

# THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

## External examiner's report form 2005/06 (undergraduate)

Dear colleague

Attached is the proforma for our annual external examiner's report form. It comes in two parts : part A is for external publication on the HEFCE 'Teaching Quality Information' web site; part B is for internal usage.

It would be a great help to us if you were able to complete the form in an electronic version. If are willing to do so, please email [c.ryans@lse.ac.uk](mailto:c.ryans@lse.ac.uk) and a copy will be sent by return.

We do however recognise that for some examiners the paper version is easier to use, in which case please complete the attached form and return it to Paul Aristides, Student Services Centre, LSE, Houghton St, London WC2A 2AE.

If at all possible we would like to receive your form within two weeks of the final examiners' meeting.

If you have any questions about this process, please contact Simeon Underwood, Academic Registrar ([s.underwood@lse.ac.uk](mailto:s.underwood@lse.ac.uk)).

**I would ask you to consider carefully whether the report you are providing is suitably comprehensive and analytical. Some of the reports we have received in the recent past have been cursory. On the one hand this may be because things are generally satisfactory and there is not much for the examiner to say. On the other hand we regard these reports as probably the most important piece of evidence available to us in demonstrating our academic standards and the quality of our provision, both to ourselves and the outside world and we would therefore ask that you write your report with this purpose in mind. In conclusion we would like to thank you for the time and trouble you take over these reports.**

Tim Murphy  
Deputy Director (Teaching and Learning)  
February 2005

# THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

## External examiner's report form 2005/06 (undergraduate)

### PART A – SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION

Name of examiner (*this is not for publication, but is needed for our internal purposes*):

Please Complete : Professor Alan Sharp

This part of the Report Form was added in 2003 to meet a requirement set by the Higher Education Funding Council for England that institutions should be publishing summaries of external examiners' reports. The summary is to be published on the web, as part of the HEFCE Teaching Quality Information exercise. HEFCE expects that it will be read e.g. by prospective students ; and you may want to reflect this in the content and style of this part of the report.

We will not change what you have written, though it may be accompanied by a statement from us of actions the Department or the School is taking in response to your comments.

If you wish to develop any comments you make beyond the space available in the boxes, then please attach a separate piece of paper. If using the electronic version please simply expand the boxes.

1. Name of HEI.

**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**

2a. Title of the summary (this could be a subject area or named awards).

History

2b. List of awards partially or wholly covered by the summary.

Various combinations with International History including International Relations and Government

3. Academic year examined.

**2005/06**

4. Home institution and/or other professional/institutional affiliation of external examiner.

University of Ulster

- 5a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiners, the standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject.'

**YES**

- 5b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.



- 6a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiner the standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which they are familiar.'

**YES**

- 6b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.



- 7a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiner, the processes for assessment, examination and the determination of awards are sound and fairly conducted.'

**YES**

- 7b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.



**Question 7 is also covered in some of the questions in part B, in case there are points you want to make, for example of a technical nature, which are inappropriate for publication.**

8. (See second bullet point below) Where appropriate, a description or bullet point list of any particular strengths or distinctive or innovative features in relation to standards and assessment processes that would be worth drawing to the attention of external audiences.

International History at LSE offers a wide range of courses spread across time and geographical location. The final classification results indicate an enthusiastic and committed group of students who have been taught by a well-motivated and able Department. One particular strength of this programme remains the number of high-achieving dissertations produced by students using an impressive range of primary and secondary material, often utilising foreign languages and archives, resulting in work of near-publishable standard.

- **HEFCE suggests a maximum of 300 words for textual fields, i.e. 5b, 6b, 7b and 8.**
- **It also states if you don't enter any text in field 8, it will not appear on the TQI site.**

# THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

## External examiner's report form 2005/06 (undergraduate)

### PART A – SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION

Name of examiner (*this is not for publication, but is needed for our internal purposes*):

Please Complete : Dr Martin Thomas

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If you wish to develop any comments you make beyond the space available in the boxes, then please attach a separate piece of paper. If using the electronic version please simply expand the boxes.

1. Name of HEI.

**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**

2a. Title of the summary (this could be a subject area or named awards).

SUB-BOARD: HISTORY BA

2b. List of awards partially or wholly covered by the summary.

History and International Relations BA  
History and Government BA

3. Academic year examined.

**2005/06**

4. Home institution and/or other professional/institutional affiliation of external examiner.

Exeter University

- 5a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiners, the standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject.'

**YES**


- 5b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.



- 6a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiner the standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which they are familiar.'

**YES**

- 6b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.



- 7a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiner, the processes for assessment, examination and the determination of awards are sound and fairly conducted.'

**YES**

- 7b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.



**Question 7 is also covered in some of the questions in part B, in case there are points you want to make, for example of a technical nature, which are inappropriate for publication.**

8. (See second bullet point below) Where appropriate, a description or bullet point list of any particular strengths or distinctive or innovative features in relation to standards and assessment processes that would be worth drawing to the attention of external audiences.

- Excellent course design that tests students in a number of complementary ways.
- Consistent effort to ensure that students engage with current debates and key concepts, and do not simply absorb a body of knowledge.
- Outstanding dissertation provision, and consistent evidence of close supervision.
- Scrupulous fairness in the use of blind double marking and the consideration of borderline candidates.
- A system of aggregating final marks that is fair and transparent.

- ***HEFCE suggests a maximum of 300 words for textual fields, i.e. 5b, 6b, 7b and 8.***
- ***It also states if you don't enter any text in field 8, it will not appear on the TQI site.***

# THE LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE

## External examiner's report form 2005/06 (undergraduate)

### PART A – SUMMARY FOR PUBLICATION

Name of examiner (*this is not for publication, but is needed for our internal purposes*):

Please Complete : Dr. Christopher Storrs

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We will not change what you have written, though it may be accompanied by a statement from us of actions the Department or the School is taking in response to your comments.

If you wish to develop any comments you make beyond the space available in the boxes, then please attach a separate piece of paper. If using the electronic version please simply expand the boxes.

1. Name of HEI.

**LONDON SCHOOL OF ECONOMICS AND POLITICAL SCIENCE**

2a. Title of the summary (this could be a subject area or named awards).

International History

2b. List of awards partially or wholly covered by the summary.

BA, History  
BSc, International Relations and History

3. Academic year examined.

**2005/06**

4. Home institution and/or other professional/institutional affiliation of external examiner.

Dept. of History, University of Dundee



- 5a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiners, the standards set for the awards are appropriate for qualifications at this level, in this subject.'

**YES/NO**

- 5b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.

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- 6a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiner the standards of student performance are comparable with similar programmes or subjects in other UK institutions with which they are familiar.'

**YES/NO**

- 6b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.

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- 7a. A yes/no response to the following statement: 'In the view of the examiner, the processes for assessment, examination and the determination of awards are sound and fairly conducted.'

**YES/NO**

- 7b. If no, a statement of the respects in which they fall short.

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***Question 7 is also covered in some of the questions in part B, in case there are points you want to make, for example of a technical nature, which are inappropriate for publication.***

8. (See second bullet point below) Where appropriate, a description or bullet point list of any particular strengths or distinctive or innovative features in relation to standards and assessment processes that would be worth drawing to the attention of external audiences.

The LSE is clearly attracts some very able students. It is also in the enviable position of offering access to important research libraries and archives in the London area. Both of these are reflected in the high standard of some of the research dissertations.

- ***HEFCE suggests a maximum of 300 words for textual fields, i.e. 5b, 6b, 7b and 8.***
- ***It also states if you don't enter any text in field 8, it will not appear on the TQI site.***