



PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION
SEPTEMBER 2017

BA (HONS)

ANIMATION PRODUCTION

PROGRAMME SPECIFICATION

The Programme Specification provides a summary of the main features of the **BA (Hons) Animation Production** course, and the learning outcomes that a 'typical' student might reasonably be expected to achieve and demonstrate if he/she passes the course.

Further detailed information on the learning outcomes, content and teaching and learning methods of each unit may be found within this Handbook and the online Unit Information, which is available on your course blog.

<u>Key Course Information</u>	
Final Award	BA (Hons)
Course Title	Animation Production
Award Titles	BA (Hons) Animation Production BA (Hons) Animation Production (2D Animation) BA (Hons) Animation Production (CG Animation) BA (Hons) Animation Production (Stop Motion Animation) BA (Hons) Animation Production (Visual Development for Animation)
Teaching institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Awarding Institution	Arts University Bournemouth
Offered in the Faculty of: <i>Contact details:</i> Telephone number Email	Media and Performance 01202 363138 fomp@aub.ac.uk
Professional accreditation	Creative Skillset
Length of course / mode of study	3 Years full-time
Level of final award (in FHEQ)	Level 6
Subject benchmark statements	Art and Design Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies
UCAS code	W615
Language of study	English
External Examiner for course:	Andy Joule Falmouth University <i>Please note that it is not appropriate for students to contact external examiners directly</i>
Date of Validation	June 2004
Date of most recent review	2014
Date programme specification written/revised	Revised September 2014

Course Philosophy

Your course provides you with the opportunity to excel as a creative and critical practitioner in the exciting field of Animation Production. The underlying philosophy of the course is to create a strong collaborative community of animators, working together on productions in a studio environment. We primarily value and encourage the fundamental principles of drawing for animation, and enable you to identify your role in the overall animation process. We equip you with specialist technical skills – for example, in CG and stop motion – and offer opportunities for you to develop your practice in a range of contexts – on industry placements, exchanges with other universities, or working in the demanding studio environment at AUB.

The course also connects the practice of animation to its critical and theoretical contexts. By contextualising animation through theoretical debate, we enable you to understand the conceptual foundations underpinning your own work. We emphasise the importance of independent study, research and analysis to extend your creative abilities and inform critical reflection upon your work and that of others. The range of skills and knowledge that you develop whilst on the course give you the ability to pursue a successful career in animation production and related creative industries, or progress to postgraduate study.

We believe that in order to succeed in the competitive world of animation production you require a high level of production skills and practical knowledge, a strong sense of professional responsibility and a keen eye for the critical and theoretical contexts in which you will work. To this end, we develop highly skilled and socially aware practitioners who are able to respond to the changing nature of the industry at local, national and international levels.

Course Aims

The course aims to:

1. Develop your knowledge and understanding of animation as a collaborative production process, and the place of specialist roles (such as animator, layout artist, character designer) within this
2. Provide opportunities for practical specialisation (in 2D, CG, stop motion and Visual Development for Animation) within a production-based context, in order to enhance your career opportunities or for post-graduate study
3. Develop your knowledge and critical understanding of the relationship between the practice, theory and history of animation
4. Develop your research skills and enhance your analytical, intellectual and aesthetic awareness
5. Develop your professional competence and understanding, and promote management abilities within a team framework
6. Provide opportunities for self-directed learning and critical self-evaluation

7. Develop your skills as a socially aware practitioner who is able to respond to the changing nature of the industry at local, national and international levels

Course Outcomes

By the end of the course you will be able to:

1. Confidently articulate your understanding of animation as a collaborative production process
2. Demonstrate your specialist skills within a production-based context to enhance your career opportunities and for post-graduate study
3. Confidently articulate your knowledge and critical understanding of the relationship between the practice, theory and history of animation
4. Apply research skills and express your analytical, intellectual and aesthetic awareness
5. Demonstrate your professional competence and understanding, and evidence management abilities within a team framework
6. Demonstrate the ability to critically self-evaluate progress and performance; demonstrate self-directed learning for independent study and development
7. Demonstrate the ability to be a highly skilled and socially aware practitioner who is able to respond to the changing nature of the industry at local, national and international levels

Reference Points

UK Quality Code for higher education, including:

- Subject Benchmark Statement: *Art and Design Communication, Media, Film and Cultural Studies*
 - Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ)
- AUB Regulatory Framework and Undergraduate Assessment Regulations
AUB Creative Learning Plan
AUB Strategic Plan
AUB Employability Framework

Learning, Teaching and Assessment

Learning and Teaching Strategies

The study time allocated to each unit in the course incorporates a balance of formal teaching, tutorial support and independent learning. The course is structured progressively to provide increasing opportunities for independent study as you reach the later stages of the course.

Teaching is directed at supporting your individual engagement in learning although you will have opportunities to work in teams to enable learning of the value of peer cooperation.

The integration of theory and practice within animation study units is promoted and reinforced through a team teaching approach, bringing together theoretical studies and specialist studies tutors.

The progressive promotion of independent learning reflects your anticipated maturing as a learner, as you direct your studies towards your own specialist goals. The teaching in Level 4 is directed at providing you with the knowledge, concepts and skills to take increasing responsibility for the management of your own learning; this is a key element of the student-centred approach taken at Levels 5 and 6 and preparation for life in the work-place.

Assessment

Each unit is assessed separately, and the assessment forms part of the unit. Assessment both provides a measure of your achievement, and also gives you regular feedback on how your learning is developing.

For every unit of your course, we will inform you of what you are expected to learn; what you have to submit; how your work will be assessed; and the deadline for presenting your work for assessment. This is made available through Unit Information, which is on your course blog.

You will receive a final mark for each unit in the form of a percentage, which will be recorded on your formal record of achievement (transcript). Each component of assessment is graded using a notched marking scale, whereby only certain marks are used within each grade. The only marks available within any ten-point band are *2, *5 and *8 (eg 62, 65, 68). These marks correspond to a low, mid, and high level of achievement within each grade band.

All learning outcomes must be passed to successfully complete the unit.

On successful completion of your Honours degree course, you will be awarded a degree classification based on your unit marks. The final classification is determined using all unit marks at Levels 5 and 6 using two different algorithms, which are detailed in the HE Student Regulations. If the two algorithms produce different results, you will be awarded the higher class of degree.

If you have joined Level 6 through either the Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) route or having completed a Foundation Degree (FdA), the final classification is determined using only your unit marks at Level 6.

For further information on assessment, progression, awards and classifications, please visit <https://viewpoint.aub.ac.uk>

Course Structure

All students are registered for the award of BA (Hons); however exit awards are available if you leave the course early, having successfully completed one or two

levels. If you successfully complete a level of the course, you will automatically be entitled to progress to the next level.

For the award of a Certificate of Higher Education (CertHE), you must have achieved a minimum of 120 credits at Level 4. This qualification may be awarded if you leave the University following successful completion of the first year of your course.

For the award of a Diploma of Higher Education (DipHE), you must have achieved a minimum of 240 credits of which a minimum of 120 must be at Level 5. This qualification may be awarded if you leave the University following successful completion of the second year of your course.

For the award of a BA (Hons) you must have achieved a minimum of 360 credits of which a minimum of 240 must be at Level 5 or above, of which a minimum of 120 credits must be at Level 6. This qualification will be awarded upon successful completion of your course.

A BA without Honours may be awarded if you have achieved 300 credits, at least 180 of which are at Level 5 or above, and at least 60 of which are at Level 6.

Course Content

This course aims to develop skills and abilities required for animation production processes, to enhance career opportunities in the animation and related industries. Encouragement of analytical skills and research furthers an appreciation of the relationship between practice and theory and the history of animation.

The course develops your ability to communicate and to use effective presentation skills. Alongside the development of professional management competence, the course aims to enhance visual and literary capabilities and the ability to resolve production problems.

The skills developed on this course are accompanied by general transferable skills which can be used in a range of applications, such as character design, layout and background design, 2D, Stop-Motion and CG animation, and animation for VFX.

The promotion of your self-directed learning and your ability to critically evaluate your own work and that of others is fundamental to this team-based production course.

Level 4

You will be introduced, via a series of workshops, seminars and lectures, to fundamental practical and theoretical concepts. You will progress from an understanding of rudimentary mechanical processes to a more subtle understanding of character performance and cinematic storytelling. The initial exposure to fundamental techniques and essential technology helps develop a visual and technical language necessary for progression through subsequent units at Levels 5 and 6. At this stage, technical and technological processes are complemented by the rigorous development of drawing ability, informed by an analytical and interpretive approach to observational drawing in a variety of media and techniques. Investigation and analysis of visual forms and language help generate a personal visual resource through the use of sketchbooks and related research methods.

Animation studio practice is fully integrated with theoretical understanding, with related key themes and issues placed within relevant social, historical and cultural contexts. Study skills using traditional and electronic resources are developed by individual and group research projects, which engage critical theories, concepts and analysis, and directly link to an understanding of historical and contemporary practice within the specialism.

Level 5

At Level 5 you will learn in more detail about the animation process, developing an advanced knowledge of what sequential steps are required to produce animation from conception to post production. You will experience an enhanced independence linked to your role within an animation production team. As part of a production team you will further build upon skills acquired at Level 4 by assisting on an animation production, and thereby develop your own subject specialism. The animation production is the result of the contribution of individuals using their skills and specialism towards this collaborative outcome. The work assessed is the outcome of your individual contribution. You are made aware of the assessment procedure throughout the Level 5 and 6 units through unit briefings and tutorials.

The parameters of study are defined by the use of Learning Agreements, supported by individual tutorials with staff members, and group feedback from peer evaluations. Fields of practical and theoretical knowledge are applied to graduate film work, reflecting industry practice with hands-on learning opportunities. Concurrently, critical and analytical approaches to visualisation are developed by increasingly advanced drawing sessions building upon the knowledge and skills acquired in Level 4 units.

You will also research and develop your own project work in preparation for Level 6. Visualisation skills are developed in relation to pre-production activities for a proposed graduation film. A deeper critical knowledge of specialism forms a link to professional development planning, which also includes the potential for industry experience or overseas study visits. A level of professionalism and organisation is evidenced in the preparation of a 'pitch', which is consistent with industry practices. There is also a process of sustained academic writing, reflecting on specialist roles required by a collaborative production method. This prepares you for the Investigative Study unit at level 6, where research topics can be linked to subject specialisms. Your development as a specialist may inform your choice of named award in level 6 (see below).

Level 6

In your final year you will demonstrate your specialist role and your commitment to the collective responsibility of production and post-production of graduation work. Specific guidance on the ethics of the team working collaboration is laid out in the production schedule and also through group and individual tutorials. These topics include communication and team working skills, and mentorship guidance and its importance. The diverse nature of the productions and the variance in the dynamic of each team requires tailored tutor guidance specific to each individual production. Guidance on formation of teams, negotiation skills and team skills will be further enhanced with set sessions throughout the team-based units and within the production schedule.

Your personal planning and increased self-reflection and evaluation are developed in relation to career aspirations and the production of a target portfolio. Critical and theoretical knowledge is developed in the Investigative Study (where you engage with critical understanding via written work). In the Major Project unit you will explore your practical specialism and demonstrate a sustained focus and application of knowledge, technical skills and intellectual abilities developed throughout the course. You will also be expected to demonstrate a grasp of a complex body of knowledge relating to your specialism and practise professional standards in your working environment. Individual Learning Agreements will reflect the scope of your project negotiation with tutors and peers for these group-based graduate productions. The work assessed is the outcome of your individual contribution to the collaborative process.

Named Awards

The award title of this course is BA (Hons) Animation Production and students achieving the correct number of credits will be awarded this degree title. However there is an opportunity for you to choose (through negotiation with your tutors) a named specialist award.

The proposed named awards below reflect the specialisms that form part of the student experience at Level 5 and Level 6. At the end of the Level 5 unit Animation Specialism (40 credits) you will receive tutorial support and advice from the Animation team regarding these named award options and the criteria that would be associated with them. You will work in a specialist role at Level 6 whilst undertaking animation film production as part of a team. You will also have an opportunity in Level 6 within Major Project to investigate your specialist role in the context of professional development. These award titles also reflect the broad employment opportunities enjoyed by AUB alumni.

BA (Hons) Animation Production

The award celebrates your engagement and achievement in Animation Production. The degree recognises your engagement and achievement across multiple production techniques including 2D hand-drawn, CG and Stop-Motion animation processes.

BA (Hons) Animation Production (2D Animation)

The award celebrates your engagement and achievement in this specialised area of 2D animation production. The degree also recognises the other production skills you have achieved.

BA (Hons) Animation Production (CG Animation)

The award celebrates your engagement and achievement in this specialised area of CG, which may include animation for VFX. The degree also recognises the other production skills you have achieved.

BA (Hons) Animation Production (Stop Motion Animation)

The award celebrates your engagement and achievement in this specialised area of Stop Motion animation production. The degree also recognises the other production skills you have achieved.

BA (Hons) Animation Production (Visual Development for Animation)

The award celebrates your engagement and achievement in this specialised area of visual development, which can include character and background design in animation production. The degree also recognises the other production skills you have achieved.

Course Units

Unit code	Unit Title	Credit weighting
Level 4		
ANP456	Fundamentals of Animation	40
ANP457	Staging and Performance	40
ANP458	Translating Animation Principles	40
Level 5		
ANP556	Development of Production Skills	40
ANP557	Animation Specialism	40
ANP558	Production Research and Development	40
Level 6		
ANP650	Investigative Study	20
ANP651	Pre-Production	40
ANP652	Major Project	60

Course Diagram

This diagram shows the proposed start/end dates for each unit and shows teaching weeks only; holiday periods are not included. Further information on the structure of each unit will be included in the online Unit Information which is available on your course blog.

Level 4																														
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Autumn Term												Spring Term												Summer Term						
Induction week	ANP456 Fundamentals of Animation (weeks 1-10) (40 credits)										ANP457 Staging and Performance (weeks 11-20) (40 credits)										ANP458 Translating Animation Principles (weeks 21-30) (40 credits)									

Level 5																														
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Autumn Term												Spring Term												Summer Term						
ANP556 Development of Production Skills (weeks 1-10) (40 credits)												ANP557 Animation Specialism (weeks 11-20) (40 credits)												ANP558 Production Research and Development (weeks 21-30) (40 credits)						

Level 6																														
0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	29	30
Autumn Term												Spring Term												Summer Term						
ANP651 Pre-production (weeks 1-14) (40 credits)												ANP652 Major Project (weeks 15-30) (60 credits)																		
ANP650 Investigative Study (weeks 1-14) (20 credits)																														

Resources

University Resources:

Library

The course is supported by a Subject Librarian who liaises closely with the team to ensure that the Library resources are relevant and meet student and staff research needs. As part of the AUB's Information Literacy Framework, the Subject Librarian provides sessions on researching and using information, as well as individual support for students in the use of Library resources.

The Library holds an excellent range of specialist learning materials including books, journals, CDs, DVDs, and newspapers. It has subscriptions to a wide range of specialist electronic resources focusing on art, design, media and performance, including e-books and e-journals. The Library's facilities include computers, a viewing room, and a silent reading room.

The Library consistently receives high scores in both the in-house and national student surveys which are carried out annually.

Digital Learning Resources

The University provides a range of computing hardware and software applications for use in general purpose locations such as the library and computer studios, as well as high quality and specialist resources linked to subject specialisation. You will be able to use Microsoft Office and Adobe Creative Suite on the majority of computers in the University and have access to industry standard digital resources and computing appropriate for your subject in course areas.

We have a comprehensive wireless network and our new virtual learning environment (VLE) can be used on desktop, laptop and mobile devices. The VLE, called MyAUB, provides a customisable portal to a variety of course and university related information including timetables, email, course handbooks, resource booking and online learning materials.

Support for digital learning resources is provided by a network of University staff. Course related equipment is cared for by Technician Demonstrators and library information resources is supported by library staff. General computing support and advice on your own equipment is provided by our Digital Campus Services Team who provide a servicedesk facility. The Service Desk is located in the Library, and their email address is: servicedesk@aub.ac.uk.

Museum of Design in Plastic (MoDiP)

MoDiP is a registered museum of 20th and 21st century design and popular culture with a focus on plastics. Its collection is unique within the UK and has been developed to support teaching and learning at Arts University Bournemouth.

There are many ways in which MoDiP can play a part in your studies:

- as a source of inspiration – large numbers of items may be viewed, handled and explored in depth, drawn, photographed and filmed
- as the focus of a brief for products and projects relating to course work
- as an exhibition venue – your work can be displayed in relation to the collections and exhibitions and events may be mounted in the museum space

The Museum is in a purpose built space within the Library, designed with wheelchair access in mind, and has the same opening hours as the rest of the University for the viewing of exhibitions. Objects not on display can be borrowed and taken to the studio. To see what is available, go to the [MoDiP website \(www.modip.ac.uk\)](http://www.modip.ac.uk).

TheGallery

TheGallery is a major resource for contemporary visual art at Arts University Bournemouth and has received regional and national recognition. There are regular gallery events, including collections on loan from galleries and museums, as well as individual exhibitions by some of today's leading artists, photographers, designers and critical writers.

It also functions as a learning resource and is integrated into the teaching, learning, and research practice undertaken at the University.

text + work is the ethos which underpins the exhibition programme at Arts University Bournemouth. The **text + work** concept promotes and provides a forum for challenging dialogue between innovative contemporary art, design, media and performance practice and its theoretical context.

There are **text + work** gallery events, critical texts, shared and networked exhibitions and a **text + work** website.

Student Support

Academic Guidance

Academic staff are responsible for providing you with feedback on your work and your general academic progress, and for providing academic support and guidance through the course. This is provided through “critiques” and written feedback, as well as guidance on practical work and informal discussion about your concerns. These sessions may be individual or, in the case of collaborative work, in small groups.

Academic tutorials are scheduled to allow you to discuss in depth matters relating to creative or theoretical work, or the course in general. You will be entitled to at least one formal academic tutorial per term with a nominated member of the course team.

Support and advice is also provided on an informal basis throughout the course, through discussions between staff and students.

The University also has a team of Study Skills Tutors who can support you with your academic work such as essays, dissertations and presentations. This service is available to all students to access. You can book tutorials for individual or group sessions at the Student Services reception. The team also run regular lunchtime

study skills workshops and drop in sessions which can help support you in your studies.

Career Education, Information and Guidance

You will be prepared for employment, and given the opportunity to learn about the various career options available to you, through a wide range of projects which may include live briefs or external competitions. Academic staff remain very familiar with the discipline, and will often still work in the field, and are also able to advise on specific opportunities.

The Careers and Employability Service within the University offers impartial, confidential advice, support and guidance, to help you explore and develop your career ideas and manage your future career successfully. The service offers individual career guidance appointments, as well as advice on job seeking strategies, CVs and interview skills, self-employment / freelancing, and further study opportunities.

The Senior Employability Officer holds regular lunchtime lectures, which cover a range of popular careers topics, including Postgraduate study and funding, Career planning, Networking and self-marketing, and Teaching as a career. Full details and dates of forthcoming lectures are available on the Careers and Employability intranet pages (Viewpoint) and on the Student Services notice boards.

The Careers and Employability Service also offers specialist events, working in partnership with local employers, AUB alumni, and external agencies to bring together a range of art, design, media, performance and business expertise.

For more information, or to make an appointment, please contact careers@aub.ac.uk or call +44 1202 363355. You can also drop in to Student Services on campus between 8.30am and 5pm, Monday to Thursday, and between 8.30am and 4.30pm on a Friday.

Support for students with disabilities (including dyslexia)

The Arts University Bournemouth is firmly committed to a policy of equal opportunities for all students and positively welcomes applications from people with disabilities and/or additional needs. Throughout all aspects of University life, we actively encourage and support the participation of students with disabilities. We aim to support disabled students by offering needs assessments and support plans which enable you to achieve your personal goals.

The Learning Support team provides academic support for students with specific learning difficulties including dyslexia. We ask all new Home students to complete a 'Quickscan' screening programme when they join the University. This screening is designed to check your learning style (the way you learn best) and whether you might have signs of dyslexia. If appropriate, you will be referred to an educational psychologist for a full assessment.

Students with a specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia are able to access individual tutorials aimed at improving your independent study skills, and are

supported in applying for the Disabled Students' Allowance, which can provide specialist equipment and, if appropriate, personal support.

The Senior Disability Officer and Wellbeing Officer provide ongoing support and advice for students with all other types of disability, including mental health difficulties, physical disabilities, medical conditions and sensory impairments. The Wellbeing service is a free and confidential service offered by the University to all students. The Senior Wellbeing Officer is based in Student Services and is able to provide specialist advice, information and practical strategies to help students manage personal concerns or concerns they may have for a friend. Accessing the wellbeing service at an early stage may prevent more serious issues developing and help students to feel more in control of their situation.

The Arts University Bournemouth has a duty to anticipate the needs of disabled students, and to make "reasonable adjustments" to ensure that these students can access education and related services. If you feel that some aspect of the learning, teaching or assessment on your course places you at a disadvantage because of your disability, please contact the Senior Disability Officer within Student Services, who will be happy to work with you and your course team to identify any appropriate reasonable adjustments. Contact wellbeing@aub.ac.uk or telephone 01202 363291.

Academic support for students for whom English is a second language

If English is not your first language, AUB has a team of specialist English for Academic Purposes (EAP) lecturers who provide personalised guidance and support with the academic aspects of your course. You can book tutorials with them for individual assistance.

At the beginning of your course you will be invited to complete an academic skills needs assessment. One of our English for Academic Purposes (EAP) team will review this with you in a follow-up tutorial. If you feel you would benefit from additional advice and support, the EAP tutor will work with you to draw up an Individual Learning Plan which will set out a structured approach to developing your use of academic language and study skills. This may, for example, include helping you to develop strategies for interpreting assignment briefs, working on the structure of your written work or developing your proof-reading skills. Your Individual Learning Plan will be reviewed periodically and shared with your course tutor, if requested, so that they are aware of the work you are doing to improve your use of language and study skills.

Throughout the academic year the EAP service also offers Study Skills Workshops. Further details can be found at:

<http://aub.ac.uk/international/english-not-first-language/international-student-support/>

Pastoral support and guidance

Support and advice on non-academic matters is provided through trained and qualified professional staff within Student Services. We have a team of professionally qualified male and female counsellors, with appointments available during weekdays. Talking to a counsellor in a safe, non-judgemental and confidential setting can enable you to work through your problems with the aim of reaching a solution. Students wanting to access the service can book by email, phone or by

coming into the Student Services reception. The AUB Counselling Service is student focused and we offer single therapeutic sessions with a counsellor for one hour. If your situation is very urgent and you are extremely emotionally distressed, we also have a crisis support service where the aim is that one of our counsellors or the Wellbeing Officer will see you as soon as possible.

Pastoral support is also available from the AUB Chaplaincy. The Chaplaincy at Arts University Bournemouth is shared with Bournemouth University and is an inclusive Chaplaincy, which welcomes people of all faiths and none. The Quiet Room and the Islamic Prayer Room are in regular use by staff and students, and meetings with ministers of any faith can be arranged.

Advice and support with practical issues such as funding, accommodation or childcare is available from the Student Advice, Funds and Accommodation Office within Student Services.

Monitoring the quality of your course

The course is subject to the University's rigorous quality assurance procedures which involve subject specialist and internal peer review of the course at periodic intervals, normally of 5 years. This process ensures that the course remains up to date, and is preparing you for a career within the creative industries while also delivering a high quality student experience.

In addition all courses undertake an Annual Course Review which takes account of relevant information such as:

- External Examiners' Reports
- Key statistics including data on application, retention and achievement
- Results of the National Student Survey
- Results of the in-house Student Perception Survey
- Feedback from Student Representatives
- Feedback from relevant employer groups, including the course Industry Liaison Group

All courses develop an action plan arising out of this exercise, which is monitored by the University. Your student representatives can keep you informed about progress against the action plan.

Staff development priorities for the course team as a whole are identified through the Annual Course Review process, and for individuals through the Staff Performance Review process.

Indicators of Quality and Standards

The Arts University Bournemouth was granted taught degree awarding powers by the Privy Council in 2008; and University status was conferred in 2013. All students on taught higher education courses are enrolled on a course validated by the University.

A new Teaching Excellence Framework has been introduced to recognise excellent teaching. AUB was given a Gold award, reflecting the high quality of the academic student experience.

The University was audited by the QAA in May 2011 and received a judgement of 'Confidence' in the management of the academic standards of its awards, and its management of the quality of learning opportunities. This is the best available outcome, and confirms that our quality assurance mechanisms are robust, meaning that we can have full confidence in the standard of course outcomes, and the quality of the educational experience we deliver.

More detailed information is available in the HE Student Regulations, Viewpoint and on your course blog