



Recognition Scheme for Educational Oversight: desk-based analysis of NYU in London, March 2022

Outcome of the desk-based analysis

1 From the annual return and documentary evidence, the monitoring team concludes that NYU in London (NYUL) is continuing to maintain academic standards and the quality of student learning opportunities since the [March 2021 Higher Education Review \(Foreign Providers\)](#).

Changes since the last QAA review

2 NYUL currently has 15 students on the one-year MA Historical and Sustainable Architecture. This is an increase of four students from 2019-20. There are 88 first-year students from the Stern and the Liberal Studies First Year London (FYLO) programmes. A further 11 upper class students will be studying for the full year. 164 students were enrolled in the fall of 2021 and 222 in spring 2022. Student enrolments for the academic year 2021-22 total 500, which is lower than pre-pandemic levels (827 during 2019-20).

3 During the pandemic, NYUL operated a 'Go Local' programme which enabled a small number of students to study closer to home. As NYUL hopes to return to pre-covid numbers by fall 2022, the 'Go Local' programme has been discontinued.

4 NYUL has three full-time members of staff who are currently teaching and one part-time instructor on a fixed-term contract who teaches and gives pastoral support for the FYLO programme. In addition, for spring term 2022, there are 62 part-time instructors on a four-month fixed-term contract. The number of fixed contract instructors varies each semester depending on teaching requirements.

Findings from the single Higher Education Review (Foreign Providers) of 2021. NYUL has put in place a detailed action plan to address the findings made in the HEP of March 2021, and these are discussed in more detail in the following paragraphs.

EUSA for internship support, has been renewed until spring 2022 and will continue to be renewed on an annual basis. NYUL has decided to end the partnership with SOAS in view of low student numbers and the non-synchronous nature of the two courses offered by SOAS and student term dates at NYUL. The contract with Senate House Library was extended for one year in June 2021 and will be reviewed in spring 2022. Arrangements with RADA and NFTS, suspended during the pandemic, have been reinstated and both now have fully signed agreements. UCL has indicated that NYUL can no longer use its chemistry laboratories as the University has a large number of students who require access to catch up with the practical work they missed during the pandemic. NYUL is actively looking for alternative accommodation for the academic year 2022-23. An inventory assessment has been undertaken to facilitate a move to new premises. NYUL will not be running the Physics laboratory courses this academic year because the specialist instructor required is not available. However, NYUL remains in contact with Birbeck about future use of their physics laboratories.

7 The advisable recommendation in respect of the receipt of helpful and timely feedback following assessment is being addressed through the return of at least one piece of summative assessment by week 7 and the uploading of an indicative grade, by the tutor at the mid-term point. Examples of mid-term grades and the identification of 'missing grades' were submitted as additional evidence by NYUL. Mid-term surveys for two modules indicate that some first-year students in the early part of their studies do not fully understand how grades are constructed. The mid-term surveys are intended to identify any issues early on so that they can be addressed. The four pieces of assessed work examined by the review team provide examples of detailed feedback from the tutor in the form of 'in text' comments. Further examples of email feedback indicated effective interaction between the students and the tutors. Students are able to book appointments to discuss their grades with the tutors. The Assistant Director of Academics oversees newly-appointed staff to ensure they are engaging with students and providing suitable feedback.

8 NYUL has indicated that the 'Go Local' programme was implemented as a temporary measure during the pandemic in response to students' inability to travel. It has now been discontinued, and therefore there is no need for further explanation of its purpose, as recommended in the HER(FP) March 2021 report.

9 The Action Plan provides commentary on the area of good practice identified by the Review, namely

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students are now attending NYUL i

Progress in working with the external reference points to meet UK expectations for higher education

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