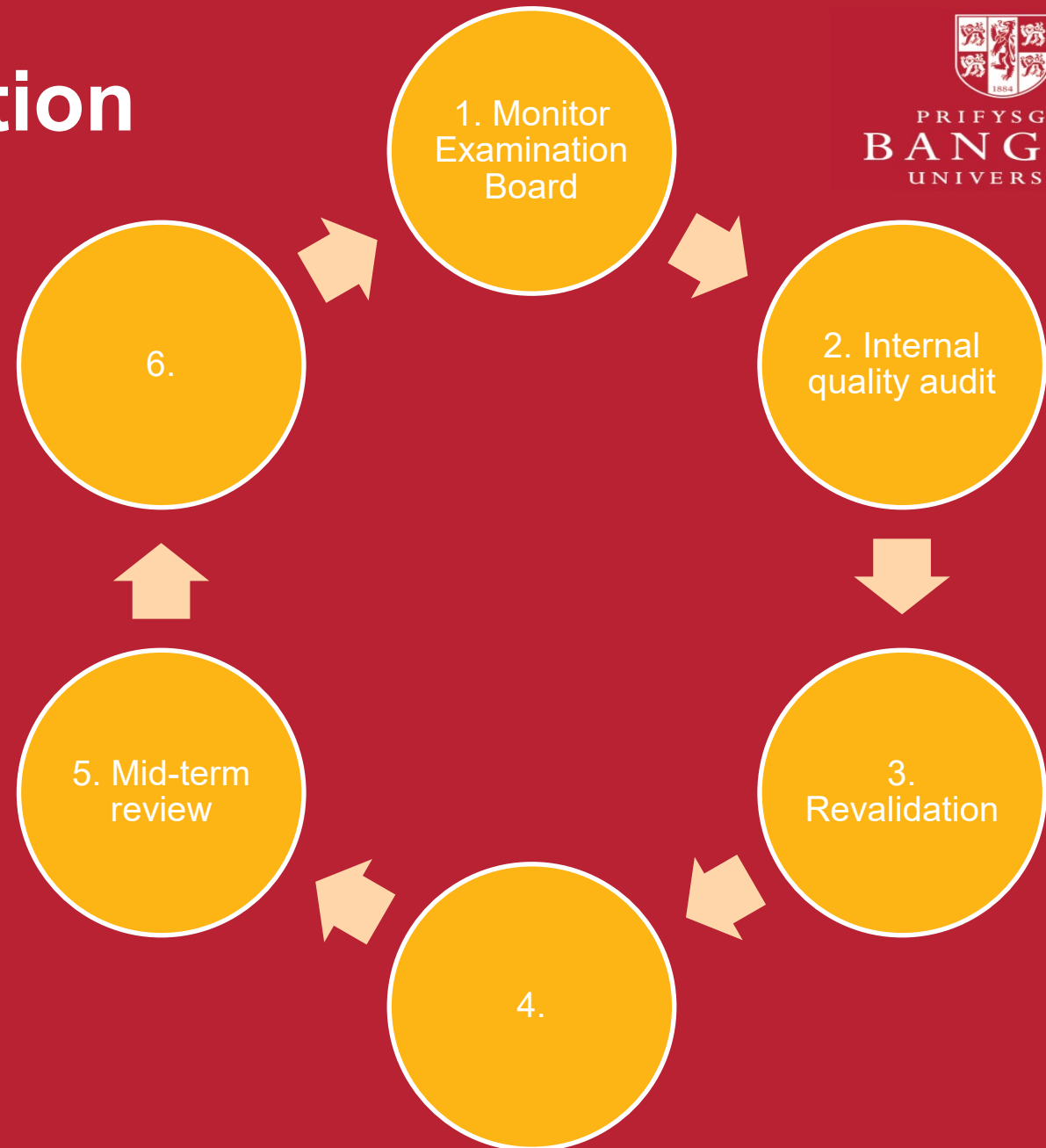


Programme Revalidation



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY

The Quality Audit cycle



Revalidation

- Ensures programmes are up-to-date and ‘fit-for-purpose’
- Ensures programmes are aligned with ‘subject benchmark statements’ and best practice in the sector
- ‘Captures’ programme details for central records, and for use in Key Information Sets etc
- May involve ‘accreditation’ by a professional body
- Supports the School in its long-term development

Subject Benchmark Statements

- Subject benchmark statements set out expectations about standards of degrees in a range of subject areas. They describe what gives a discipline its coherence and identity, and define what can be expected of a graduate in terms of the abilities and skills needed to develop understanding or competence in the subject.
- Developed by panels of experts in different subjects
- Available for most subjects at undergraduate level and some at Masters level
- Published by the QAA
<http://www.qaa.ac.uk/assuring-standards-and-quality/the-quality-code/subject-benchmark-statements>

The Revalidation Panel

- Head of Quality Enhancement Unit (or nominee chosen from the Validation Pool)
- Two representatives from the Validation Pool (who must not be from the presenting School)
- An External Subject Specialist.
- Professional or employer representative, where appropriate
- Quality Assurance Officer (panel secretary)
- Student reviewer

The Role of the Student Reviewer



- To contribute to the review process
- Not expected to be a subject specialist
- To view the programme from a student's perspective

Documentation

1. The self-evaluation document from the recent Internal Quality Audit
- 2. Programme specifications for each programme**
3. Copies of recent annual programme review (QA1) forms
4. Copies of recent External Examiners reports
5. Copy of the most recent Internal Quality Audit applicable to the programmes
6. Copies of course handbooks
- 7. Copies of all module outlines associated with the programmes to be revalidated**

The revalidation process tends to focus on 2 and 7

The Revalidation Event

- The revalidation panel plus representatives from the submitting School
- Introductions, led by the Chair
- An overview of the programmes by the lead representative from the School
- Initial comments from the External Subject Specialist and panel members
- Discussion of programme specifications
- Discussion of modules

Academic Programmes

- Undergraduate programmes (BA, BSc, BMus, BEng etc)
120 credits each year x 3 years
- Extended undergraduate programmes (MChem, MEng, MSci, MArts)
120 credits each year x 4 years
- Masters programmes
MA, MSc, MBA, MMus: 120 taught credits & 60 credit dissertation
MRes: 60 taught credits & 120 credit dissertation

Students study 60 credits each semester

Programme Specifications

- Definitive programme document
- Title, award and intermediate exit awards
- Aims and outcomes of the programme
- Information on how it is taught and assessed
- Information on programme content – list of modules for each year

What should you focus on?

- Evidence of academic ‘progression’ – from foundation to more advanced topics
- Variety of teaching methods – seminars, lectures, practical or fieldwork, work placement?
- Variety of assessment methods
- Clarity of information from a student’s perspective
- Opportunities for students to develop and demonstrate skills