DEPARTMENT/TEACHING UNIT: SPAH

UNDERGRADUATE  √  POSTGRADUATE  (tick as applicable)

1. **Method(s) of Assessment**
   
   A uniform, School-wide questionnaire was employed which was designed, with student input, so that the completed questionnaires could be scanned centrally.

2. **Outcomes of the Process**
   
   Overall the scores indicate a high level of student satisfaction with SPAH UG modules. In Philosophy UG modules, the overall mean score was 4.3, slightly down from the previous year’s result of 4.4. In Art History the overall mean in UG modules was also 4.3, which equalled the previous year’s results. In CISH modules, the mean was an impressive 4.5. Looking across all modules in the School, 50% were rated at 4.5 or above.

   Particularly worthy of note is the rating of AR206 (Drs Michaela Giebelhausen and Natasha Ruiz-Gomez Art History module) as 5.0 across the board.

   In Philosophy, only one module scored a mean rating below 4.0: PY431 (Ancient Philosophy). This was a new experiment for us, combining what had been two 15-unit modules into a year-long module. Looking more closely at the results, however, it seems clear that one factor in the poor mean result pertained to untimely return of course work; Question 6 (which pertains to this matter) on PY431 was by far and away the lowest single score in all SPAH SAMTs. The member of staff is aware of this matter, and has taken step to correct it (Action 1). There seem also to have been some difficulties among some students in the module in understanding the lectures, which may have been pitched too high. This year some changes have been made to the curriculum, and some new reading added. We will want to monitor the results of these strategic adjustments (Action 2).

   In Art History, the only module that scored lower than 4.0 was AR201. This was a one-off exceptional circumstance in which the member of staff (who has now left the University) was on medical leave for a portion of the term. No action is required.

   In CISH, CS102 received a surprisingly low rating. The matter has been referred to the CISH Director, who will monitor student satisfaction in the current academic year and recommend any changes (Action 3).

3. **Action**

   *Action 1:* Specifically monitor the return of coursework on PY431 (Jan Butler)
   *Action 2:* Include PY431 in the 13/14 SAMT survey (Dawn Mott)
   *Action 3:* Include CS102 in the 13/14 SAMT survey (Dawn Mott)

4. **General Comments**

   *None.*

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Head of Department’s Signature:  Wayne Martin  Date:  11.11.2013
(Signed copy on file)
1. Method(s) of Assessment

A uniform, Department-wide questionnaire was employed which was designed, with student input, so that the completed questionnaires could be scanned centrally.

2. Outcomes of the Process

Overall the scores indicate a high level of student satisfaction with SPAH modules. The mean in Philosophy PGT modules was 4.7, a notable rise over the 4.4 in each of the two preceding years. Art History PGT modules also received consistently high ratings, with a mean of 4.6 (as opposed to 4.3 in the previous year).

One result particularly worth noting is the rating of our new module in Critical Theory: PY948. This was offered by a new member of staff, Dr Jörg Schaub, and received a SAMT rating of 4.9. In the current academic year, this module is now also attracting enrolment and participation from students in other academic departments. This bodes well for our strategic investment (both at the research and curricular level) in critical theory.

Also worthy of note is the rating of AR933 (Dr Natasha Ruiz-Gomez’s PGT Art History module) as 5.0 across the board.

3. Action

None Required.

4. General Comments

None.

Head of Department’s Signature: Wayne Martin
Date: 11.11.2013
(Signed copy on file)