying sign-up sheets. Following approval, Diplomas will then be issued.

27. University of London International Academy Board of Examiners will also make reports to the University of London International Academy Academic Committee for onward reporting to the University via its governance.

28. The International Academy will report the allocation of prizes to the Academic Committee.
APPENDIX 1
CODE OF PRACTICE FOR EXAMINERS WHEN TEACHING STUDENTS UNDER PRIVATE ARRANGEMENTS

This Code of Practice applies to Examiners for the University of London International Academy who engage in study and revision courses delivered to students studying at independent teaching institutions. Generally such courses are organised and managed by the institutions themselves and contracts are a private arrangement between the institution and the lecturer. The code also applies if the teaching is provided in the context of a contract between an independent teaching institution and a Lead College.

Since the University of London International Academy strives to maintain best practice in all its dealings and requires compliance with relevant Codes of Practice and full and transparent compliance with the law in terms of legal compliance, attention is drawn to the Bribery Act 2010 (which received Royal Assent in April 2010). It is too early to determine how the Act may be applied to the activities of UK HE institutions overseas, but examiners should be aware that the Act is extra-territorial in scope. Furthermore, it introduces the possibility that alleged irregularities could be referred by a complainant to UK criminal investigation authorities, and that this could occur without the knowledge of the University.

The purpose of this Code of Practice is therefore to ensure that any courses delivered to communities of students occur in an acceptable and ethical way by advising academics of the requirements of the University of London International Academy, which seeks to ensure that at all times assessment is conducted with appropriate “...rigour, probity and fairness and with due regard for security” (QAA, 2011: B6/5).

In addition to providing guidance for examiners, this Code should be seen as setting out minimum requirements for Lead Colleges and Boards of Examiners which have responsibility to ensure (or maintain) the academic quality of University of London degrees. It is anticipated that Boards of Examiners may wish to develop this Code further to meet the particular contextual and subject specific requirements of their qualifications.

The University of London International Academy acknowledges the benefits of teaching institutions providing study and revision courses for students delivered by teams which may include academics working with the University of London. Whilst many students attending such courses may view them primarily as a way of improving their examination prospects they should also be persuaded of the contribution to their holistic education and learning. Lecturers are encouraged to use these courses as opportunities to help students to think more widely, reflect on their learning and embrace different approaches to their subject, thereby addressing the broader graduate skills rather than focusing exclusively on examination performance.

The University of London International Academy requires that teachers who are engaged as examiners for the University of London International Academy should not give any sub-set of students an unfair advantage over other students. It is important therefore that a sub-set of students should not receive any knowledge of the content of forthcoming examinations which is not available to all students registered for this course, anywhere in the world. In this respect examiners are asked to bear in mind that perceptions are important. The pressures which examinations place on students could, in a small number of cases, lead to allegations of unfairness.

The following notes are designed to guide academics and should be accepted as minimum requirements. Each Examination Board may have additional rules reflecting the requirements of the subject and the context of the delivery.

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22 See also: Bribery Act 2010 available at: http://www.opsi.gov.uk/acts/acts2010/ukpga_20100023_en_1#Legislation-Preamble
1. All examiners who participate in a study course must declare this on the Register of Interests. A declaration of the payment for such services is also expected.

2. All examiners (or any other individual with access to the examination papers) who participate in teaching sub-sets of students at independent teaching institutions or through other private arrangements must be authorised to do so by the Lead College. This authorisation should be copied to the Corporate Performance & Quality Directorate, University of London International Academy.

3. Students must not be informed whether or not a visiting academic is an examiner. Teachers who are examiners for a course may not advertise or allow others to advertise to students that they are examiners.

4. Where teachers contract with institutions to provide specific examination preparation material (for example mock examinations) these should also be supplied to the Lead College in advance. All such materials, including mock examination papers, should be made available to all students who are registered for the corresponding course(s) of the University of London International Programmes via the VLE.

If you have any questions about this Code, its interpretation, or how to implement it, please contact:
Director or Head of Quality, Corporate Performance and Quality, University of London International Academy.

Gn27/09/2012
Appendix 2
Register of Interests: Policy and Procedures for considering Conflicts of Interest

Background
The University of London has an international reputation as an awarding organisation operating in the highly regulated field of qualifications. As a regulated awarding organisation the University of London, and hence the University of London International Academy, is expected to have in place a conflict of interest policy that enables the Academy to identify and manage conflict of interest.

The Policy applies to conflicts of interest which may be encountered by members of staff, including Examiners, by independent members of committees and sub-committees of the International Academy, and by students when they are acting in an official capacity - for example, as committee members.

The specific issue of conflicts of interest encountered by Examiners was highlighted by the enquiry commissioned by the University of London International Academy in 2011. This investigated possible conflicts of interest arising where a University of London International Programmes Examiner with privileged examination information teaches a subset of students registered on its programmes. The resulting report made 16 recommendations to the International Academy, many of which have been implemented.

The aim of this procedure is to avoid the conferring of unfair advantage on any individual students or groups of students, as well as providing a framework for Examiners experiencing a conflict of interest to place them beyond suspicion.

Definition
A conflict of interest is a situation in which an individual (or organisation) has competing interests or loyalties. In this context, a conflict of interest is a situation that has the potential to undermine the impartiality of an International Academy Examiner, and therefore has the potential to confer an undue advantage on an individual student or group of students, because of the Examiner’s competing interests or loyalties.

Conflicts of interest can arise for Examiners in a variety of situations. For example:
- Where, in the course of discharging their examining responsibilities, the Examiner has access to information that has the potential to confer undue advantage on a subset of students when the Examiner is acting in another capacity;
- Where, the Examiner serves in some advisory or review capacity, that, by virtue of that activity, has the capacity to confer undue advantage on a subset of students;
- Where matters relating to an individual with whom the Examiner has a close personal or family relationship are under specific consideration.

Declaring conflicts of interest
Examiners are asked to declare conflicts of interest by submitting a Register of Interests form. Examiners are required to submit a completed Register of Interests form prior to being appointed. No Examiner appointments should be made until a Register of Interests form has been submitted.

The Register of Interests form should be updated when an Examiner identifies new conflicts of interest. This can be done by the Examiner contacting the Register of Interests mailbox registerofinterests@london.ac.uk. The Examiner will be sent a copy of their form to update.

Submitting a Register of Interests is a key element of the Code of Practice for Examiners when Teaching Students under Private Arrangements (outlined in Appendix One of the Guidelines for Examinations) which Examiners agree to abide by when they are engaged by the University of London International Academy.

In addition, at the start of each meeting the Chair will read out a statement that reminds participants of their responsibilities regarding conflicts of interest and invites any new conflicts of interest (i.e. conflicts not declared to date) that may impact on the agenda for this meeting to be declared and noted in the minutes. All previously declared conflicts of interest have been considered by CPQ in conjunction with the Lead College,
and where necessary the Chair, and deemed as either requiring either (i) no further action or (ii) a penalty which has been/will be imposed.

To mitigate risk the UoL International Academy considers students at both Tier 1 and Tier 2 Boards of Examiners on an anonymous basis, so no individual student can be identified.

**Categorisation of Conflicts**
The procedure sets out three levels of possible conflict; low, medium and high. These are defined below:

**Low**
- Membership of International Academy Committees;
- Panel members for Institutional Periodic Reviews or Assessment Offences Committees.

**Medium**
- An Examiner who is only marking examination scripts but is also providing classes. The concern is that students can benefit from knowing what Examiners are seeking;
- An Examiner who is only marking examination scripts but is also is supporting staff development activities in independent teaching institutions;
- An Examiner who is only marking examination scripts but is also devising, marking and providing feedback on mock examinations. It is a requirement that these mock examinations are made available to all students on the VLE, as soon as possible after the exam is administered.

**High**
- An Examiner who sets an examination paper and is providing classes to students during the same examination session;
- An Examiner who sets an examination paper and is engaged to devise and mark and provide feedback on mock examinations.

A record will be made of nil returns for reporting purposes.

**Managing the Register of Interests: Examiners’ returns**
Completed Register of Interests returns from Examiners will be managed by the Corporate Performance and Quality (CPQ) Directorate of the International Academy, in conjunction with Lead Colleges, who will be asked to nominate one person to liaise with the Academy. Those conflicts of interest identified as giving rise to concern (i.e. High and Medium) will be considered by the Lead College, Boards of Examiners if appropriate and CPQ during the relevant examination session.

**Procedure**
The flow chart on page 43 sets out the procedure for dealing with completed Register of Interest returns from Academy Examiners by CPQ in conjunction with the Lead College.

**Evidence that conflicts of interest give rise to concern**
When there is evidence that a conflict of interest may have undermined the impartiality of an International Academy Examiner and raises the possibility of an undue advantage on an individual student or group of students, because of the Examiner’s competing interests or loyalties (for example, by breaching the Code of Practice for Examiners when Teaching Students under Private Arrangements), such evidence should be reported to the Academy.

Such reports could be:
- Student Complaints;
- Made in confidence to the Dean of the University of London International Academy and the Corporate Performance and Quality Directorate;
- Self declared by the Examiner through the register of interests email address or at the Board of Examiners meeting.

**Investigation of conflicts of interest giving rise to concern**
An initial investigation into a situation where conflicts of interest give rise to concern will be conducted by the Head of Quality and Director, Corporate Performance and Quality, in conjunction with a representative of the
Lead College. Following the initial investigation the breach will either be deemed to have been resolved or will be forwarded to a Panel for consideration.

The Panel will be chaired by an external member of Academic Committee or one of its sub-committees and will include two Chairs of Board of Examiners from different subject areas. Officer support to the Panel will be provided by CPQ. The Panel will determine if the matter has been resolved or if penalties need to be applied.

**Penalties**
The following penalties may be applied by the Panel:

- Withholding part or all of a payment to the Examiner;
- Removing the Examiner from the Board of Examiner and terminating their contract;
- Outcome of the investigation will be reported to the Lead College;
- Banning employment as an Examiner for a specified period.
Procedure for considering Register of Interest returns

Conflict of Interest declared

Yes

Return reviewed by QM and severity of CoI considered against pre determined criteria

Low

Recorded on RoI

Chair of BoE informed for noting

Statistical data reported at QASL and to relevant Board of Examiners

Medium

RoI return accompanied by LC authorisation to teach

Passed to HoQ for further investigation with individual if required

LC nominee and Chair of BoE informed

Monitored by CPQ, LC & BoE

Statistical data reported at QASL and to relevant Board of Examiners

Detailed anonymised case study report considered at the Chairs of Boards Examiners meeting

High

RoI form accompanied by LC authorisation to teach

Reclassified as moderate

Passed to HoQ/Director of CPQ

Further investigation with LC and individual as required

LC/CPQ to consider whether Examiner should be appointed

Appoint

Signed off by Dean

Not Appoint

LC nominee informed

LC/Chair of BoE informed

Monitored by CPQ, LC & BOE

Statistical data reported at QASL and to relevant Board of Examiners