Part 1: Context

Section 1: Introduction

1.1 This handbook contains all of the academic regulations for taught courses leading to awards of the University of Westminster delivered on the University's campuses and through distance learning and collaborative provision. These are set out in Parts 1 to 6 of this handbook.

1.2 The regulations and processes, which govern research degrees, are set out in the Research Degree Regulations and Code of Practice for Research Degree Programmes handbooks.

1.3 The following documents also contain valuable information.

- Essential Westminster
- Quality Assurance and Enhancement Handbook
- Student Charter
- Student Code of Conduct
- Student Representation Handbook
- University Calendar
- Collaborations Handbook

Copies of all these publications are available online.

1.4 It is a student's responsibility to ensure they have read and are familiar with the University regulations.

Note: These regulations are not published in Essential Westminster and students and staff should refer to the Handbook of Academic Regulations online at www.westminster.ac.uk/academic-regulations. If a student or member of staff has any queries regarding the regulations, they should contact the Academic Registrar's Department.

1.5 In the UK the Quality Assurance Agency (QAA) has developed the Quality Code which provides a definitive reference point for all those involved in delivering higher education which leads to an award from, or is validated by a UK higher education provider. It makes clear what institutions are required to do, what they can expect of each other, and what the general public can expect of all higher education providers. These expectations express matters of key principle that have been identified as important for the assurance of quality and academic standards and are reflected within the University of Westminster Handbook of Academic Regulations.

1.6 The University of Westminster academic regulations govern all taught courses of more than four weeks' full-time or 60 hours part-time duration and all courses that lead to a validated named award of the University or of an external validating agency.

1.7 The University requires that all taught courses be delivered wholly in accordance with the curriculum and award-specific regulations approved in the definitive course handbook by a University Validation Panel or Review Panel on behalf of Academic Council, taking account of any modifications that have been approved by the processes described in the Quality and Assurance and Enhancement Handbook.

1.8 The Teaching Committee is a sub-committee of Academic Council, with the authority to consider issues relating to academic quality, standards and regulations. A report of each meeting is submitted formally to Academic Council.

1.9 The academic regulations are reviewed by the Teaching Committee, which reports to Academic Council. All changes to the academic regulations are subject to approval by Academic Council.

1.10 In case of dispute about the interpretation of these regulations, the decision of the Academic Registrar shall be final.