

## Evaluation and Benchmarking of the Diploma in Modern Logistics Management from Jiangxi Tourism and Commerce Vocational College

## **Context and scope**

Jiangxi Tourism and Commerce Vocational College commissioned Ecctis for an independent evaluation and benchmarking of its Diploma in Modern Logistics Management, which was completed in June 2024.

The Diploma in Modern Logistics Management is one of over 50 qualifications delivered by the College in subject areas such as hotel management, tourism management, accounting, e-commerce, and mechatronics.

The main aims of the benchmarking were to:

- Establish comparability in the context of the UK through reference to the Regulated Qualifications Framework (RQF), and by extension, the European Qualifications Framework (EQF)<sup>1</sup>
- Assess the extent to which the College's underpinning quality assurance meets a set of international standards.

## Key findings

The Diploma in Modern Logistics Management seeks to develop students' knowledge in areas such as supply chain data analysis, international freight forwarding, warehouse and distribution management, and express delivery practice. In line with national requirements, the Diploma also encompasses "public basic courses" which include topics from arts, social sciences and science domains.

The general entry requirement for the programme is the National College Entrance Examination (NCEE, popularly known as the *gaokao* 高考) – comparable to GCE A Level / RQF Level 3 in the UK – or suitable marks in one of the College's own tests.

The Diploma is a three-year full-time programme equating to approximately 2760 hours' guided learning time. Reflecting its vocational focus, the Diploma combines classroom-based study with practical-based simulated learning and a 6-month internship that allows students to embed their practical skills and knowledge into a real-world practical enterprise.

Upon completion, many students enter the workforce; however, some students will be eligible

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> To date, a total of 36 countries have now referenced their national education systems to the EQF.

to apply for top-up Benke (本科) / Bachelor degree programmes. These require a minimum of two years of further study, which shows that the Diploma has similar academic progression routes to that of HNDs, Diplomas of Higher Education and other UK Level 5 awards.

The study revealed several strengths of the Diploma in Modern Logistics Management, namely it demonstrated that:

- There are robust structures and processes for oversight of admissions, covering key quality elements and this should be commended.
- A holistic approach is taken to learning; students interact with academic teachers, industry practitioners, alongside study, allowing students to develop a diverse range of skills and knowledge.
- Regarding teaching and learning, the Diploma thoroughly covers diverse concepts and schools of thought such as independent critical thinking and holistic interdisciplinary approaches to logistics management.
- The College provides industry standard equipment and facilities which effectively supports content delivery and skill development.
- The Diploma is well-aligned to industry standards and requirements, evident through its collaboration with local enterprises.
- The policy for online learning resources presents a well-developed approach to supporting online teaching effectiveness.
- There are comprehensive processes for major and annual review, including the capacity of staff to access programme data to support continuous improvement.
- Information security policies and processes are robust and appropriate, with emergency procedures in place, in accordance with national regulations.

In terms of international comparability, the Diploma in Modern Logistics Management has been found comparable to Level 5 of the RQF and EQF. It has also met international quality standards in the following five areas:

• Admission

There is a pre-defined and published admissions policy ensuring transparency in the admissions policy and supporting consistency in admissions decisions

- **Programme development, approval, monitoring and review** There is a clear, process in place for the design, approval and monitoring of programmes
- **Teaching and learning** There is a formalised process for monitoring the quality and effectiveness of delivery, relevant to the modes of study employed
- Assessment

Assessment provides a sufficiently fair, valid and reliable evaluation of the intended knowledge, skills and competencies

• Information

The information available to prospective students, current students and other interested stakeholders is accurate, transparent and clear for the intended audience.

## Engagement

Jiangxi Tourism and Commerce Vocational College has committed to further development and engagement encompassing:

- Writing new learning outcomes at programme and module level, ensuring these are specific, measurable, and feasible. Ensure the of the programme targets a higher level of knowledge and critical thinking skills, in line with RQF Level 5 descriptors
- Developing a programme assessment framework/plan.
- Adopting assessment and marking approaches that sufficiently test critical thinking skills such as analysis and evaluation.
- Ensuring that there is a clear policy on programme assessment plans. Assessments should be developed so that they are clearly linked to intended learning outcomes. There should be clear limits on the use and weighting of attendance as part of the assessment.
- Developing a unified internal quality assurance 'handbook' for the College to bring together all existing written policies and processes, and formalise any unwritten policies or processes.
- Maintaining and ensuring adoption by all staff of the unified quality assurance handbook.

Ecctis is a gold-standard provider of services in international education, training, and skills, and in the development and recognition of globally portable qualifications. We are an internationally trusted and respected reference point for qualifications and skills standards.

We are UK-based and operate worldwide, with a global network and client base spanning 62 countries and 5 continents. We have a 20-year track record in international consultancy and development.

Ecctis provides official UK national agency services on behalf of the UK Government in qualifications, skills, and migration – including UK ENIC, formerly UK NARIC.

UK ENIC is the UK National Information Centre for global qualifications and skills. Following the UK's leaving the EU, the former UK NARIC recognition agency function changes from a NARIC (which is an EU-only title) to an ENIC (the wider European title for national recognition agencies) in order to meet the UK's continuing treaty obligations under the Lisbon Recognition Convention.

Since 2019, through our China representatives and Beijing office Nalike we have conducted qualification benchmarking in China and fostered educational links between China and other countries, to support the internationalisation efforts of China's higher vocational colleges.