

Glossary of terms

ADC	Academic Development Committee, the UH committee that formally approves proposals for all collaborative academic partnerships and programmes
APCL	Accredited Prior Certificated Learning - learning which has been recognised previously by an education provider, evidenced by formal certification, and assessed and recognised for the award of credit by UH (see section 3)
APEL	Accredited Prior Experiential Learning - learning which has been achieved through experiences outside the formal education and training systems, normally associated with a working environment, which has been assessed and recognised for the award of credit by UH (see section 3)
APL	A combination of APCL and APEL – a process for accessing and recognising prior experiential learning or prior certificated learning for academic purposes. This recognition gives the learning a credit-value and allows it to be counted towards the completion of an award (see section 3)
CATS	The Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme - a generic term used to describe the transfer of credit between higher education institutions
CATS Programme	The UH Credit Accumulation and Transfer Scheme – a flexible programme through which the University is able to provide individuals with bespoke programmes of study, leading to a range of generic and semi-generic awards (see section 5)
Certificated learning	Learning which has been formally assessed by examination, essay, project or other means and for which a certificate and/or transcript has been given
CPD	Continuous Professional Development - a means by which individuals continuously maintain, improve and broaden their knowledge and skills and develop the personal qualities required in their profession
EAA	The External Accreditation Agreement, a legal agreement between UH and an externally-accredited partner, signed by the VC on behalf of UH
Experiential learning	Learning from experience. It is different from formal learning as it is often unstructured and can be more personal and individualised. APEL applicants can develop skills, strengths and knowledge from a range of experiential learning. This may include learning through work, family life, community, voluntary or leisure activities, as well as key experiences or life events
External accreditation	The recognition through a credit-rating process of the provision of an external provider (see section 4)
Formal learning	Learning that occurs within an organised and structured context
Generic and semi-generic awards	Awards available for candidates who are accumulating credit through various routes which are not part of a validated programme (available for MA/MSc, PGDip, PGCert, BA/BSc Hons, BA/BSc, GradDip, GradCert, DipHE and CertHE awards), and awarded through the CATS programme (see section 5)
Informal learning	Learning resulting from daily activities related to work, family or leisure
Learner	A student, delegate or participant
Module	A self-contained quantum of study which is part of a validated programme of study, with defined intended learning outcomes, syllabus, and assessments, which measures knowledge/skill.
RPL	Recognition of Prior Learning umbrella term used by QAA to encompass APEL and APCL, referred to at UH as APL
SCD	Short Course Descriptor – the definitive UH descriptor of a short course (e.g. title, aims, learning outcomes, content, academic level, credit rating, etc.)
Short course	A self-contained quantum of study, with defined intended learning outcomes, syllabus and assessments which measure these outcomes. It is <u>not</u> part of an approved programme of study (but the credit achieved may contribute to a UH award)
Small awards	Certificates (30 credits) or Diplomas (60 credits) in Professional Development, awarded through the CATS programme and available at all academic levels, to provide a more realisable target for work-based learners (see section 5)
Uncertificated learning	Describes learning which has been undertaken and for which no certificate or transcript has been awarded and that usually has not been formally assessed
Validation	The process undertaken to approve a programme of studies leading to a UH award