



# Institiúid Teicneolaíochta Trá Lí

## Institute of Technology Tralee

### Validated Programme Minor Amendments External Reviewers EVALUATION REPORT

<b>Validated Award(s) Title(s)</b>	<b>Bachelor of Arts (Honours) in Social Care (Ab-initio)</b>				
<b>Relevant School</b>	<b>Business, Computing &amp; Humanities</b>		<b>Science, Technology, Engineering &amp; Mathematics</b>		<b>Health &amp; Social Sciences</b> X
<b>Date of Review</b>	<b>April 2016</b>				
<b>External Reviewers</b>	<b>Mr. Damien Courtney, Fellow Emeritus CIT, Former Head of Faculty of Business &amp; Humanities</b> <b>Ms. Allison Kenneally, Head of Department of Social Sciences, IT Carlow</b>				

<b>Proposers</b>	<b>Head of School:</b> Mr. Seamus O'Shea <b>Head of Department:</b> Ms. Aisling Sharkey <b>Programme Leader:</b> Ms. Lucy Crowe	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; text-align: center;"> OFFICE OF THE REGISTRAR   <b>22 APR 2016</b>   INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY, TRALEE </div>
<b>Internal QA Process</b>	<b>Date of Internal Approval by Institute Academic Council Planning sub-committee of proposed minor amendments:</b> Monday, 7 <sup>th</sup> December 2015	

<b>Section 1</b>	<b>FINDINGS OF ASSESSORS</b>
<b>Panel of Assessors Evaluation</b>	<p><b>Proposal Documentation Provided:</b> Yes – comprehensive documentation provided which included recently validated modules at Levels 7 and 8.</p> <p><b>Rationale for proposed amendment:</b> Specific rationale provided which is appropriate given the sectoral and national context.</p> <p><b>Impact of proposed amendments of Programme Validation:</b></p> <p><b>Award/Programme Type, Title and Level:</b> Appropriate programme title, award type and NFQ Level.</p> <p><b>Programme Coherence with Aims and Objectives:</b> Clearly articulated programme aims and objectives.</p> <p><b>Employment Opportunities:</b> Documented briefly but would benefit from further elaboration, with specific reference to job types, skills gaps, national plans or strategies.</p> <p><b>Entry Requirements/Access:</b> Standard Level 8 entry requirements provided for, along with RPL criteria and transfer options from Level 7.</p> <p><b>Progression/Transfer Opportunities:</b> We note that graduates from the Level 7 programme must have a 50% GPA in year 3 to progress to year 4 of the Honours Degree and would query the rationale for this. If a student is registered on the 4 year Honours Degree and gets a 40% GPA in year 3 he/she can progress to year 4, yet a student with a GPA of 48% from the Level 7 programme cannot progress. We would like the programme team to consider if this is equitable.</p> <p><b>Programme Structure and Content:</b> Programme structure and content are clearly articulated and fit for purpose, consisting of a reconfiguration of already validated Level 7 and 8 programmes.</p> <p><b>Programme Course Schedule:</b> This is clearly presented in the documentation.</p> <p><b>Programme Outcome Mapping to Modules Learning Outcomes:</b> All Programme Learning Outcomes have been articulated and mapped satisfactorily to the programme modules, and are appropriate to a Level 8 ab-initio programme.</p>

	<p><b>Coherence of Programme Themes:</b> Well-structured and detailed programme themes, which are developed as the programme progresses.</p> <p><b>Learning Experience:</b> Comprehensive, encompassing 2 mandatory placements, totaling 690 hours. However, CORU will require 800 hours of placement during the course of the programme.</p> <p><b>Learner Workload Including Assessment:</b> Assessment tasks are clearly identified, are appropriate and are clearly linked to the learning outcomes.</p> <p><b>Staff Expertise:</b> Noted that staff and their C.V.s are not documented as no new human resources are required.</p> <p><b>Embedded Standards/Awards:</b> The programme contains a Level 7 embedded award. This should be made clear on page 15 of the documentation.</p> <p><b>Review of New Modules:</b> Not applicable – all modules are already validated and approved.</p>
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<b>Section 2</b>	<b>CONDITIONS &amp; RECOMMENDATIONS</b>								
<b>Section 2.1:</b>	<p><b>For the attention of the Academic Council</b></p> <p>The Assessors recommend that the proposed amendments to the programme: -</p> <table border="0"> <tr> <td>Be approved without modification</td><td><input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Be approved subject to the conditions outlined below</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Requires resubmission with significant modifications</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> <tr> <td>Be rejected</td><td><input type="checkbox"/></td></tr> </table>	Be approved without modification	<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/>	Be approved subject to the conditions outlined below	<input type="checkbox"/>	Requires resubmission with significant modifications	<input type="checkbox"/>	Be rejected	<input type="checkbox"/>
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Be rejected	<input type="checkbox"/>								
<b>Section 2.2</b>	<p><b><u>Conditions</u></b> None</p>								

**Section 2.3****Recommendations**

Ensure bibliographies refer to the most up to date reading materials.

Update Work Placement Guidelines to refer to Level 8 Honours programme throughout and update modules referred to in the Guidelines to ensure alignment with new programme.

Consider the rationale for the requirement for Level 7 entrants to have a GPA of 50% for entry to year 4.

Provide further details on Employment Opportunities, with specific reference to job types, skills gaps, national plans or strategies.

Assessor 1 Signed: 

Date: 20/4/2016

Assessor 2 Signed: 

Date: 20/4/16