

REGULATIONS AND CODE OF PRACTICE  
FOR EDUCATIONAL COLLABORATIVE ARRANGEMENTS

**ANNEX 1**  
**GLOSSARY OF TERMS**

**Notes**

***Categories of Educational Collaborative Arrangement***

This Glossary includes definitions of different types of educational collaborative arrangement for general information. (These types may or may not be undertaken at the University of Bristol).

The *Partnerships Register* lists the educational collaborative arrangements that are currently active at the University of Bristol, categorised by type. (Some arrangements may fall under more than one category).

Reference should be made to the *Policy Framework for Educational Collaborative Arrangements* ([www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/edpart/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/edpart/)) for further information as to the types of educational collaborative arrangement endorsed by the University of Bristol.

***Arrangements excluded from the scope of the Regulations and Code***

Educational collaborative arrangements falling within the scope of the Regulations and Code are defined as arrangements where the achievement of the learning outcomes for a unit / programme is dependent on the collaboration. The following types of activity therefore fall outside of scope:

- Voluntary placements or work experience organised by the student
- Visiting students (i.e. those not studying for credit or on a student exchange arrangement)
- Sponsorship only agreements
- Visiting academics
- Research only partnerships
- Relationships with e.g. industry (such as Advisory Boards) that do not involve student-related activity.

## Glossary

### Articulation Arrangement

A formal agreement between partner organisations whereby students satisfying the academic criteria on a programme delivered by one provider are guaranteed admission with advanced standing to a programme delivered by a second provider (the degree-awarding body) resulting in a single award.

### Clinical Academies

This is currently a Bristol-specific model of partnership between the University and local healthcare providers to share their expertise in healthcare provision, research and innovation across the NHS, thus providing undergraduate medical students with the best possible experience. The model allows for teaching at campuses for medical education both in Bristol and elsewhere in the region. Currently the curriculum is delivered in every clinical academy by recruited doctors and hospital specialists, led by an academy medical dean.

### Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs)

These are Centres providing training for cohorts of research students within focused research areas, often defined strategically by the Research Council funder(s). Centres can be focused on academic or industrially-relevant research topics, or both. CDTs may be awarded to either individual institutions or to consortia. Only the latter constitutes an educational collaborative arrangement.

*See also – Doctoral Training Partnerships*

### Collaboration Agreement

Formerly referred to as an ‘Institutional Agreement’. This is a formal, legally binding document which sets out the nature and duration of an educational collaborative arrangement and the respective roles and obligations of all the collaborative partners. It is signed by authorised representatives of all parties.

### Collaborative PhD

*See: Joint/External Supervision, Split Site PhDs.*

### Co-Tutelle

Co-tutelle relates to joint doctoral supervision at two institutions that are usually based in different countries. This leads to a dual award (a separate award from each institution, with an acknowledgement of the co-tutelle arrangement in both degree certificates).

*See also - Joint/External Supervision, Dual Doctoral Awards.*

### Delivery/Service Provision

An arrangement whereby a partner organisation (whether academic or non-academic) is involved in the provision of teaching and/or assessment and/or facilities and/or resources integral to one or more units of the university programme of study. For example, the partner organisation may deliver specialist didactic or practical scheduled teaching and provide accompanying resources (e.g. equipment).

Some examples of delivery/service provision at UoB are: (i) BVSc (Veterinary Science) – College provides access to facilities and delivers teaching for some Year 1 practical classes; (ii) Professional Studies units taught on various UG Engineering programmes – students are required to have an industrial mentor and some lectures are delivered by company staff; (iii) MA History of Art –

National gallery provides access to artworks and other objects from its collection, which students use to produce research and interpretation materials as one of the unit outcomes.

### Distance Learning

Educational provision which is delivered and/or supported and/or assessed by means which generally do not require the student to attend the institution. Distance learning provision might involve a collaborative arrangement, for example where a partner institution provides learning support. See: [www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/assessment/annex/distancelearning.html](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/assessment/annex/distancelearning.html)

### Doctoral Training Partnerships (DTPs)

These provide training for cohorts of research students across a broad range of subjects as determined by the research institution(s). 'Partnership' here refers to that between the research institution(s) and the Research Council funder(s). DTPs, like CDTs, can therefore also involve either individual institutions or consortia of institutions, although DTPs are most commonly awarded to consortia. Only DTPs involving consortia constitute an educational collaborative arrangement.

*See also – Centres for Doctoral Training*

### Dual Doctoral Award

A dual doctoral award is one which leads to **separate awards** from two partner institutions involved in a jointly delivered research degree programme. Each award certificate will refer to the jointly delivered programme.

The University permits dual doctoral awards. Please see the University *Policy on Joint and Dual Doctoral Awards* ([www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/edpart/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/edpart/)).

### Due Diligence

Enquiries that relate to the governance, status, reputation and general suitability of a potential organisation or support provider to satisfy the requirements of institutions that partners are able to deliver the appropriate learning opportunities and support. Due diligence should cover strategic, academic, financial and legal issues. Due diligence enquiries are made prior to the approval of a new collaborative partnership, and again prior to any prospective renewal.

### 'Flying Faculty'

Arrangements where a programme is delivered in a location away from the University, usually overseas, but is still taught and assessed by University staff. Local support and administration may be provided by non-University staff at the delivery location. (The EdD in Hong Kong is an example at UoB).

### Franchise Arrangement

An arrangement whereby a degree-awarding body authorises a partner organisation to deliver (and sometimes assess) part or all of one or more of its own programmes. The degree-awarding body will often still hold direct responsibility for quality assurance, curriculum content, and the teaching and assessment strategy. Students normally have a direct contractual relationship with the degree-awarding body.

### Joint Award

A joint award is one which leads to a **single award** for a programme which is jointly offered by the partner institutions. The single award certificate will be endorsed by all partners. (The MSc Robotics with UWE is an example of a joint taught award at UoB).

*See also – Jointly Delivered Programme.*

The University permits joint taught and doctoral awards. For joint doctoral awards, please see the University *Policy on Joint and Dual Doctoral Awards* ([www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/edpart/](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/edpart/)).

### **Jointly Delivered Programme**

This refers to a programme which is delivered in collaboration with partner institution(s) - which may be academic or non-academic institutions - under a *Collaboration Agreement*; as distinct from the nature of the award (single, joint/dual, multiple etc). (An example at UoB is the MSc Applied/Clinical Neuropsychology delivered with North Bristol NHS Trust). 'Jointly delivered programme' here refers to the relationship with external partner institution(s), rather than to a joint honours programme / a programme jointly delivered with another Faculty internal to the institution. *See also – Collaboration Agreement, Joint Award.*

### **Joint/External Supervision**

*Collaborative PhD* arrangements for joint supervision of research degrees involving supervisors from two different organisations. This may be applicable either to individuals or to cohorts of students. The partner organisation may be another academic institution or an industrial organisation. *See also – Split Site PhDs; Co-tutelles.*

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

This is a document that should not establish a legally binding relationship (although whether it in fact does so or not depends on the actual wording used in the document rather than the designation 'MoU'). The MoU sets out the intentions of the collaborating partners with respect to promoting positive discussion and co-operation, which facilitates and provides a framework within which educational collaborative activity might be developed.

### **MOOCs**

Massive Open Online Courses. These courses are delivered entirely online aimed at unlimited participation via the web, and via institutions or organisations, such as FutureLearn. NB: While the University of Bristol offers MOOCs, these do not currently fall under the framework of the Code given that they do not currently form part of credit-bearing units/programmes.

### **Multiple Award**

Arrangements whereby three or more degree-awarding bodies together provide a single jointly delivered programme (or programmes) leading to a separate award (and separate certification) of each awarding body.

### **Operating Agreement**

A document drawn up *in addition to* the main written agreement that underpins the collaborative arrangement. The purpose of the Operating Agreement is to set out in greater detail the operational aspects of delivery in terms of management and administrative processes. This is to be reviewed and updated annually during the lifetime of the main agreement.

### **Placement/Work Based Learning**

Any placement or workplace learning opportunity, taking place outside the higher education institution, which forms part of the student's programme of study and contributes to achievement of the relevant learning outcomes. This includes placements in industry, PGCE placements in schools, social work placements and experience necessary for qualifications in the medical, dental and veterinary professions (such as electives and extra mural studies).

**Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies (PSRBs)**

Organisations that set the standards for and regulate the entry into particular professions. They are authorised to accredit, approve or recognise programmes leading to professional qualifications for which they may have a statutory or regulatory responsibility.

**Serial Arrangement**

*See – Sub-Contracting Arrangement*

**Split Site PhDs**

These are forms of *Collaborative PhD* partnership in which a student spends time at both their 'home' institution and another organisation as part of their doctoral research studies. They receive supervision and make use of facilities (e.g. IT, library, pastoral care and other student support services) at both partners; the student is registered at, and the first supervisor is based at, the home institution.

*See also – Joint/External Supervision*

**Student Exchanges**

*See – Study Abroad*

**Study Abroad**

A programme of study may involve a year spent in formal study abroad, for the award of credit, as an integral requisite of the programme (as reflected in the programme title); or a teaching block period may be spent in formal study abroad (not as an integral part of the programme, but for the award of credit, in lieu of units the student would normally have taken at their home institution). The term 'study abroad' includes student exchange arrangements / mobility programmes such as ERASMUS. A student exchange programme allows students to study abroad at a designated partner institution under a reciprocal arrangement with that institution. Exchange students are enrolled as non-degree students at the host institution. Their home institution determines whether any units of study completed at the host institution will be credited to them, contributing towards their programme of study at the home institution.

*See also - the relevant section of the Regulations and Code of Practice for Taught*

*Programmes: [www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/assessment/codeonline.html#studyabroad](http://www.bristol.ac.uk/academic-quality/assessment/codeonline.html#studyabroad)*

**Study in Industry**

*See – Placement/Work Based Learning*

**Sub-Contracting Arrangement**

A collaborative agreement is formed with a partner organisation, which itself then sub-contracts some or all of the delivery to a third party, thereby assigning powers which were delegated to it by the degree-awarding body to the third party.

NB: This is not normally permitted at Bristol and requires exceptional approval.

*Also known as - Serial Arrangement.*

**Transnational Education (TNE)**

This covers education and learning opportunities that are provided in more than one country, typically where higher education provision of a UK degree-awarding body is delivered in a country outside the UK and often by delivery organisations other than the degree-awarding body.

### **Validation Arrangement**

An arrangement in which a unit or programme developed and delivered by another organisation (including staffing and resources/facilities) has been evaluated and deemed by the University to be of an equivalent standard and quality to that of its own provision, and therefore suitable to lead to one of its own awards. *Students normally have a direct contractual relationship with the delivery organisation.*

### **Visiting Student**

A student who is not studying for credit and is not administered by the International Office, i.e. is not on an exchange or study abroad arrangement. The student may or may not be registered at an HE institution elsewhere but is not seeking to gain credit or undergo formal assessment. No credit can be awarded. These students are not returned to external agencies, including HESA and HEFCE.