University of Essex

Abbreviations, acronyms and initialisms

Introduction

This document has been created to provide you with a useful reference for abbreviations, initialisms and acronyms commonly used within our webpages and policies. The below definitions, as published by the English Oxford Dictionary, are provided to clarify the differences in reference of terms.

Abbreviations

A shortened form of a word or phrase.[1]
For example, 'Reps' (Representatives).

Acronyms

An abbreviation formed from the initial letters of other words and pronounced as a word.[2]
For example, 'QUAD' (Quality and Academic Development).

Initialisms

An abbreviation consisting of initial letters pronounced separately.[3]
For example, 'DDE' (Deputy Dean (Education).

[1] *https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/abbreviation*
[2] *https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/acronym*
[3] *https://en.oxforddictionaries.com/definition/initialism*

General

ARC	Annual Review of Courses
AP(E)L	Accreditation of Prior (Experiential) Learning
CPD	Continuing Professional Development
FASer	Feedback Assessment Submission Electronic Repository
DDE	Deputy Dean (Education)
DEAP	Departmental Education Action Plan
DTC	Doctoral Training Centre
DTP	Doctoral Training Partnership
DVC	Deputy Vice-Chancellor
EE	External Examiners
ETA	Excellence in Teaching Awards
FHEQ	Framework for Higher Education Qualifications
FTE	Full-time Equivalent
GRA	Graduate Research Assistant
GTA	Graduate Teaching Assistant
HE	Higher Education
HEI	Higher Education Institution
HEAR	Higher Education Achievement Record
HER	QAA Higher Education Review
KIS	Key Information Sets
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
NSS	National Student Survey
PG	Postgraduate
PGR	Postgraduate Research (Doctoral level programmes)
PGT	Postgraduate Taught (Masters level programmes)
PR	Periodic Reviews
PSRB	Professional, Statutory and Regulatory Bodies
PVC	Pro-Vice-Chancellor
QA	Quality Assurance
QA&E	Quality Assurance and Enhancement
REF	Research Excellent Framework
RoA	Rules of Assessment
SAMT	Student Assessment of Modules and Teaching

TALIF	Teaching and Learning Innovation Fund
TEF	Teaching Excellence Framework
TEL	Technology Enhanced Learning
UCAS	Universities and Colleges Admissions Service
UG	Undergraduate
UKES	United Kingdom Engagement Survey
UoE	University of Essex
VC	Vice-Chancellor
VLE	Virtual Learning Environment (e.g. Moodle)
WBL	Work-based Learning
WRL	Work-related Learning

Committees, Boards and Bodies

AQSC	Academic Quality and Standards Committee
ASC	Academic Staffing Committee
AUA	Association of University Administrators (external)
CPG	Capital Planning Group
EC	Education Committee
FEC	Faculty Education Committee
HEA	Higher Education Academy
HEFCE	Higher Education Funding Council for England (external)
HESA	Higher Education Statistics Agency (external)
LFHE	Leadership Foundation for High Education (external)
NUS	National Union of Students (external)
OfS	Office for Students (external)
OFSTED	Office for Standards in Education, Children's Services and Skills (external)
PAG	Partnerships Advisory Group
PCG	Projects Coordination Group
PEC	Partnerships Education Committee
QAA	Quality Assurance Agency (external)
SEC	Student Experience Committee
SU	Students' Union
SVG	Student Voice Group (formerly Student Staff Liaison Committees [SSLCs])
USG	University Steering Group

Departments and teams

CER	Communications and External Relations Section
CRT	Course Records Team
CSEE	Computer Science and Electronic Engineering (School of)
EBS	Essex Business School
EHS	Edge Hotel School
HSC	Health and Social Care (School of)
ISC	Interdisciplinary Studies Centre
ISER	Institute for Social and Economic Research
OD	Organisational Development
PGRE	Postgraduate Research Education Team
PPS	Psychosocial and Psychoanalytic Studies (Department of)
QUAD	Quality and Academic Development Team
SPAH	School of Philosophy and Art History
SRES	School of Rehabilitation and Exercise Science
SU	Students' Union