



Regent Ghana Academic Policy

Section G

Teaching Methods and Strategies Policy

Principles and Guidelines for Lecturers

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Note: This is an interim policy until January 2007. Policy implementation will be monitored throughout 2007 and reviewed in October/November.

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1. Introduction

All the university's courses combine theory and practice, in which you apply the latest concepts and technological tools to real business problems.

Graduate Studies at Regent Ghana, make use of a range of teaching methods appropriate to individual modules. Each module is divided into units containing detailed material on a particular topic. As an aid to studying, teaching methods mix some of the following methods:

- face-to-face teaching with seminar-room discussion and focus groups
- individual research with group projects and exercises
- oral presentations with written reports
- analytical approach with case methodology,
- business simulation with industrial visits
- Individual & group meetings in with tutors and visiting speakers.
- electronic forum discussion and teletutorials with audio-visual facilities

After a general lecture to a maximum of 40 students, there follows seminars with an average class size of 10 to 15 students, ensuring an interactive, dynamic seminar-room experience.

2. Teaching Resources

Consistent with Regent Ghana's quality assurance policy, it is expected that the class size will be large enough to provide diversity of experience, yet small enough to encourage discussion, creating a cooperative but dynamic learning environment.

All lectures are digitally projected and notes prepared by lecturers are made available to students on Regent Ghana's course management system called the e-Campus. In addition to the relevant text books, each student who joins the programme receives a personal computer/ laptop loaded with the relevant software that will aid his / her studies. Teaching materials, notes and relevant internationally recognised journals are all made available online. Students have access to all electronic materials Regent Ghana

3. Course delivery

The Regent-Ghana taught courses delivery works thus:

In order to help the student begin the programme with confidence courses start with an induction programme. The Induction process aims to encourage student networking and familiarises you with the Virtual Campus, Virtual Library and programme expectations. After this initial, in-depth Study Skills-orientated Induction Programme; Four (4) modules per semester by the Regent University College of Science and Technology for four years for undergraduate courses and two years for a postgraduate programme.

Online access to the university's learning resources centre, a virtual learning environment

called eCampus and self-directed online and face-to-face study discussion groups. At the same time Regent Ghana professors teach weekly each semester. Regent Ghana also organises periodic weekend 'Business School' workshops undertaken by Regent Ghana lecturing staff.

Learning and development

When you become part of the Regent-Ghana post graduate programme a senior colleague will become your mentor providing ongoing support throughout the programme. The student will also have a 'buddy', a colleague with whom to share your ideas.

The eCampus which is Regent Ghana's virtual campus is the online learning environment that is accessed through the World Wide Web. The eCampus includes facilities learning and teaching resources, mailbox and access to the Virtual Libraries of some of Regent Ghana's Partner Universities. Interactions with tutors and other students take place in online seminars that run asynchronously, so that time zones present no barrier and students are able to participate at a time that is convenient. The Virtual Library provides access to an extensive range of full text articles, market research reports, company information and other useful sources of information.

The benefits of the above 'blended learning' approach are flexibility and customisation of teaching and learning to suit individual experience and international exposure of the MBA student to both local and global business through their interactive with foreign professors while studying within the Ghanaian business environment. This approach also enhances a healthy collaboration between local and foreign professors from both the developed and the developing worlds. Professors develop close, informal relationships with their students, based on active collaboration.

All taught modules require attendance over a three semester (three 16-weeks) period for lectures, tutorials, discussions, seminars and presentations, sometimes in conjunction with either tutorials or workshops. The lecturing style tends to be participative, and lectures frequently incorporate case analysis and discussions. Thus, centred on Problem Based Learning and Action Learning, the learning methods emphasise the use of case studies, discussions, presentations, group work and digital media. Computer and other simulations are used. Skills teaching will often involve role-playing or video learning work. In addition, you are expected to undertake approximately 130 hours of independent study per module involving reading, research, personal investigation and completion of tutor directed tasks. Throughout the first year students will work in study groups of nine or ten people for all of their core group assignments. In the second year students form groups them.

The programme will also provide the opportunity to visit various organisations, in order to experience, at first hand, the application of theoretical learning to practice. Additionally, industry practitioners are invited as guest lecturers to share their experiences and disseminate best practice.

4. IT requirements

The Regent University College of Science and Technology gives each postgraduate participant a laptop for his/her academic work. The University uses Microsoft Office (Windows) and Open Office (Linux), and it is recommended that students become familiar with all of the packages available with these suites before joining the programme. Students will be able to meet this requirement by partaking in the Undergraduate and Postgraduate Programmes.