Category	Quality Assurance and Accreditation	Policy Number	UNI-QAA-102	
Distribution	External	Version	1.1	
Responsible Office	Provost	Policy Owner	PCO	
Date Approved	7 December 2021	Effective Date	7 December 2021	
Date Last Reviewed	7 December 2021	Due Date for Next Review	30 November 2024	

POLICY
Academic Quality and Compliance

1. **Purpose**
   This policy aims to provide a robust and efficient process for academic quality assurance and continuous improvement of the academic programs and educational outcomes of the university.

2. **Scope of Application**
   This policy applies to all faculty, students, staff, faculty administrators, and academic administrators at Zayed University.

3. **Introduction**
   3.1 As an accredited institution, Zayed University has an obligation to ensure that it continues to demonstrate high academic standards in all academic processes that directly or indirectly support the teaching and learning process of students.

   3.2 The university uses a hybrid top-down and bottom-up approach to solicit feedback internally from students, faculty, committees, taskforces, program coordinators, etc., and externally from accrediting bodies to ensure that academic standards are maintained.

   3.3 The ZU academic quality and compliance policy is aligned with the university academic quality plan, the university strategic plan, the Ministry of Education Commission for Academic Accreditation (CAA) and the Middle States Commission for Higher Education (MSCHE) standards; and is intended to assist the university in:
   a) Safeguarding academic standards,
   b) Assuring the academic quality of teaching and learning,
   c) Promoting continuous and systematic improvement,
   d) Ensuring that information about programs, curriculum, faculty, students, and performance is provided in appropriate formats for review, are accessible and trustworthy.

   3.4 Meeting the required academic quality and standards is a shared responsibility of all faculty, students, staff, faculty administrators, and academic administrators.

4. Policy

    4.1 The university will:

        a) Implement a system for maintaining records and allow for effective quality control of all vital aspects of the educational programs, in line with its responsibility for awarding degrees, with the integrity, rigor, outcome, and management of its educational program/s,

        b) Utilize this system to continually appraise and improve the institution as a whole; and its programs, services, and operations,

        c) Establish a mechanism whereby the quality assurance function regularly engages all relevant stakeholders in the evaluation process,

        d) Compile an annual summary of institutional data to be used for monitoring performance, reporting, and institutional planning,

        e) Utilize results of program assessment as a part of the process of producing its self-studies required by the Commission for renewal of Institutional Licensure or Program Accreditation,

        f) Produce an annual evaluation report on the effectiveness of the quality assurance system, and the performance and effectiveness of the quality assurance unit,

        g) Benchmark its quality and performance against best local and international practices,

        h) Monitor and evaluate programs and support systems for their effectiveness.

    4.2 The university will regularly and periodically assess the quality and compliance of academic processes against academic standards and requirements, centrally through the Programs and Curricula Office, and individually through each college. Academic quality and compliance activities are embedded within each primary academic function.

5. Related Policies and Laws

ZU Quality Assurance Manual
ACA-PRO-106 Assessment of Academic Programs
UNI-QAA-202 Accreditation of Academic Programs

6. Administration

This policy is administered by the Programs and Curricula Office.

7. Revision History

Date	Revision
17 February 2023	Administrative change: • Updated the information header and related policy numbers. • Updated the policy number from ACA-ADM-01 to UNI-QAA-102.
7 December 2021	Approved by the Provost.
30 November 2021	Reviewed with no substantive changes required.
4 November 2019	Administrative change of policy group and number.

| 15 May 2018 | New policy approved by the University Council (PD#15 of 2018). |