

## External Examiner's Report

Year: 2020-21

<b>Name of External Examiner</b>	Oliver Buckley
<b>Name of Course(s)</b>	FD Cyber Security
<b>Name of LCC Course Manager</b>	Martin Fell
<b>Date of Board Examiners</b>	2/9/21
<b>Date of Report</b>	13/9/21

### Introduction

External Examiners are required by the terms of their appointment to submit an annual report. The report will be considered in depth during course/ provision annual monitoring and review activity. A record of the departments' responses to examiners' reports also forms part of the documentation for this activity.

### External Examiner's report summary

Please indicate in the relevant boxes below whether you agree with the statements about the standards of Leeds City College's awards, the standards of student performance and the conduct of the College's assessment processes.

Please also list any shortcomings and areas for commendation. You should expand on any issues you mention here in the main report.

Standards set		
	Yes	No
"In my view, the standards set for the awards are appropriate."	x	
<i>If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.</i>		

Student performance			
	Yes	No	N/A *
	x		

"In my view, the standards of student performance are comparable with similar course(s) or subjects in other UK institutions with which I am familiar."

I have reviewed a sample of student work from the collaborative / franchise institution and in my view the standards of student performance are comparable with students studying the award(s) at Leeds Met

*\* Not applicable – if you are a practitioner and are not in a position to assess national standards please indicate here.*

*If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.*

### Conduct of processes

"In my view, the processes for assessment, examination and the determination of awards are sound and fairly conducted."

Yes

No

x

*If your answer is 'no', please provide a brief statement (bullet points) of the respect(s) in which they fall short.*

### Areas for commendation

Any particular strengths or distinctive or innovative features in relation to standards and assessment processes

**The standard of work is generally good throughout, with the assessments providing a varied challenge. They provide an interesting and varied challenge for the students, and is representative of the dynamic and multifaceted challenges presented by cyber security.**

**The feedback provided is very good and enables students to improve their practice going forwards.**

## Main report

*In this section you are asked to describe more fully how the College has or has not maintained academic standards and the quality of the student experience in relation to the course(s) for which you are the external examiner.*

*Please write a report (in addition to completing the Summary) in sections under all the following areas.*

- (a) The operation and conduct of the Board of Examiners (and any Mitigation Panel or Examination Committee meeting you may also have attended).

**The overall operation of the board of examiners has been very well organised, providing the required level of support and information. Proceedings have been handled efficiently and without any issues.**

(b) The action, if any was required, taken in response to your report of last year. (This will not be relevant if you are examining for the first time.)

**N/A**

(c) The overall performance of the students, in relation to that of comparable levels of work in other institutions.

**The samples of student work were of a good standard, and are easily comparable to other work in other institutions. Some of the work is of an excellent standard and shows some very good students.**

(d) The strengths and weaknesses of the students in general with respect to knowledge, conceptual grasp or application of skills.

**The students have shown a good understanding of both the theoretical and practical aspects of the subject, although it seems that the more technical, programming-centric tasks seem to be generally more successful.**

(e) The standards of the structure, organisation, design and marking of all examination papers and/or other forms of assessment.

**The assessments are well-designed and are logically structured. The types of assessments are varied and provide students with a well organised challenge. The mix of written and technical work offers a challenging and rewarding course.**

(f) The curriculum, teaching or resourcing of the programme(s) of study as indicated by the performance of the students in the assessment.

**The curriculum covers a range of diverse areas of a subject that is very broad and multidisciplinary in nature. The students are given chances to display a number of skills and a range of knowledge, indicating a relevant and well-planned curriculum.**

(g) Comments on the use of the VLE within the course(s) (if applicable)..

N/A

(h) Module content, consistency of modules and module assessment across the course and the achievement of learning outcomes.

**The level of assessment is comparable and consistent across the range of modules that I have seen. The challenge across the different subject areas (and different skillsets) is consistent throughout.**

(i) Areas of good practice you have identified – please expand on the key areas for commendation listed in the summary.

**The quality of the feedback is excellent and enables students to clearly see the areas where they have done well and those that need improvement.**

(j) The College welcomes external examiners' comments on its developing academic regulatory framework. Such comments may not have a direct bearing on standards set and achieved or the conduct of processes and so it may not be appropriate to include them elsewhere in this report or its summary. Please record any concerns or comments you may have here.

N/A

**External Examiners' Report Checklist**
**Please comment for all boxes**

<b>Course Materials</b>				
Did you receive?		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a.	Course Handbook(s)?	x		
b.	Academic Regulations including any Professional Statutory Body requirements where appropriate?	x		
c.	Module specifications (these may be in the Course Handbook)?	x		
d.	Assessment briefs/marketing criteria?	x		

<b>Draft examination papers</b>				
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a.	(i) Did you receive all the draft papers?			X
	(ii) If not, was this at your request?			x
b.	(i) Was the nature and level of the questions appropriate?			X
	(ii) If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			x
c.	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			x

<b>Draft assessment activities</b>				
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a.	(i) Did you receive all the draft assessment activities?	x		
	(ii) If not, was this at your request?			x
b.	(i) Was the nature and level of the assessment activities appropriate?	x		
	(ii) If not, were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			x
c.	Were suitable arrangements made to consider your comments?			x

<b>Student Work</b>				
		<b>Yes</b>	<b>No</b>	<b>N/A</b>
a.	Were you offered the opportunity to select your sample?		x	
a.	Was the full range of assessment activities made available for you to sample?	x		

b.	Was the method and general standard of marking and consistency satisfactory?	x		
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Examination Committee/Board of Examiners				
		Yes	No	N/A
a.	Were you able to attend the meetings?	x		
b.	Were the meetings conducted to your satisfaction?	x		
c.	Were you satisfied with the recommendations of the Examination Committee/Board of Examiners?	x		

**Signature**

O Buckley

**Date:**

13/9/21