

Requirements for the rationale document for a new course

- 1.1 The rationale for a new course needs to be prepared as part of the documentation that is considered by the Development and Approval Group (DAG) when a new course is coming forward for approval.
- 1.2 The purpose of the document is to provide DAG members with some background contextual information about the proposal which explains why the course has been developed in the way it has and how it aligns to the NTU ambitions for students. The document should include the following information:
 - a. **Aims:** The overarching aims of the course; the reasons why it is proposed.
 - b. **Market:** Anticipated market and intended destinations of graduates of the course. Providing an indication of target student numbers is also helpful.
 - c. **Standards:** How the course aligns with the Framework for Higher Education Qualifications (FHEQ), relevant QAA benchmarks and PSRB requirements (where appropriate).
 - d. **Learning outcomes:** Rationale for design of learning outcomes, interim award outcomes and fall-back awards where relevant.
 - e. **Strategic fit:** A brief summary of how the course meets the expectations of the Strategic Plan and aligns to the School's portfolio.
 - f. **Collaborations and partnerships:** An explanation of any collaborative or partnership arrangements.
 - g. **Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Body (PSRB):** Details of intended recognitions or accreditations.
 - h. **Student success:** The measures that will be undertaken to ensure that all students are provided with the appropriate opportunities to succeed irrespective of entry characteristics.
 - i. **Special features:** A summary of the significant features of the course to which the team would like to draw the DAG's attention.
 - j. **Consultation:** The extent of consultation, both within NTU and external. This should include a summary of the key issues raised and the team's response.
 - k. **Intended start date and implications for marketing:** The academic year in which it is intended that students will enrol. Information about the implications of this date for all aspects of marketing and admissions, including confirmation of any consumer law implications should be provided (please contact the Marketing team for advice).

- I. **Admissions:** The nature of the target group and admissions requirements.

Policy owner
CADQ

Change history			
<i>Version:</i>	<i>Approval date:</i>	<i>Implementation date:</i>	<i>Nature of significant revisions:</i>
Sept 2016	30.09.16	01.10.16	New
Sept 2017	12.09.17	01.10.17	None
Sept 2018	12.09.18	01.10.18	None

Equality Impact Assessment		
<i>Version:</i>	<i>EIA date:</i>	<i>Completed by:</i>
Sept 2016	01.09.16	CADQ