

UUSU



**STUDENT
VOICE**

Academic Acronyms

A-C

Learning the lingo can be tricky, so we've compiled the list below are all the acronyms and terms you may come across during your time as a rep. If you come across something that is not on the list and not course-specific, please contact n.browne@ulster.ac.uk to get it added.

ACRONYM	MEANING
ADDL	Access, Digital and Distributed Learning
AFHEA	Associate Fellow Higher Education Academy
AGM	Annual General Meeting
AHE	Advance Higher Education
AHSS	Faculty of Arts, Humanities & Social Sciences
Analytic Rubric	For every grade level or mark, describes the level of competence for each
ARC	Academic Rep Coordinator
Associate Student	Any student who is currently registered for one or more modules but is not currently registered for a full award such as a degree.
BA/BSc	Bachelor of Arts/Science
CEBE	Faculty of Computing, Engineering & the Built Environment
CHERP	The Center for Higher Education Research & Practice
Compulsory Modules	Modules which a student must complete to qualify for their award.
Co-Requisite Modules	Modules on which a student can only enrol if they are also enrolled for one or more of a specified related module(s) simultaneously.
Credit	The numerical value assigned to each module, to measure the level of learning/assignment required to complete it. This could be as little as 10 credits or as many as 80 credits.

ACRONYM	MEANING
DCMS	Department for Culture, Media, and Sport
Designated Modules	Modules that are not compulsory, but students choose from a number of these to complete their award.
DoE	Department of Economy
DfE	Department for Education
DH	Department of Health
DPP	Diploma in Professional Practise
DSA	Disabled Students' Allowance
DVC	Deputy Vice Chancellor
EA	Education Authority
ED	Executive Dean
EDGE	Engagement, Development, Graduate Employment
FAQ	Frequently Asked Questions
FD	Foundation Degree
FE	Further Education
FEC	Further Education College
HE	Higher Education
HEPI	Higher Education and Policy Institute
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency
HNC	Higher National Certificate
HND	Higher National Diploma

ACRONYM	MEANING
Holistic Rubric	For every grade level or mark, gives an overall description of competence, without a breakdown into individual criteria.
HoS	Head of Schools
HR	Human Resources
ICDF	Integrated Curriculum Design Framework
ILT	Institute for Learning and Teaching in Higher Education
Joint Honours	An award consisting of two specified subjects in either a major, minor, or joint combination.
KPIs	Key Performance Indicators
KPT	Key Performance Target
LHS	Faculty of Life & Health Science
LLN	Lifelong Learning Network
LoS	Letter of Support
LTA	Learning & Teaching Awards
MA/MSc	Master of Arts/Science
Major Subject	When completing a Joint Honours degree, a major subject is a defined group of at least nine standard modules or equivalent in one of a student's chosen subjects. This includes 60 credits at level four, 80 credits at level five and 80 credits at level six.
MaSN Cap (Maximum Student Numbers Cap)	A mechanism for controlling the number of full-time undergraduate places in universities.

ACRONYM	MEANING
Minor Subject	When completing a Joint Honours degree, a minor subject is a defined group of at least six standard modules or equivalent in one of a student's chosen subjects. This includes 60 credits at level four and 40 at levels five and six.
Mitigating Circumstances	When a student has experienced unexpected and unplanned circumstances, they can make a claim for mitigating circumstances. If approved by the University, this allows for exceptional consideration in the submission of assessments, or the deferral of assessments.
MRes	Masters of Research
MYM	Mind Your Mood
NSS	National Student Survey
NStEP	National Student Engagement Programme
NUS	National Union of Students
NVQ	National Vocational Qualification
ODL	Office for Digital Learning
Pedagogy	The study of the methods and activities of teaching.
PGCE	Postgraduate Certificate in Education or Professional Graduate in
PGR	Postgraduate Research
PhD	Doctor of Philosophy
Pre-Requisite Modules	Modules which a student must be credited with before proceeding to another specified module.
Professional Practice Modules	A module whose code ends with a 'P,' has special regulations. The 'P' usually denotes a practical element or work placement. This is usually for professional courses such as Nursing or Primary Education.

ACRONYM	MEANING
PVC	Pro-Vice Chancellor
QAA	Quality Assurance Agency
QAHE	Quality Assurance Higher Education
REF	Research Excellence Framework
Rubric	A tool to help in assessing students' work, which usually includes three essential features: evaluative criteria, quality definitions of the criteria at particular levels, and a scoring strategy.
SDC	Student Disciplinary Committee
SLC	Student Loans Company
SLE	Student Learning Experience
SSCC	Student Staff Consultative Committee
SSR	Student Staff Ratio
Student Advocate	Act as the key School/Department contact for matters relating to the Academic Representation system
SVF	Student Voice Forum
SVM	Student Voice Manager
TEF	Teaching Excellence Framework
UCEA	University and Colleges Employers Association
UCU	University and Colleges Union
USI	Union of Students in Ireland
UU	Ulster University
UUBS	Ulster University Business School

U-Z

ACRONYM	MEANING
UUK	Universities UK
UUSU	Ulster University Students Union
Validation	In order to create a new programme of study or make any changes to an existing programme, they must go through this process of peer group review. This review is external to the programme team and includes representatives of the wider academic/professional community.
VC	Vice Chancellor
VPE	Vice-President of Education
WP	Widening Participation
w/c	Week Commencing