

Maynooth University

Student Reviewers

What are quality reviews?

Maynooth has an ongoing schedule of Quality Reviews of all academic depts. & administrative units.

The area under review drafts a Self-Assessment Report (SAR) reflecting on the effectiveness of all of its activities & procedures.

A Peer Review Group (PRG) analyse the SAR before visiting the university to review the area.

Post-visit, the PRG drafts a report of its findings & recommendations for improvement for the area.

The area then addresses these recommendations by drafting a Quality Improvement Plan (QIP).

What are student reviewers?

Student Reviewers are included on PRGs to capture the student perspective.

PRGs also include external & internal experts with the Student Reviewer providing expertise on the student experience.

Student Reviewers evaluate the area's activities and procedures by measuring their effectiveness & impact on students.

Student Reviewers ensure that enhancing the student experience is a central part of quality reviews by identifying areas where it can be improved.

What does the role involve?

Completing a 2-hour training session & online pre-review preparation sessions.

Evaluating the SAR prepared by the area under review (approx. 20-30 pages) & drafting initial focus points prior to the review visit.

Visiting the university to test & verify the SAR by meeting stakeholders of the area under review.

Recommending ways to improve the activities, procedures & services provided by the area.

Drafting part of the Peer Review Report after the site visit.

Why become a Student Reviewer?

Curriculum Vitae

Analytical Skills / Critical Analysis

- Evaluating & analysing self-assessment reports & other documentation.
- Identifying key content in self-assessment reports for site visit & discussion follow-up.
- Reviewing the management and quality of research activities.

Research & Evaluation Skills / Evidence Gathering

- Participating in review visits to verify & test evidence.
- Drawing conclusions & making recommendations based on gathered evidence.
- Analysing overall student achievement & contributions to it by various factors (teaching quality, learning opportunities, etc.).

Review & Assessment

- Evaluating systems & processes within the university.
- Reviewing academic support, learning resources & their effectiveness.
- Assessing procedures for maintaining & enhancing academic standards & quality.

Judgment & Recommendations

- Making informed judgments on academic standards & quality.
- Providing well-founded recommendations for change or improvement.

Professionalism & Interpersonal Skills

- Collaborating effectively with review group members.
- Working courteously & professionally in a team setting.
- Respecting confidentiality & adhering to university protocols.
- Demonstrating dignity & respect in interactions.

Communication Skills

- Preparing initial points for discussion & circulation.
- Drafting & commenting on sections of the Review Group Report.
- Writing succinct & coherent reports.
- Conducting meetings & interviews with staff, students & external stakeholders.
- Working as an effective team member, sharing insights & collaborating with others.

Organisational / Time Management Skills

- Meeting tight timescales & deadlines.
- Ability to prioritise & accommodate competing timelines & schedules.
- Demonstrated commitment & active engagement in entire review process from start to finish.

IT / Information Management Skills

- Proficiency in communicating via email/Microsoft Teams.
- Collaborating on review documents & team presentations.

Boost your CV

Learn valuable transferrable skills to grow your confidence and employability.



MUSE Awards

Apply your participation towards your MUSE Award (subject to MUSE criteria).

MUSE
MAYNOOTH UNIVERSITY
STUDENT EXPERIENCE
AWARDS

Enhance the Student Experience

Represent your fellow students by identifying ways to improve the MU student experience.



MU Behind the Scenes

Gain an insight into how different areas of the university & higher education operate.



Paid Participation

Student Reviewers are paid a gratuity & receive a certificate on completion of the role.

