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| **EVIDENCING KEY HN GUIDING CHARACTERISTICS** **(HIGHER NATIONAL COURSES ONLY)** |

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| **Document Owner:** Student Learning & Academic Registry**Version number: 1.1****Effective date:** September 2023 (Academic Year 2023-24)**Date of next review:** July 2024*This document is part of the University Quality Framework, which governs the University’s academic provision.*  |

**INTRODUCTION**

Higher Nationals (HNs) qualifications, offered at the University under licence from Pearson must follow the Pearson Higher National academic regulations. The academic regulations incorporate key guiding characteristics in the design of HN’s.

When submitting course approval applications to Pearsons, the University must evidence how the academic regulations are met.

**When to use this form**:

This form should be completed for the Approval and Periodic Review of new or existing HNs.

The form signifies the appropriate Teesside University document which evidences where the HN academic regulation has been met.

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| **Course Title:** |  |
| **Predicted learner numbers for the first year** |  |

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| **Academic Regulations Higher National Qualifications Under Licence** |
| **1. Level and Credit Requirements for the Awards**  |
|  | **Reference the TU document where these criteria can be evidenced**. |
| 1.1 Higher National (HN) qualifications will be available at level 4 and level 5 are mapped to the QAA Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ) in England, Wales, and Northern Ireland. | Validation report Course specification  |
| 1.1.1 Level 4 will be called a Higher National Certificate. | Course specification  |
| 1.1.2 Level 4 and 5 will be called a Higher National Diploma. | Course specification  |
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| 1.2 Higher National Diplomas (“HNDs”) HNDs will comprise two stages of 120 credits each: |  |
| 1.2.1 Stage 1 will comprise units at level 4. | Course specification  |
| 1.2.2 Stage 2 will comprise units at level 5. | Course specification  |
| 1.3 Higher National Certificate (“HNCs”) HNCs will comprise one stage of 120 credits at level 4. | Course specification  |
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| **2. Key Guiding Characteristics**  |
| 2.1 Higher National qualifications will have Total Qualification Time (TQT) and Guided Learning (GL) totals as follows: | Course specification Module specifications  |
| 2.1.1 an HND will be worth 2400 hours of TQT and 960 hours of GL. |  |
| 2.1.2 an HNC will be worth 1200 hours of TQT and 480 hours of GL. |  |
| 2.2 Core/compulsory modules credit values may vary by subject but will not be less than 30% of the whole qualification.  | Course specifications Module specifications  |
| 2.3 All Higher Nationals share the following guiding characteristics:  | Validation report Course specification  |
| 2.3.1 Include significant employer/industry involvement in their development and design. |  |
| 2.3.2 Demonstrate access from level 3. |  Course specification  |
| 2.3.3 Demonstrate that graduates at each level of the HN have the requisite skills and abilities to progress to the next level of study should they so choose. This includes ensuring that HND graduates can progress to level 6.  |  Course specification  |
| 2.3.4 Include mandatory work skills development through work experience and/or realistic work-related learning. | Validation report Course specification  |
| 2.3.5 Evidence of development and assessment of students’ knowledge and skills in: | Assessment methods in module specifications Course handbook  |
| 2.3.5.1 Communication, including written English, or relevant other language. |  |
| 2.3.5.2 Numeracy.  |  |
| 2.3.5.3 Enterprise and commercial awareness.  |  |
| 2.3.5.4 Problem solving.  |  |
| 2.3.5.5 Self-reflection and critical appraisal. |  |