

EVALUATION AND ACCREDITATION OF OFFICIAL UNIVERSITY DEGREES

UNDERGRADUATE, MASTER'S AND DOCTORAL PROGRAMS

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EVALUACIÓN Y ACREDITACIÓN DE TITULACIONES UNIVERSITARIAS OFICIALES

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I. MARCO DE REFERENCIA

II. RENOVACIÓN DE LA ACREDITACIÓN (RA)

I. Reference Frame

- Royal Decree 822/2021, of September 28th, established the organization of university education and the procedure for quality assurance (this RD has been repealed Royal Decree 1393/2007, of October 29th).
- Criteria and Guidelines for Quality Assurance in the European Higher Education Area (European Standards and Guidelines for Quality Assurance of Higher Education, ESG, 2015).

Reference Frame

Quality assurance processes

Quality assurance processes to which the degrees are subject to

- **VERIFICATION** (Universities Council, CU) + Authorization for implementation (Autonomous Community): Initial accreditation of the degree and its registration in the RUCT.
- **MODIFICATION** of the syllabus to update it (CU): RUCT
- **FOLLOW-UP**: check its implementation and analyze results
- **RENEWAL OF ACCREDITATION**: to maintain its official validity, every 6 years, since its initial verification or since its last renewal of accreditation (CU): RUCT).

By whom?

- Internally, the **University's own degrees**.
- **External Evaluation Bodies**: Agencies registered in the European Register of Quality Assurance Agencies in Higher Education (The European Quality Assurance Register for Higher Education, EQAR), after having successfully passed an external evaluation in accordance with the ESG: ANECA (national level) and ACSUCyL (in the Autonomous Community of Castilla y León).

How?

- Evaluation protocols, defined by:
 - **CURSA**: University Commission for the Regulation of Monitoring and Accreditation. Composed of representatives of the Ministry of Universities, the Autonomous Communities, the Universities and the Quality Agencies.
 - **REACU**: Network of University Quality Agencies.
 - **ACSUCYL**: Through the common framework, it defines its own procedures that are applicable to the USAL.

II. ACCREDITATION RENEWAL

Accreditation Renewal Objectives

To guarantee that the development of the Degree is carried out in accordance with the Verified Report.

To guarantee that the quality of the results obtained corresponds to the results committed in the Verified Report.

To guarantee the rights and interests of the students, in accordance with the commitments of the Verified Report.

To ensure that the Degree has an Internal Quality Assurance System (SGIC) that has allowed its monitoring.

Accreditation Renewal

Phases of the Accreditation Renewal process

INTERNAL

EXTERNAL

<p>The DGU communicates to USAL the list of degrees to be submitted to RA</p> <p>May</p>	<p>Revision of the Institutional Web of the Title</p> <p>June-July</p>	<p>Gathering of documentary evidence</p>	<p>ACSUCyL training session</p> <p>October</p>	<p>Title analysis and development of the ARA</p>	<p>ARA dissemination and approval</p>	<p>Request (ARA and evidence) to CU, which transfers it to ACSUCyL.</p> <p>October</p>	<p>ACSUCyL assigns the Title to a Branch Evaluation Committee that analyzes the ARA.</p>	<p>External visit to the degree (February-March)</p>	<p>ACSUCyL sends the proposed external report to USAL</p> <p>April-May</p>	<p>USAL presents allegations</p> <p>20 resource days</p>	<p>ACSUCyL reviews allegations, issues Final RA Report and sends it to the USAL, the CU and the Autonomous Community of Castille and León.</p>	<p>The CU resolves and registers it in the RUCT.</p> <p>July</p>	<p>The USAL publishes the External Report on the Web and the Degree takes it into account in its subsequent development (improvement actions to be undertaken).</p>
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INTERNAL

EXTERNAL

- DGU: Dirección General de Universidades
- CU: Consejo de Universidades
- RUCT: Registro de Universidades, Centros y Títulos
- ARA: Autoinforme de Renovación de la Acreditación

Principal Agents (Undergraduate and Master Univ.)

Degree Quality Commission		External Visiting Committee		Degree Evaluation Committee	
COMPOSITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • President: Responsible academic, member of the governing team of the academic responsible body or the coordinator of the degree. • Secretary: Member of the PDI of the degree, with permanent link to the University. • PDI Member: A PDI with teaching experience in the degree. • PAS Member: A member of the Administration and Services Staff, involved in the Degree. • Student member: A student of the degree. • External members (at least one), from among the professionals who are: associate professors involved in the Degree, graduates, employers, representatives of professional associations, etc. 	COMPOSITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 2 academic experts (external to the University System of Castille and León). • 1 Student. • 1 Professional. • 1 ACSUCyL Technician. 	COMPOSITION	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is published on the ACSUCyL website.
FUNCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review the public information on the Degree and propose its updating. • Review the evidence of the Document Manager and incorporate those that are their responsibility. • To elaborate the Internal Monitoring Report or Self-Report of RA (IIS/ARA) of the Degree, following the model established by the USAL (according to ACSUCyL model). • To ensure compliance with the commitments established in the curriculum (verified report), making the proposals it deems appropriate in this regard, which will be submitted to the agreement of the academic body responsible for the degree, for implementation by the affected governing bodies. 	FUNCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Each member of the Commission reviews the ARA. • Visit the centers where the degree is taught. 	FUNCTIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It issues the evaluation reports based on the judgments made by the External Committee of the visit and the Knowledge Branch Committee.

Protocol (ARA and External Report) (Undergraduate and Master Univ.)

Dimensions	Criterios y Subcriterios (Cada subcriterio tiene estándares)
Degree Management	<ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Development of the curriculum<ol style="list-style-type: none">1.1. Validity of the academic, scientific and professional interest of the degree program.1.2. Implementation and academic management of the training program.2. Transparency and internal quality assurance system<ol style="list-style-type: none">2.1. Public information of the degree2.2. Internal Quality Assurance System (SGIC)2.3. Evolution of the degree based on external evaluation reports.
Resources	<ol style="list-style-type: none">3. Human and support resources<ol style="list-style-type: none">3.1. Academic personnel3.2. Learning support resources
Results	<ol style="list-style-type: none">4. Results of the training program: Achievement of the expected learning results<ol style="list-style-type: none">4.1. Achievement of the expected learning results4.2. Evolution of the degree's indicators4.3. Labor market insertion4.4. Satisfaction of the agents involved4.5. External projection of the degree

IMPROVEMENT PLAN

- Review of the improvement actions developed
- Proposals for new improvement actions

Accreditation Renewal

Evidence

Evidence of ACSUCyL

- Verified Report
- External Reports
 - Verification
 - Modifications
 - External Follow-Up
 - Renewal of previous accreditation

Evidence of the University

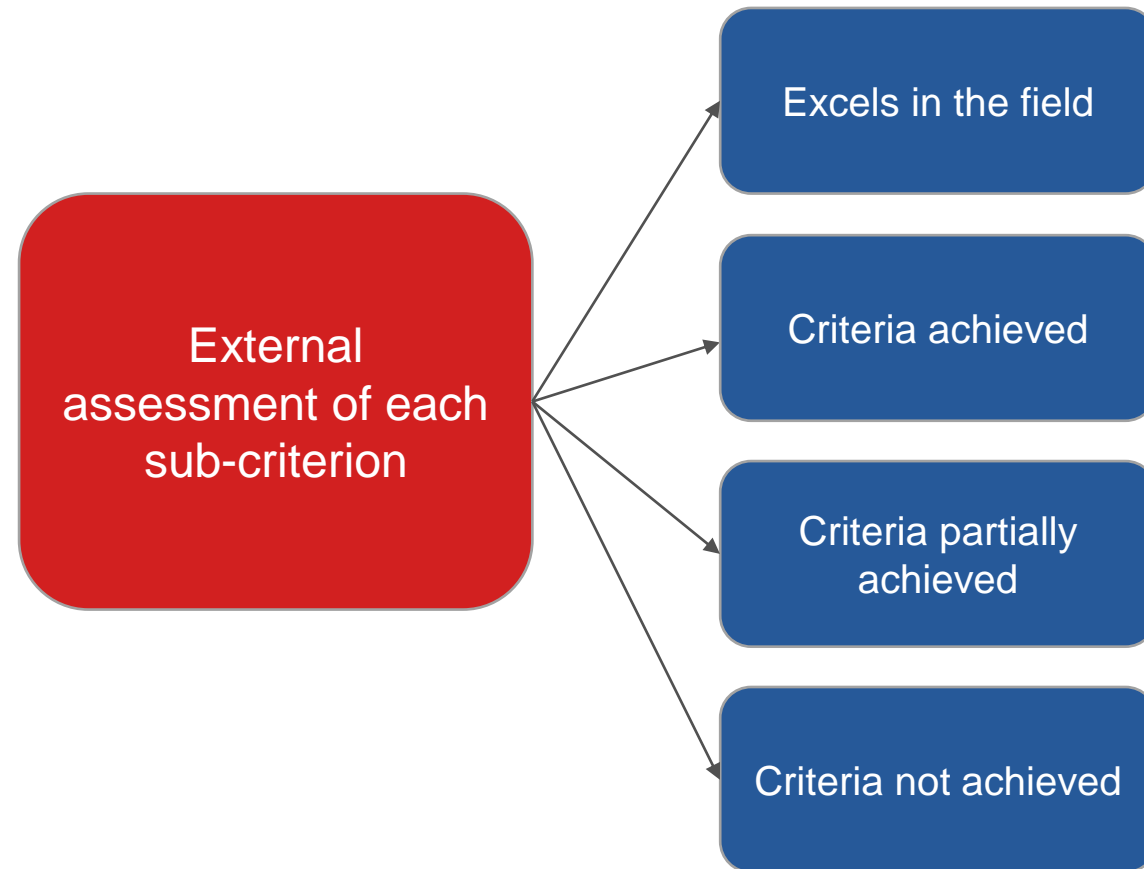
- ARA
- Evaluation tests of 4/6 undergraduate subjects and 2/6 Master's Degree subjects.
- Selection of 6 TFG / TFM and 6 External Practices (compulsory subject) / 6 Doctoral Thesis and Document of activities and research plans of doctoral students.
- Institutional web page
- Internal Degree Monitoring Reports
- Evidence of the SGIC (in Degrees and MU):
 - Results of satisfaction surveys of the different agents involved.
 - Results of the labor market placement survey
 - Results of the Doctencia-USAL program for the evaluation of the teaching activity of the teaching staff.
 - Tables of data and indicators of student access, enrollment and performance.
 - Tables of data and indicators of the teaching staff (PDI)
 - Academic guides (subject teaching cards)
 - Minutes of the Degree Quality Commission (CQC) and other Commissions
 - Other

Evidence of the visit to the University by the External Committee (EC)

- Meetings with different groups of the Degree (45' each meeting)
 - Alumni (2-4) and students (4-6)
 - Faculty (6-8) [In PD: 8-10].
 - Employers and internship tutors (2-4)
 - Academic responsible of the degree (Center/ Academic Committee in Doctoral Programs) and of the University (Vice Rectors).
- Visit to facilities and infrastructures
- Opinions received by ACSUCyL through the electronic tool "Public Hearing".
- The EC may request additional evidence before, during or at the end of the visit.

Accreditation Renewal

Evaluation assessment



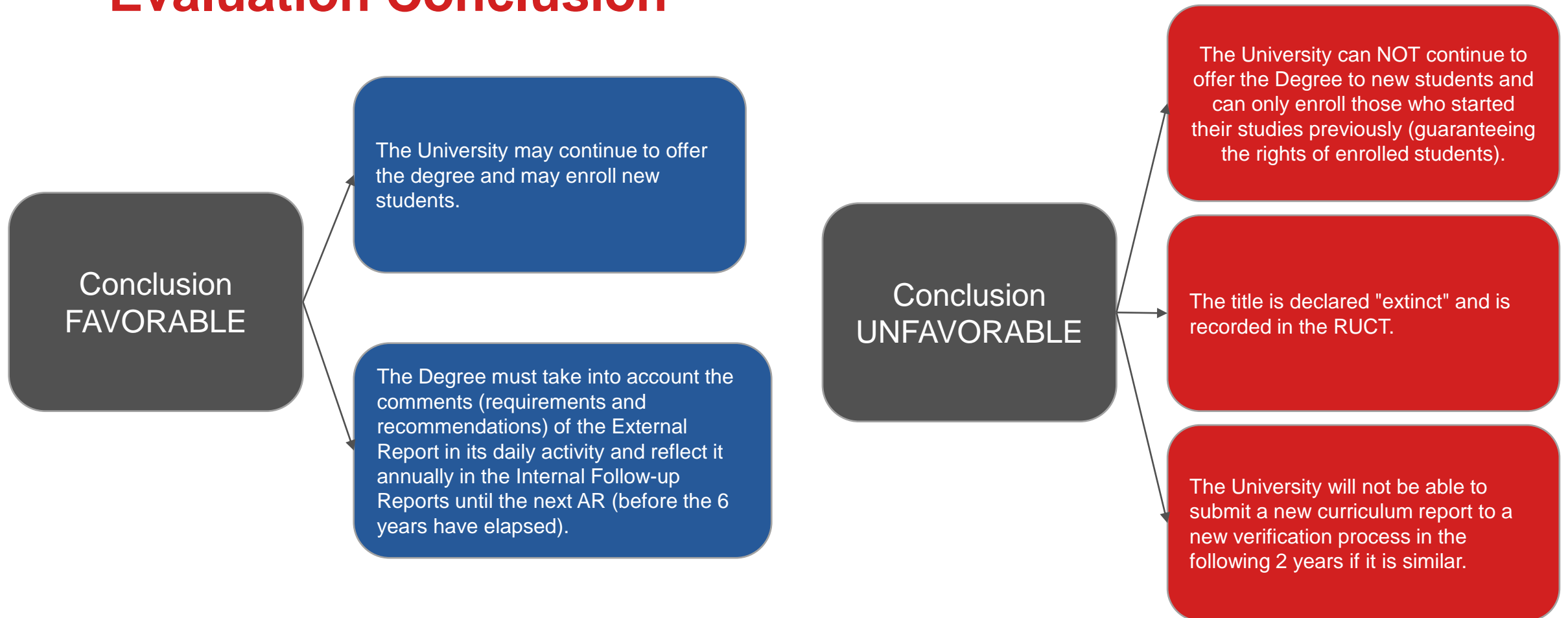
Accreditation Renewal

Conclusion of the evaluation

FAVORABLE	Standards are exceeded
FAVORABLE WITH IMPROVEMENT PLAN (Conditional)	They may include: Requirements ("Must do") or recommendations for improvement. Requirement to carry out a specific improvement plan to be followed up externally within a certain time frame.
UNFAVORABLE	If serious deficiencies have been detected. Examples: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Unmet requirements indicated in external evaluation reports (verification, modification, renewal of accreditation).• Non-compliance with commitments assumed in the verification report regarding:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Academic staff• Support resources and infrastructure• Failure of learning outcomes• Failure to comply with regulations, resolutions and authorizations of the verification report on:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Maximum number of new students• Teaching modality• Agreements to organize teaching with other entities• Qualifying requirements for regulated profession

Accreditation Renewal

Evaluation Conclusion





Thank you

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