



The [Policy on Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes, and Courses](#) outlines the permissible and non-permissible variations between multi-location, multi-mode programmes. A set of criteria has been developed to guide the implementation of this policy by the School Studies Committees and the University Studies Committee in relation to Mandatory and Optional Courses.

 <p>MANDATORY COURSES</p>	<p>Mandatory courses must be provided across all versions. They:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Must have identical learning outcomes, core curriculum and credit structure • May vary in course content and in formative or summative assessments <p>A rationale for variations in content and assessment (formative, summative or overall weighting) of courses must be made to the School Studies Committee.</p>
 <p>OPTIONAL COURSES</p>	<p>Different optional courses may be offered for the purposes of local contextualisation or to allow individual students to customise their learning, provided that stage and programme learning outcomes remain identical across versions.</p> <p>Due to the restricted number of optional courses available, some might effectively become mandatory courses.</p>

Exceptions to the Policy

The University Studies Committee may consider exceptional cases for different mandatory courses.

Small Number of Different Mandatory Courses	Major Differences in Mandatory Courses (incl. different credit structure)
<p>Proposal must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure that programme learning outcomes remain identical across all variants ✓ Demonstrate that the proposed subject cannot be included as an option. ✓ Be based on the recognised research expertise of academic staff at a particular campus location ✓ Explain how risks will be mitigated, particularly if reliant on the expertise of a single staff member 	<p>This proposal is a major structural variation and must:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Ensure that programme learning outcomes, title and award are identical across all variants ✓ Provide a rationale for the requested variations (e.g. market demand; alignment with existing provision; operational clarity) ✓ Demonstrate that the programme will be subject to the same annual monitoring (including moderation and external examining) and periodic review as other variants ✓ Provide evidence that the proposed variations do not impact accreditation (PSRB, in-country) and/or satisfactorily meet accreditation requirements

Resources

- Read the full [Policy on Programme Titles, Learning Outcomes, and Courses](#) and the associated [Briefing Papers](#)
- See the [Programme Directors' Toolbox on the LTA Hub](#) for help with programme development, approval, and review processes

