

Multi-award-winning university in the UK sought a flexible curriculum management platform to take them even further

NOTTINGHAM
TRENT UNIVERSITY

Location

Nottingham, UK

Challenge

Manual processes to design, approve and govern curriculum

Outcome

A definitive source of truth for curriculum information



CourseLoop is the most beautiful curriculum management solution we have seen.

- CAROLINE PICKERING • NTU PRODUCT OWNER -

Challenge

NTU's 2015-2020 strategic plan is future-facing and places the curriculum at the heart of the University's ambition. Support for student employability by embedding professional attributes, skills and work experience in the curriculum combines with a personalised approach to learning, to deliver an outstanding student experience. This will in turn help address their goals to attract a wider range of students, improve student retention, and manage cost pressures.

It became clear that the manual processes that NTU, like many other universities, used to design, approve and govern their curriculum didn't support their goals as outlined in the strategic plan.

Fundamentally, NTU lacked confidence in the accuracy of the information because of the associated high risk of error in their manual processes. They have also been limited in their ability to effectively report on the curriculum at a strategic level to facilitate decision-making, have high staff administration costs and have been slow to deliver new courses to market.

To support their strategic plan and ongoing success, NTU required a more robust, coherent mechanism for managing course and module information to benefit departments across the University, including Academic Schools, [CADQ](#) (leading and supporting innovation in curriculum design, learning, teaching, and assessment), Student Planning and ultimately current and prospective students.

Solution

NTU was looking for a solution that offered central management of curriculum information to deliver improved efficiency, improved management information and improved monitoring and quality assurance.

After a local market scan and review, NTU decided to launch an open tender process in order to ensure they could identify the best solution. Five proposals were returned from vendors across the European Union and from CourseLoop (formerly known as Factor5 Software) in

Australia, and after reviewing all solutions the University shortlisted the proposals down to two potential vendors. CourseLoop's Curriculum Management platform was selected because it met all of NTU's immediate business requirements with existing functionality, as well as supporting the configuration required to suit NTU's approach and processes. The project team were also highly impressed with the user interface, ease of use and how intuitive CourseLoop is, which was ultimately the reason CourseLoop was the highest-scoring vendor in the tender process.

Recognised as one of the UK's outstanding universities, [NTU](#) has received a string of prestigious awards over the last few years, including [The Guardian University of the Year 2019](#), the Times and Sunday Times [Modern University of the Year 2018](#), and the [Times Higher Education University of the Year 2017](#). Based in Nottingham, NTU serves over 30,000 students with a staff of over 8,600.

[Get in touch to find out more](#)

Outcomes

Implementation of CourseLoop in 2020 will provide NTU with:

- A definitive source of truth for curriculum information enabling improved monitoring and quality assurance, and giving NTU complete confidence in the integrity of the curriculum information.
- Support for robust and effective governance and approval processes with a full change history.

- The ability to confidently and consistently report on the curriculum at a strategic level to facilitate review and decision-making.
- Seamless integration with existing university systems.

NTU is currently revising their academic governance and approval processes and has been excited to understand how CourseLoop's dynamic workflow engine and committee support capability can support increased efficiency and robust yet nimble governance through automated workflows and support for online review of proposals by committee members.



Despite being based in Australia and us in the UK, the CourseLoop team are always prompt to respond, available to call and be on-site to help get the project off the ground.

- EMILY-ROSE DAY • NTU PROCUREMENT – ASSISTANT BUYER (FORMER) –