

Programme Information & PLOs			
This document forms part of the Programme Design Document and is for use in the roll-out of the York Pedagogy to design and capture new programme statement of purpose (for applicants to the programme), programme learning outcomes, programme map and enhancement plan. Please provide information required on all three tabs of this document.			
Title of the new programme – including any year abroad/ in industry variants			
MSci & BSc Nanoscience			
Level of qualification			
Please select:	Level 7		
Please indicate if the programme is offered with any year abroad / in industry variants		Year in Industry Please select Y/N	No
		Year Abroad Please select Y/N	No
Department(s): Where more than one department is involved, indicate the lead department			
Lead Department	Natural Sciences		
Other contributing Departments:	Chemistry, Electronics, Physics, Mathematics		
Programme leadership and programme team			
Please name the programme leader and any key members of staff responsible for designing, maintaining and overseeing the programme.			
Roddy Vann (Acting PL), Yongbing Xu (Elec Eng), Andy Parsons & Glenn Hurst (Chem), Laurence Wilson (Phys), Jason Levesley (Ch. BoS)			
Particular information that the UTC working group should be aware of when considering the programme documentation (e.g. challenges faced, status of the implementation of the pedagogy, need to incorporate PSRB or employer expectations)			
With few exceptions the modules which make up any of the Nat Sci programmes are drawn from the corresponding contributing single subject degree programmes. Local pedagogical practices and modes of assessment are honoured in Nat Sci unless there is evidence that such practices would not be pedagogically sound. Therefore, given the nature of the Nat Sci programmes parts of this document draw liberally from, or make reference to, the corresponding documentation from the contributing departments. This documentation should therefore be considered in parallel with the corresponding proforma for the single subject degree programmes of the contributing departments. The nano programme is different to most of our other interdisciplinary programmes in that it has more routes through to completion whereas the other programmes are more tightly constrained. We are currently looking into ways in which we might be able to bring the programme more into line with the other programmes. This will be some reduced optionality in the programme. But hopefully a cleaner, structure that will incorporate more electronics which is currently unbalanced in comparison to chemistry and physics.			
Who has been involved in producing the programme map and enhancement plan? (please include confirmation of the extent to which colleagues from the programme team /BoS have been involved; whether student views have yet been incorporated, and also any external input, such as employer liaison board)			
The people listed in 14 item have primarily being responsible for the programme map and enhancement plan. At all stages the BoS has had free access to and being invited to comment on the documentation. Student input has been fed into the YP process in a focus group, through the SSLC and via the BoS.			
Purpose and learning outcomes of the programme			
Statement of purpose for applicants to the programme			
Please express succinctly the overall aims of the programme as an <u>applicant facing statement</u> for a prospectus or website. This should clarify to a prospective student why they should choose this programme, what it will provide to them and what benefits they will gain from completing it.			

MSci & BSc Nanoscience 2017/2018 Programme Design Document

All Natural Science programmes at the University of York aim to produce leaders in science, technology and industry who will have the interdisciplinary knowledge and skills to succeed in complex research and business environments. You will learn how science is conducted in different disciplines, how to operate within different methodological communities, and how to apply techniques and ideas across multiple disciplines.

A nanoscience student must learn about the manipulation of atoms, molecules and nano-scale objects to be able create unique and functional systems. This requires expertise in physics, electronics and chemistry all of which you will study as you build towards a final year interdisciplinary project in nanoscience. The York nanoscience programme has been sculptured by experts from across the science faculty at York and is driven by current world leading research at the York JEOL Nanocentre. During the course of successfully completing your degree in nanoscience you will experience the cross-disciplinary theory and practices that form the core of nanoscience, distinguishing you as a truly interdisciplinary practitioner of science whose expertise naturally crosses subject boundaries.

As a student on the MSci programme you will achieve all the above, but your skills and knowledge will be developed further and to a deeper level as you undertake an extended final year research project that will move you towards the research frontier in Nanoscience, giving you the expertise, skills and experience necessary to pursue graduate level research both within and outside academia.

Programme Learning Outcomes

Please provide six to eight statements of what a graduate of the programme can be expected to do.

Taken together, these outcomes should capture the distinctive features of the programme. They should also be outcomes for which progressive achievement through the course of the programme can be articulated, and which will therefore be reflected in the design of the whole programme.

PLO	On successful completion of the programme, graduates will be able to:
1 BSc	Formulate, as well as tackle, open-ended problems in nanoscience and be able to call upon a variety of interdisciplinary techniques and methodologies relating any conclusions to current theories in the discipline. [Problem Solving]
1 MSci	Formulate, as well as tackle, open-ended problems in nanoscience applying their comprehensive understanding of interdisciplinary techniques, methodologies and theories at the forefront of nanoscience. [Problem Solving]
2 BSc	Develop student competencies in debating, defending and contextualising information from key literature sources taken from across the physical and lifes sciences [Subject knowledge/Communicate]
2 MSci	Develop student competencies in debating, defending and contextualising information from key literature sources taken from across the physical and lifes sciences [Subject knowledge/Communicate]
3 BSc	Discuss and communicate findings that emphasise the empirical nature of nanoscience and be able to apply their expertise to both the theoretical and practical aspects of the area based on rigorous critical assessment of any available evidence. [Subject knowledge/Communicate]
3 MSci	Discuss and communicate findings that emphasise the empirical nature of nanoscience and be able to apply their expertise to both the theoretical and practical aspects of the area based on rigorous critical assessment of any available evidence. [Subject knowledge/Communicate]
4 BSc	Plan, execute and report on the results of experiments, projects and investigations across the nanoscience discipline, including the use of appropriate data analytical methods. [Research project]
4 MSci	Plan, execute and report on the results of extended or complex experiments, projects and investigations across the nanoscience discipline, selecting and adapting appropriate data analytical methods. [Research project]
5 BSc	Present nanoscience principles to other scientists clearly and concisely in an appropriate written or oral format, demonstrating a breadth of knowledge from across disciplines of the fundamentals of nanoscience [Communicate]
5 MSci	Present complex nanoscience principles to the general public and professional scientists clearly and concisely in an appropriate written or oral format, demonstrating a breadth of knowledge from across disciplines of the fundamentals of nanoscience
6 BSc	Work effectively (including taking the lead within their own project), in a cross-disciplinary environment, drawing upon concepts from chemistry, physics and electronics. [Interdisciplinary]
6 MSci	Work effectively (including independently), in a cross-disciplinary environment, drawing upon concepts from chemistry, physics and electronics. [Interdisciplinary]
7 BSc	Use experimental design measurement and/or analysis methods to evaluate a nanoscience model or theory using objective criticism to appraise the accuracy, correctness and limitations of the approach [Experiment/Simulation]

7 MSci	Use sophisticated experimental design measurement and/or analysis methods to evaluate a nanoscience model or theory using objective criticism to appraise the accuracy, correctness and limitations of the approach [Experiment/Simulation]
8 BSc	
8 MSci	
Programme Learning Outcome for year in industry (where applicable) For programmes which lead to the title ‘with a Year in Industry’ – typically involving an additional year – please provide either a) amended versions of some (at least one, but not necessarily all) of the standard PLOs listed above, showing how these are changed and enhanced by the additional year in industry b) an additional PLO, if and only if it is not possible to capture a key ability developed by the year in industry by alteration of the standard PLOs.	
NA	
Programme Learning Outcome for year abroad programmes (where applicable) For programmes which lead to the title ‘with a Year Abroad’ – typically involving an additional year – please provide either a) amended versions of some (at least one, but not necessarily all) of the standard PLOs listed above, showing how these are changed and enhanced by the additional year abroad or b) an additional PLO, if and only if it is not possible to capture a key ability developed by the year abroad by alteration of the standard PLOs.	
NA	
Explanation of the choice of Programme Learning Outcomes Please explain your rationale for choosing these PLOs in a statement that can be used for students (such as in a student handbook). Please include brief reference to:	
i) Why the PLOs are considered ambitious or stretching? Nanoscience is a modern theory encompassing chemistry, physics and electronics. These PLOs are chosen to give enable a student to have exposure to all three disciplines in the early part of their degree before travelling down a two subject pathway commensurate with their interests. As can be seen from the table above the PLOs introduce, develop and finally put into practice skills in problem solving, experimentation, knowledge, simulation, communication and research. This is a rich skill set for any student to have upon completion of a degree programme. A nanoscience student will achieve a high degree of expertise in their subject combined with the aforementioned transferrable skills. Having the ability to initially learn about the three main disciplines in nanotechnology before going onto a more focussed multidisciplinary approach will stretch even the most able of students as they seek to develop knowledge and practical know how in their respective speciality paths.	
ii) The ways in which these outcomes are distinctive or particularly advantageous to the student:	
Whilst nanoscience is covered in each of the three contributing departments this programme is purpose built to train nanoscientists who will able to work at the research frontier of nanoscience upon graduation. The interdisciplinary nature of the programme, spanning all three departments, will give the student a perspective not afforded single subject students who may have taken nonspecific streams.	
iii) How the programme learning outcomes develop students’ digital literacy and will make appropriate use of technology-enhanced learning (such as lecture recordings, online resources, simulations, online assessment, ‘flipped classrooms’ etc)?	
Digital technologies are woven into the fabric of this programme and are developed and enhanced throughout the duration of the programme. The very nature of nanoscience requires expertise with technology. The programme is littered with chances for a student to develop a highly digitally literate skill set. For example in producing lab reports, carrying out simulations which will require computing programming skills and data analysis skill. Each of the contributing departments in the nano programme have fully embraced technology in their teaching and assessment and a successful student on the nano programme will have a well featured skill set for a CV.	

iv) How the PLOs support and enhance the students' employability (for example, opportunities for students to apply their learning in a real world setting)?

The programme's employability objectives should be informed by the University's Employability Strategy:

<http://www.york.ac.uk/about/departments/support-and-admin/careers/staff/>

All the Nat. Sci. programmes have been designed with employability in mind. This is not only as a factor of the design of the programmes themselves, which have had engagement with the University's employability strategy as a given since the early design phases of the programme. But also as a factor of the embedded skills that the contributing departments have built into their modules. Modules which form the bulk of the teaching on this degree programme. Many of the skills listed in the PLOs are generic and will equip the student with a highly transferrable skill set.

vi) How will students who need additional support for academic and transferable skills be identified and supported by the Department?

Students who need support will generally self identify at admission or early in the Stage 1 and standard University protocols will then be followed. If this isn't the case and a student is identified as needing extra support later in the programme then the student will discuss the matter with their personal supervisor who will advise in accordance with University guidance. Students are assigned a supervisor in one of the contributing departments and have access to a subject facilitator in both contributing departments. The student can approach their supervisor for advice in accordance with University guidelines and seek more specialist advice on a particular discipline from the subject facilitator. Module level issues are handled with the department to which the module belongs and a student can avail themselves off all feedback and quality control mechanisms that the department offers.

vii) How is teaching informed and led by research in the department/ centre/ University?

As with all the Nat Sci interdisciplinary programmes, research is the core driver. All the interdisciplinary programmes were set up because of active research centre specialising in the disciplines that the students will study, in this case nanotechnologies. Nanoscience at York is spread across multiple departments all of which play a key role in this programme, with a focus on the industry-backed York-JEOL Nanocentre. The culmination of the student's study will be a final year interdisciplinary project in nanoscience that will be at the research frontier.

Stage-level progression

Please complete the table below, to summarise students' progressive development towards the achievement of PLOs, in terms of the characteristics that you expect students to demonstrate at the end of each year. This summary may be particularly helpful to students and the programme team where there is a high proportion of option modules.

Note: it is not expected that a position statement is written for each PLO, but this can be done if preferred (please add information in the 'individual statement' boxes). For a statement that applies across all PLOs in the stage fill in the 'Global statement' box.

Stage 0 (if your programme has a Foundation year, use the toggles to the left to show the hidden rows)

Stage 1

On progression from the first year (Stage 1), students will be able to:

Appreciate the inter-disciplinary nature of Nanoscience through exposure to the different disciplines which make up the program and have developed the core learning strategies needed to work across different departments, have a solid grounding in the foundations of Nanoscience, have the core experimental skills necessary to progress further in Nanooscience, begin building a skill set that will allow a student to solve problems using appropriate tools and know how to effectively communicate their findings.

PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5	PLO 6	PLO 7	PLO 8
Individual statements							

Stage 2

On progression from the second year (Stage 2), students will be able to:

Developed further their understanding of Nanoscience, expanded upon their knowledge base, have enhanced experimental and communication skill sets allowing them to solve increasingly difficult and challenging problems in Nanoscience, have become more confident independent learners.

PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5	PLO 6	PLO 7	PLO 8
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Individual statements							
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Stage 3

(For Integrated Masters) On progression from the third year (Stage 3), students will be able to:

At this stage a Nanoscience student will have the knowledge, skills and understanding to satisfy all the BSc PLOs and will be equipped to move forward into a more intensely research driven final year.

PLO 1	PLO 2	PLO 3	PLO 4	PLO 5	PLO 6	PLO 7	PLO 8
Individual statements							

Programme Structure

Module Structure and Summative Assessment Map

Please complete the summary table below which shows the module structure and the pattern of summative assessment through the programme.

‘Option module’ can be used in place of a specific named option. If the programme requires students to select option modules from specific lists these lists should be provided in the next section.

From the drop-down select 'S' to indicate the start of the module, 'A' to indicate the timing of each distinct summative assessment point (eg. essay submission/ exam), and 'E' to indicate the end of the module (if the end of the module coincides with the summative assessment select 'EA'). It is not expected that each summative task will be listed where an overall module might be assessed cumulatively (for example weekly problem sheets).

If summative assessment by exams will be scheduled in the summer Common Assessment period (weeks 5-7) a single ‘A’ can be used within the shaded cells as it is understood that you will not know in which week of the CAP the examination will take place.

Stage 0 (if you have modules for Stage 0, use the toggles to the left to show the hidden rows)

Stage 1

Credits	Module		Autumn Term										Spring Term										Summer Term									
	Code	Title	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	PHY00020C	Electromagnetism , Waves and Optics												S												E	A					
20	PHY00022C	Intro to Thermal & Quantum Physics	S																							E	A					
20	MAT00007C	Mathematics for Sciences I	S									E	A																			
20	CHE00010C	Chemistry for Natural Sciences 1: Introduction to Chemical Structure & Reactivity	S					A				E	A																			

20	CHE00012C	Chemistry for Natural Sciences 2: Introduction to Analysis & Chemical Change	S								A								A				A							
20	ELE00028C	Intro to Nanoscience & Nanotechnology										S											EA							

Stage 2

Credits	Module		Autumn Term										Spring Term										Summer Term									
	Code	Title	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
20	ELE00033I	Nanofabrication & Nanoanalysis	S																													
10	PHY00035I	Mathematics II for Natural Sciences	S										EA																			
10	PHY00036I	Quantum & Atomic Physics II	S										EA																			
20	CHE00023I	The Material World: Chemistry and Applications												S																		
20	CHE00014I	Chemistry for Nat Sci 3: Structure, Bonding and Reactivity	S							A		A	EA																			
20	PHY00031I	Thermodynamics & Solid State I	S																													
20	PHY00002I	Electromagnetism & Optics												S												E	A	A	A			

Stage 3

Credits	Module		Autumn Term										Spring Term										Summer Term										
	Code	Title	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
40	NAT00001H	Nat Sci Interdisciplinary Project (BSc only)	S																														
10	PHY00033H	Quantum Mechanics II	S										EA																				
20	PHY00049H	Statistical Mechanics and Solid State II	S										A									E											
20	ELE000046H	Applications of electromagnetism	S									E	A																				
10	ELE00023H	Nanoelectronics												S												E	A						
10	ELE00025H	Photonics & Nanophotonics												S												E	A						
10	PHY00054H	Modern Optics												S												E	A						
10	PHY00059H	Nanoscience experimental mini-project												S												E							
20	PHY00043H	Nanoscale & Magnetism	S																							E	A						

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Programme Map: Module Contribution to Programme Learning Outcomes															
Please complete the summary table below which shows how individual modules contribute to the achievement of programme learning outcomes.															
Core modules should be mapped individually. If the programme offers multiple options that contribute to exactly the same PLOs you can group these, providing a statement that articulates how all of these contribute to the achievement of the programme learning outcomes. All modules, both core and optional, should be accounted for in the map.															
The table maps the contribution to programme learning outcomes made by each module, in terms of the advance in understanding/ expertise acquired or reinforced in the module, the work by which students achieve this advance and the assessments that test it. This enables the programme rationale to be understood: - Reading the table vertically illustrates how the programme has been designed to deepen knowledge, concepts and skills progressively. It shows how the progressive achievement of PLOs is supported by formative work and evaluated by summative assessment. In turn this should help students to understand and articulate their development of transferable skills and to relate this to other resources, such as the Employability Tutorial and York Award; - Reading the table horizontally explains how the experience of a student at a particular time includes a balance of activities appropriate to that stage, through the design of modules.															
Note: it is not expected that every module contributes directly to all PLOs, but every module should advance some of them.															
MSci & BSc Nanoscience (Add additional rows as required)															
Stage	Module		PLO1	PLO2	PLO3	PLO4	PLO5	PLO6	PLO7	PLO8					
MSci Programme Learning Outcomes															
			Formulate, as well as tackle, open-ended problems in nanoscience applying their comprehensive understanding of interdisciplinary techniques, methodologies and theories at the forefront of nanoscience. [Problem Solving]	Apply complex scientific methods to describe and model physical phenomena emergent at the nanoscale. [Experiment/Simulation]	Discuss and communicate findings that emphasise the empirical nature of nanoscience and be able to apply their expertise to both the theoretical and practical aspects of the area based on rigorous critical assessment of any available evidence. [Subject knowledge/Communicate]	Plan, execute and report on the results of extended or complex experiments, projects and investigations across the nanoscience discipline,selecting and adapting appropriate data analytical methods. [Research project]	Present nanoscience principles to the general public and professional scientists in a clearly and concisely in an appropriate written or oral format, demonstrating a breadth of knowledge from across disciplines of the fundamentals of nanoscience	Work effectively (including taking the lead within their own project), in a cross-disciplinary environment, drawing upon concepts from chemistry, physics and electronics. [Interdisciplinary]	Use sophisticated experimental design measurement and/or analysis methods to evaluate a nanoscience model or theory using objective criticism to appraise the accuracy, correctness and limitations of the approach [Experiment/Simulation]						
BSc Programme Learning Outcomes															
			Formulate, as well as tackle, open-ended problems in nanoscience and be able to call upon a variety of interdisciplinary techniques and methodologies relating any conclusions to current theories in the discipline. [Problem Solving]	Apply scientific methods to describe and model physical phenomena emergent at the nanoscale. [Experiment/Simulation]	Discuss and communicate findings that emphasise the empirical nature of nanoscience and be able to apply their expertise to both the theoretical and practical aspects of the area based on rigorous critical assessment of any available evidence. [Subject knowledge/Communicate]	Plan, execute and report on the results of experiments, projects and investigations across the nanoscience discipline, including the use of appropriate data analytical methods. [Research project]	Present complex nanoscience principles to other scientists clearly and concisely in an appropriate written or oral format, demonstrating a breadth of knowledge from across disciplines of the fundamentals of nanoscience [Communicate]	Work effectively (including independently), in a cross-disciplinary environment, drawing upon concepts from chemistry, physics and electronics. [Interdisciplinary]	Use experimental design measurement and/or analysis methods to evaluate a nanoscience model or theory using objective criticism to appraise the accuracy, correctness and limitations of the approach [Experiment/Simulation]						
Stage 1	Maths for Sciences I	Progress towards PLO	competently use the standard algebra of vectors, matrices and related objects and the standard methods of differential and integral calculus												
		By working on (and if applicable, assessed through)	Examination and assessed workshop												
Stage 1	Chemistry for Nat Sci I: Introduction to chemical structure and reactivity	Progress towards PLO	Developing an understanding of core chemical principles of analysis, thermodynamics, the behaviour of compounds and reactivity.	Development of core laboratory skills and understanding of key safety practices. Aspects of planning and experimental design and communication of results.	Development of core laboratory skills and understanding of key safety practices. Aspects of planning and experimental design and communication of results.			Development of core laboratory skills and understanding of key safety practices. Aspects of planning and experimental design and communication of results.							
		By working on (and if applicable, assessed through)	Examination and assessed workshop	Lab report	Lab report			Lab report							
Stage 1	Chemistry for Nat Sci II: Introduction to analysis and chemical change	Progress towards PLO	Developing an understanding of core chemical principles of atomic structure, thermodynamics, periodicity, acids & bases, separations science & mass spectrometry and reactivity.	Development of core laboratory skills and understanding of key safety practices. Aspects of planning and experimental design and communication of results.	Development of core laboratory skills and understanding of key safety practices. Aspects of planning and experimental design and communication of results.			Development of core laboratory skills and understanding of key safety practices. Aspects of planning and experimental design and communication of results.							
		By working on (and if applicable, assessed through)	Examination and assessed workshop	Lab report	Lab report			Lab report							
Stage 1	Intro to Nanoscience & Nanotechnology	Progress towards PLO	You will learn about physical phenomena emergent at the nanoscale, drawing upon concepts from chemistry, physics, biology and electronics. By the end of the module, you will understand the basic principles of solid-state theory and their application to electronic and nanoelectronic devices.	You will use simple mathematical models to describe physical phenomena emergent at the nanoscale, and use appropriate data analytical methods to critically analyse experimental data.	You will develop your written communication skills by constructing basic technical reports and identifying reliable sources of information, recognising issues of plagiarism and collusion. You will learn to present complex nanoscience principles in clear and precise manner.	You will plan and execute experiments or investigations across the nanoscience discipline and critically evaluate the results.									
		By working on (and if applicable, assessed through)	Lectures and reading material will develop your understanding of electronic devices from atomic models through to the solid-state. You will demonstrate your understanding through class examples and laboratory exercises, and in the final technical report (assessed).	Laboratory exercises will help you to develop a fluency in data analysis and to show an understanding of this in the final technical report (assessed).	A concise technical report (assessed) will test your written communication skills.	The laboratory exercises are designed to introduce a wide range of experimental methods across the nanosciences.									

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[illegible]

		By working on (and if applicable, assessed through)	You will analyse the strategic position and direction of a case study organisation in class exercises.		Lectures and wider reading material introduce students to the terminology and issues of strategic management (assessed by group and personal reflective reports).	You will work in a simulated Company Board Room setting to experience board level activities. You will construct concise technical reports (assessed) that critically evaluate and synthesise new information based on research, and design, deliver and defend a persuasive technical presentation (assessed) based on selected reliable evidence.		By working in a Company Board Room simulated setting you will learn how to analyse the strategic position and direction of a case study organisation (assessed by group report and personal reflective report).											
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Programme Map: Module Contribution to Programme Learning Outcomes

The information provided in this section should make clear why the students are doing the key activities of the programme, in terms of reaching the PLOs. You should use this section to provide commentary on the programme map and how current practice effectively propels student learning. Please indicate any changes that you plan to make to the programme linked to the pedagogic principles.

This section should capture reflections on the programmes and areas for development linked to the principles of the York pedagogy. Please provide an explanation of the programme and assessment design with reference to future enhancements aligned with the pedagogic principles.

Contact with staff

Please explain how the programme's design maximises the value of students' contact time with staff (which may be face-to-face, virtual, synchronous or asynchronous), including through the use of technology-enhanced learning. An example might be giving students resources for their independent study which then enables a class to be more interactive with a greater impact on learning.

You should include:

i. An explanation of how contact with staff in the future programme will be designed to propel student learning

The vast majority of the programme is made up of modules from the departments of Chemistry, Electronic Engineering, Physics & Mathematics. Therefore the relevant statements on staff contact time and how it propels learning have already been made in these department's respective submissions. The principles therein, hold just as true in the Nanoscience programme. Thus a Nanoscience student is naturally exposed to the different departments learning culture and practices.

ii. Changes to the existing programme that will be explored to affect this change; make references to the map to include module level change.

Due to early rollouts of the YP in electronics and physics many of the changes necessary are already in place. The chemistry changes are articulated fully in the corresponding chemistry submission. The programme has been changed from three streams to a single stream, which is much better for bringing the cohort together. It was not possible to deliver sufficient mathematics in stage 1 to avoid the requirement for including Physics' maths provision in y2t1; if this could be avoided, then this 10cr slot could be replaced by PHY00020I Physics labs for Nat Sci and then students could do Adv Exp Lab in yr 3 instead of the bespoke Nanoscience experimental mini-project module.

Students' independent study and formative work

Please outline key features of how independent study and formative work has been designed to support the progressive achievement of the programme learning outcomes. (For example, the use of online resources, which may also incorporate formative feedback; opportunities for further learning from work-based placements).

You should include:

i. An explanation of how students' independent study and formative work has been designed in the future programme to propel student learning?

Independent study and formative work depends on the various principles and practices of the department in which the specific module is taken. There is a range of different modes of assessment used in the Nanoscience programme and this is appropriate given the interdisciplinary nature of the subject. Reference is again made to the corresponding section of the individual single subject proforma for details of local enhancements that will necessarily flow into the learning experience of a Nanoscience student.

ii. Changes to the existing programme to affect this change; make reference to the programme map to indicate module level change

Changes made to the structure of the programme follow changes to the provision of the contributing departments. As Physics and Electronics rolled out their changes a year earlier than Chemistry most of the changes are already in place. The chemistry changes are mainly groupings of modules into modules with a larger credit rating. This will come into effect as they roll out in Chemistry. As mentioned above, we are seeking to streamline the Nano course to give it a more focussed approach that will increase the electronics provision. This was mentioned as desirable in student feedback during a feedback forum. Some of the optionality and streaming possibilities will be removed from the programme. However this is in line with all our other programmes and will give all our interdisciplinary programmes a commonality in terms of structure and purpose.

Due to the nature of all our specialisation programmes and the fact that the learning and teaching in Stages 1 & 2 is spread across multiple departments, there may be bottle necks for the students in terms of assessment. Currently this is handled on a report to the BoS basis and then escalated outwards after a BoS meeting to the Departments. This is a challenge for Natural Sciences and a definite enhancement to the programmes will be some way of monitoring and controlling these bottlenecks. Currently the YP doesn't help as its level of detail is module assessment and that we have more control over. It's the intra-module assessment. We will carry on investigating ways in which we can manage this issue effectively for our students.

One thing that we have not yet been able to do is use any NSS returns to identify issues or good practice as we have yet to have a graduating cohort. Once this data comes in then we will of course incorporate the outcomes into our annual review processes.

(c) Summative Assessment

Please outline how summative assessment within and across modules has been designed to support and evidence the progressive achievement of the programme learning outcomes. (For example, the use of different assessment methods at the 'introduction' stage compared to those used to evaluate deeper learning through the application of skills and knowledge later in the programme).

You should include:

i. An explanation of how formative and summative assessment has been designed in the future programme to propel student learning?

As in Item 10 and we again make reference to the corresponding enhancement plans for the contributing departments. It should be noted that in the initial design phase of all the Nat Sci programmes a great deal of work was done with UTC to ensure an appropriate and diverse set of assessment tools was built into our programmes.

The final year project is a major component of all our degrees and is a chance for our students to show not only their skills and ability in a specialism, but also to work in their specialism on a project that is interdisciplinary. Indeed this is seen at the most natural place to assess any PLOs which emphasise interdisciplinarity. The full process of running projects is currently under review and any changes/improvements will be incorporated into the programmes.

We need to figure out how to faithfully capture the interdisciplinarity of the programme when a lot of it isn't assessed e.g.

(a) the intentional juxtaposition of modules from different departments that cover complementary/similar topics

(b) Natural Sciences hour

The latter is especially important as its a unique feature of the Nat Sci programmes.

ii. Changes to the existing programme to affect this change; make reference to the programme map to indicate module level change

Changes that are not already in place will be as and when they roll out in the contributing department. Any potential change in structure of the programme (as discussed above) will obviously include assessment modes appropriate for the modules introduced or changed by the restructuring and the departmental enhancement plan once again holds sway.

Support with implementing programme enhancements

Support services will be able to provide guidance on enhancing programmes for example changing assessment and feedback practice, developing students' digital literacy capabilities and technology enhanced learning, employability etc. Please indicate in the space below if you would like additional guidance to implement you enhancements and what support you would require. For more information on the types of support that is available across the University please see the website:

<https://www.york.ac.uk/staff/teaching/support/>

Infrastructure: we look forward to the creation of a fully-functional programme & module catalogue which will enable:

the efficient sharing of information between departments (& the ASO) e.g. module changes

the shared usage of information for a variety of purposes (e.g. programme specs, admissions materials, student handbooks, website, ...)

identification of issues like assessment bottlenecks & student workload

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