

PROGRAMME TEAM RESPONSE TO EXTERNAL EXAMINER REPORT 2016/17

Name of External Examiner:	Dr Stephen Jacobs		
Programme title(s):	MRes Cultural Astronomy and Astrology; MA Cultural Astronomy and Astrology		
School/Faculty/Partner Institution:	Sophia Centre/ FHPA		
Response prepared by:	Dr Nicholas Campion		
Date:	31 October 2017		
Good practice	Examples of good practice identified within report (please insert additional rows where needed)		
1	Assessment regime well thought out and will develop students academic and research skills		
2	Marking was consistent and appropriate; all staff take a great deal of time and effort in marking and comments		
3	Markers provided encouraging and positive feedback, and constructive criticism for poorer pieces of work.		
4	Students provided with pointers about what they did well, as well as areas for improvement.		
5	The passion and commitment of the teaching team results in engagement and passion about the subject even amongst weaker students.		
6	There is an impressive amount of learning support material on Moodle., including general overviews, elucidating major themes, and providing study skills.		
7	Online seminars are extremely well thought out.		
8	A great deal of hard work and thought has gone into producing the learning support and resources in Moodle; the level of support and resources for a distance learning programme is exemplary.		
9	Dissertation students conducted primary research and critically engaged with published literature, indicative of the formative preparation in the taught part of the programme.		
10	Dissertation markers give full detailed and constructive criticism, including advice on publication at the higher end.		
Issue raised	Issues identified for attention (please insert additional rows where needed)	Response	Person responsible and timescale

APPENDIX PV11c

1	It might be useful for students to see a more explicit list of marking criteria for each assessment	Documentation to be provided	Nick Campion, during Sem 1 2016-17
2	Consider using a marking grid in an informal way	Discussion to be held with marking team	Nick Campion, during Sem 1 2016-17
3	Check consistency across marking team for dissertations	Initial discussion with Dissertation module tutor, Dr Bernadette Brady	Nick Campion, during Sem 1 2016-17

This response may be used as the basis for the Faculty's formal written response to the External Examiner and must, in due course, be appended to the APR report for the programme (Appendix PV11a).