

Acronyms

The following is a non-exhaustive definition of the acronyms and terms regular used in Higher Education, or in specific relation to provision, regulations or procedures at Imperial College London. It will be updated by the Quality Assurance (QA) team in the Registry as necessary. If you have any questions, queries or suggestions please contact external.examiner@imperial.ac.uk in the first instance. Terms in **blue** relate to Imperial College only.

TERM	Definition/Explanation
Advance HE	Single sector agency formed in 2018 from the Higher Education Academy (HEA), Equality Challenge Unit (ECU), and the Leadership Foundation for Higher Education (LFHE)
ALDinHE	Association for Learning Development in Higher Education
AoC	Association of Colleges. Representative body for colleges in the UK
AMP	Academic Model Project
AP	Alternative Provider. A provider of HE that does not receive direct public funding (through HEFCE etc, or from other means) and is not an FE college
ARC	Academic Registrars Council
AUA	Association of University Administrators
BEIS	Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy (2016 -). Responsible for research funding until the creation of UKRI (April 2018).
BIS	Department for Business, Innovation and Skills (2009 – 2016)
BME	Black and Minority Ethnic
BPES	Business for Professional Engineers and Scientists
CAS	Confirmation of Acceptance for Studies
CATS	Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme (UK)
CfAE	Centre for Academic English
CHERS	Centre for Higher Education Research and Scholarship (formerly EDU)
CLCC	Centre for Languages, Culture and Communication
CMA	Competition & Markets Authority
CPD (CPPD)	Continuing (Personal and) Professional Development
DfE (UK)	Department for Education. Responsible for HE from 2016.
DfE (Northern Ireland)	Department for the Economy (responsible for Higher Education funding in Northern Ireland)
DLHE	Destinations of Leavers from Higher Education survey
DPS	Director of Postgraduate Studies
DUGS	Director of Undergraduate Studies
EAT	Employment Appeal Tribunal
ECTS	European Credit Transfer and Accumulation System
EDU	Educational Development Unit (renamed in 2018 to CHERS)

TERM	Definition/Explanation
EE (or Ex Ex)	External Examiner
EHEA	European Higher Education Area
ENOHE	European Network of Ombudsmen in Higher Education
ENQA	European Association for Quality Assurance in Higher Education
EQAR	European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education
ESA	European Students' Union
ESG	European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance
EUA	European University Association
EURASHE	European Association of Institutions in Higher Education
FE	Further Education
FEC	Faculty Education Committee
FHEQ	Framework for Higher Education Qualifications. Published by the QAA
FoE	Faculty of Engineering
FoM	Faculty of Medicine
FoNS	Faculty of Natural Science
GPF	Good Practice Framework for handling complaints and academic appeals (OIA, 2015)
GuildHE	Formal representative body for UK HE
HEA	Higher Education Academy
HEDIP	Higher Education Data & Information Improvement Programme
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England
HEFCW	Higher Education Funding Council for Wales
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HEP	Higher Education Provider
HER	Higher Education Review
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency
HEU	Home/EU student
HoD	Head of Department
INQAAHE	International Network for Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education
ICBS	Imperial College Business School
IDX	Inter-Departmental Exchange Scheme
JACS	Joint Academic Coding System
LTC	Learning and Teaching Committee
MAP	Mitigation Advisory Board. Reviews claims for mitigation and advises Board of Examiners.
Mit Circs	Mitigating Circumstances
Million+	HEI mission group

TERM	Definition/Explanation
NSS	National Student Survey
OfS	Office for Students
OLIG	Online Learning Innovation Group
OIA	Office of the Independent Adjudicator for Higher Education
PBS	Points Based Immigration System
PC	Programmes Committee
PRQC	Postgraduate Research Quality Committee
PRES	Postgraduate Research Experience Survey
PTES	Postgraduate Taught Experience Survey
QA	Quality Assurance
QAA	Quality Assurance Agency
QACHE	Quality Assurance of Cross-Border Higher Education
QAEC	Quality Assurance & Enhancement Committee
QARSG	Quality Assessment Review Steering Group
QE	Quality Enhancement
QSN	Quality Strategy Network
REF	Research Excellence Framework
Russell Group	A mission group of research intensive UK universities
SBS	Subject Benchmark Statements, published by the QAA
SFC	Scottish Funding Council
SIMP	Student Information Management Project
SMS	Sponsorship Management System
SOLE	Student On-Line Evaluation system (lecturer/module survey)
TEF	Teaching Excellence Framework
UKRI	UK Research & Innovation (2018 -). Overarching body incorporating: Arts and Humanities Research Council (AHRC), Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC), Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC), Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC), Innovate UK, Medical Research Council (MRC), Natural Environment Research Council (NERC), Research England, and Science and Technology Facilities Council (STFC)
UKVI	UK Visas and Immigration
University Alliance	HE mission group
UUK	Universities UK , formal representative body for UK HE
VPAGE	Vice Provost's Advisory Group (Education)
VLE	Virtual Learning Environment, such as Blackboard™ or Moodle™