



# QH Supplement PS2: Requirements for Articulation Agreements

This supplement should be read in conjunction with Quality Handbook (QH) [Sections 10](#) and [10A](#).

## Academic Approval

### 1. Approval Criteria

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- 1.1 Academic approval of articulation arrangements is designed to ensure that students entering a course with advanced standing are enabled to succeed. As such, approval will consider:
  - a. whether there is reasonable equivalence between the learning outcomes of the external course and those of a module(s), level or stage of the NTU course(s) the student is entering;
  - b. how students entering with advanced standing will be supported in their transition to NTU;
  - c. any Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB) policy that might affect the scope or approval of the agreement.
- 1.2 Articulation agreements may be set up to grant advanced standing to individual students or regular cohorts.
- 1.3 Articulation agreements do not guarantee that a student who applies to study at NTU will be accepted onto the course, and there may be additional entry criteria which a student must meet.
- 1.4 Where an arrangement is being established for entry of regular cohorts of students to a stand-alone Level 6 'top-up' course, this is a progression agreement rather than an articulation arrangement. The process for establishing and approving progression agreements is managed by NTU Global for international agreements and CADQ for UK-based agreements.

- 1.5 Where articulation is to join an existing cohort of students, even if this is through an advertised top-up route, the articulation policy should be used.

## 2. Method of Approval

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- 2.1 Academic approval of articulation arrangements takes place through School Academic Standards and Quality Committees (SASQC), and is reported to the Academic Partnerships Sub-Committee (AcaPSC).

## 3. Documentation for approval

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- 3.1 The approval documentation should be proportionate to the level of risk involved in the proposal. For example, entry to Level 5 of an NTU course will not require as extensive mapping as entry to Level 6.
- 3.2 The Course Leader should produce a short proposal which includes:
  - a. the amount of advanced standing the external course will provide, expressed in credit and level values, i.e. 80 credits at Level 5. The amount of advanced standing should not exceed two thirds of the credits required for the NTU award, i.e. 240 credits maximum of a 360 credit course;
  - b. evidence of the mapping exercise undertaken, to show the alignment of learning outcomes;
  - c. details of how the students will be supported in their transition to NTU;
  - d. details of any English language requirements.
- 3.3 Where the mapping process identifies gaps in the student's prior knowledge or skills, the proposal document may also need to include the following:
  - a. details of any bridging modules or dedicated induction required.
- 3.4 The NTU **CourseLoop** entry should be updated as appropriate.
- 3.5 The mapping exercise should be undertaken using the mapping template available from NTU Global.
- 3.6 Course teams should work closely with the NTU Global Senior Global Partnership Manager or Associate Director associated with their School throughout the approval process.

## 4. Student status

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- 4.1 Prior to commencing the NTU course, students at the partner institution are not students of NTU and have no access to NTU services or resources.

## Monitoring and review

## 5. Monitoring the arrangement

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- 5.1 The articulation agreement will be recorded on the NTU Global Pathways Register once approved by SASQC. AcaPSC will be notified of all new agreements by the NTU Global representative.
- 5.2 The Course Leader oversees the day to day operation of the partnership, and is responsible for the ongoing monitoring of standards and student learning.
- 5.3 The arrangement should be monitored as part of routine course management processes, as set out in [QH Section 6](#).
- 5.4 The NTU External Examiner(s) should be provided with details of any articulation arrangements relating to the course for which they are appointed.
- 5.5 The partner institution is required to inform NTU about changes to courses which form part of the agreement.
- 5.6 Where changes are made to the NTU course, the articulation arrangement should be reviewed by the course committee, with notification to SASQC, to ensure that the two courses continue to articulate.

## 6. Periodic Review

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- 6.1 The Periodic Review of articulation arrangements is undertaken through the Periodic Course Review process, as set out in [QH Section 6](#) and [QHS 6B](#) and the partnership review process which is undertaken every three years and managed by NTU Global.

<b>Policy owner</b>
CADQ

<b>Change history</b>			
<i>Version:</i>	<i>Approval date:</i>	<i>Implementation date:</i>	<i>Nature of significant revisions:</i>
April 2023		April 2023	Clarification that articulation arrangements can apply to individuals or cohorts and of current processes.
Sept 2016	30.09.16	01.10.16	Change of status for progression to top-up awards
Sept 2017	12.09.17	01.10.17	None
Sept 2018	12.09.18	01.10.18	None
Sept 2019	11.09.19	01.10.19	None
Sept 2020	16.09.20	01.10.20	None
Sept 2021	07.09.21	01.10.21	Alignment of approval documentation to revised RPL policy.
Sept 2022	22.09.23	01.10.22	None
April 2023	03.04.23	04.04.23	Update to explanatory notes on articulation agreements and approval documentation.
Sept 2023	14.09.23	01.10.23	None
Sept 2024	19.09.24	01.10.24	None
Sept 2025	25.09.25	01.10.25	None