

Celebrating Excellence, Shaping Practice: Aberystwyth University's Exemplary Course Award Programme

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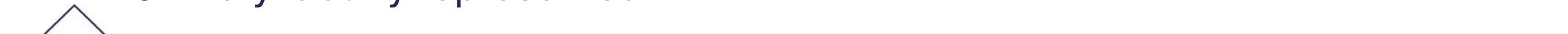
Overview

- History of the Exemplary Course Award @ Aberystwyth University
- Application Process
- Panel Assessment Process
- Impact
- Future Developments
- Previous winners:
 - Lauren Harvey, Law and Criminology: Dispute Resolution in Contract and Tort
 - Mari Dunning, English and Creative Writing / Lifelong Learning: Writing Women: Feminism in Poetry and Prose



Exemplary Course Award... a brief history

- Over 50 courses
- Run once a year
- Launched in 2014
 - Lifelong Learning
 - On-campus
 - Remote and distance learning
 - Welsh language and English language courses
 - Large courses and small courses
 - Every faculty represented



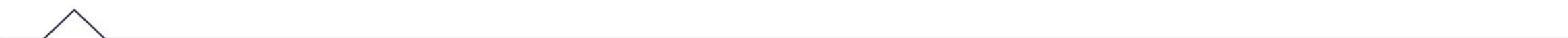
Applicant Process

- Access the application form
- Complete and self-assess their course:
 - Course Design
 - Interaction and Collaboration
 - Assessment
 - Learner Support
- Submit their application



Self-assess against criteria

Standard and Categories and Subcategories	Exemplary Standard	Evidenced	Points
Goals and Objectives	1.1 Goals and objectives are clearly written and appropriate for the course.	✓	5
	1.2 Goals and objectives are easily located within the course and visible in a variety of areas (e.g., within the Module Information folder and each individual learning unit).		4
	1.3 Goals and learning outcomes are measurable (for example, learners know what they are expected to do).	✓	4



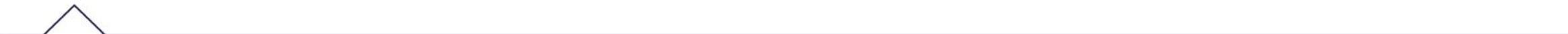
Advice given to applicants

- Look at the course from user's perspective – make use of the Student Preview tool
- Quality not quantity
- Check that material is accessible and does not involve too many clicks
- Use release conditions to permit targeted materials
- Emphasis is on the whole design of the course



Support

- Training sessions
 - E-learning Excellence:
 - Submitting an Exemplary Course Award
 - Exemplary Course Design
 - Exemplary Interaction and Collaboration
 - Exemplary Assessment Design
 - Exemplary Learner Support
 - Previous winners sharing experience and courses
 - Request Illuminate Reports
 - Use Analytics and Data to inform review: Course Progress Reports
 - Module MOT

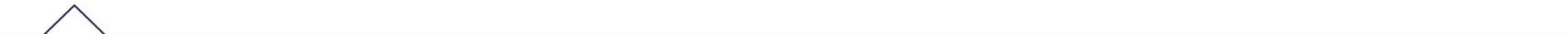


Identify Exemplary Practices

What are the three stand-out practices in your course and why are they exemplary (maximum of 1000 words OR an 8 minute Panopto recording with narration, highlighting the exemplary practices of the course)?

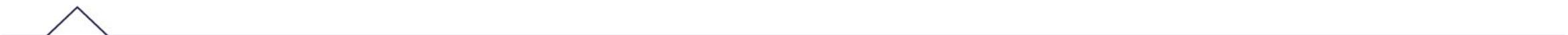
These are the top three items you wish to highlight for reviewers to consider as exemplary practices to share with the broader University community.

[Put your three stand-out practices here OR paste a link to your Panopto recording]



Exemplary Practice Examples

- Course content accessibility
- In-class exercises
- Structured and consistent design
- Learner support and communication
- Active and scenario-based learning
- Authentic assessment design, preparation and guidance



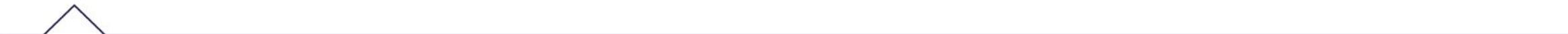
Assessment Process

- Copy of Course created
- Panel of experts enrolled as student
- Panel assess the course against the criteria
- Panel meet to deliberate:
 - Exemplary Course Award Winner
 - Highly Commended
 - Commended
- Recommendations for improvement
- Comments and feedback compiled



Impact

- Benefits for applicants
- Benefits for panel members
- External reports
- Case Studies
- Updates to course templates
- What does good look like?
- How can I achieve this?



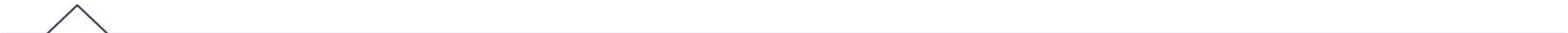
Celebrating Success

- Graduation
- University Celebration Events
- Education and Student Experience Conferences
- Local news and press
- Open / Visit Days – showcases
- Departmental publicity



Changes to processes

- Reduction in criteria
- Removal of self-scoring
- Reduction in word count for exemplary practices
- Updates to our required minimum presence
- 70% Ally Score for all courses
- 85% Ally Score for Exemplary Course Award



Developments for the Future

- Student voice aspect
- Smaller awards based on the criteria
- Encourage applications to Blackboard's ECP Programme



Tips for successful implementation

- Institutional buy-in
- Outlining the benefits to individuals, course teams, and department
- Build into business as usual
- Draw on examples and best practice



Demonstrations

- Lauren Harvey, Law and Criminology: *Dispute Resolution in Contract and Tort*
- Mari Dunning, English and Creative Writing / Lifelong Learning: *Writing Women: Feminism in Poetry and Prose*



Diolch / Thank you

- Further information: [Exemplary Course Award : Information Services , Aberystwyth University](#)
- Contact elearning@aber.ac.uk