



First consultation on proposed new quality policy

Revision of SDU's quality system for education programmes
Spring 2024

- **Objectives of the revision and the first consultation**
- **Overviews of changes to existing policy**
- **The further process and contact info**

What is the quality system for education programmes?

- A description of how SDU works to quality assure and develop all parts of the student's journey through their programme (e.g. recruitment, study start, evaluations, guidance services and administration).
- A key element is **the quality policy**, which, among other things, describes the objectives that programmes must meet.

Goals of the revision and the first consultation



Objectives of the revision

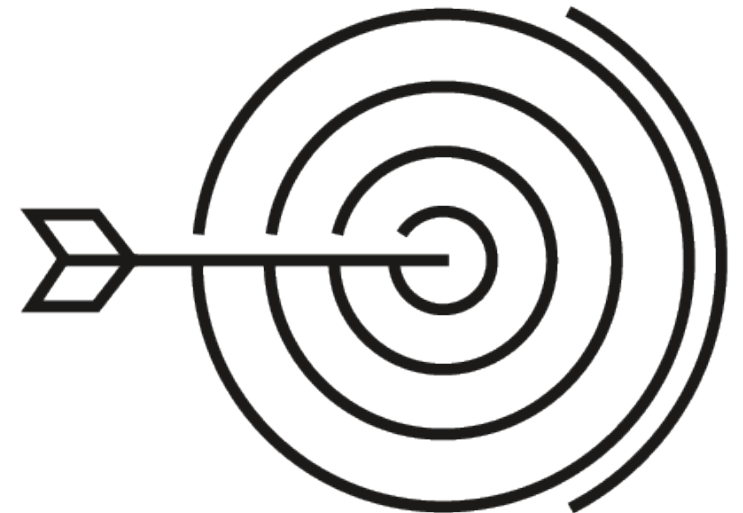
The revision of the quality policy has, among other things, focused on the following:

- The quality policy should be perceived as **meaningful** because it contributes to creating value in the work with programmes and teaching.
- Clarify that **development** (and not just minimum standards) is important when working with education and programmes.
- **Retaining** elements (both in content and organisation) that have worked well in the previous system.
- **Reducing complexity** so that the quality policy is easier to understand and customise.

Have we reached our goals?

We hold two written consultations to help qualify the proposal:

- The 1st consultation (May–June 2024) is about the structure, content or wordings of the proposal to revise sub-policies, sub-goals and descriptions of common standards.
- The 2nd consultation (August–October 2024) will focus on the implementation of responsibilities and organisation of the work to put the quality policy into practice.



View the proposal and join the consultation

A revised quality policy

- As the revision progresses, the individual sub-goals will be expanded with
 - Links to pedagogical resources and data support
 - Links to regulatory framework and internal guidelines
 - Description of common framework for implementation
 - Descriptions of faculty implementations
- To be collected as a web universe (an early test version is being developed in Danish [here](#))

Participation in consultation on revised quality policy

- Consultation responses are submitted via [this form](#) with questions for
 - Structure, content and wording
 - Consultation processes and other comments
- Deadline for participation: 10 June 2024



The screenshot shows the SDU website's navigation menu with options like 'Uddannelse', 'Forskning', and 'Nyheder'. The main heading is 'Om SDU Kvalitetspolitik for uddannelse på SDU'. Below this, there is a paragraph explaining the quality policy's role in setting a framework for high-quality education. A yellow box highlights the text: 'Vælg en delpolitik, eller gå direkte til et af de underliggende delmål' followed by '→ Delpolitik 1 - Undervisning'. At the bottom of this box, it lists 'Høj faglighed | Gode læringsfællesskaber | Pædagogisk og didaktisk kvalitet og udvikling'. To the right, there is a diagram of an apple with arrows pointing to its core and segments, with labels 'Unive', 'Uddo', and 'Unde' partially visible.

Overviews of changes to existing policy



Proposal for a new quality policy: **Simplified**

From the educational journey to the apple

The new policy is not structured to follow the path from recruitment to graduation, but based on

- Teaching (specific learning activities)
- Education (process framework)
- University (student life framework)

Fewer documents

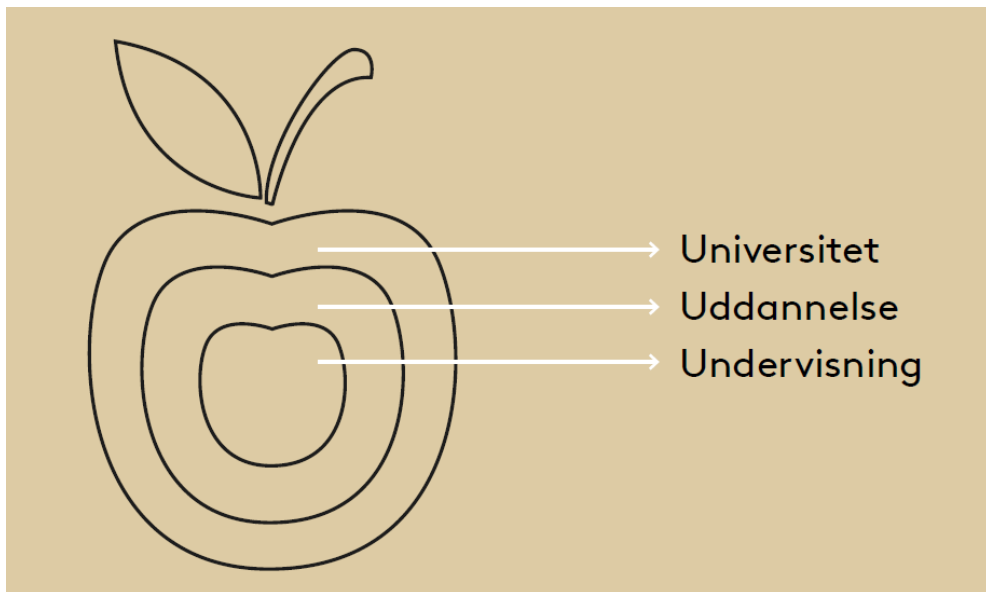
11 of the previous supplementary documents have now been incorporated into the sub-policies, making them redundant.

In addition, the web presentation will be simpler, and the associated resource bank (with work support) will be organised in the same structure as the sub-policies and sub-goals.

Fewer practice indicators

The current 8 sub-policies contain a total of around 100 criteria that must be met for recruitment, study start, study environment, pedagogical skills development, research base, teaching and education, student administration and transition to work.

The new proposal contains approximately 40 descriptions of the practices that SDU must live up to in the areas mentioned.



Proposal for a new quality policy: **Meaningful**

Adjustment in the use of key figures and other data

We need to respond to key figures, student evaluations and other sources of knowledge when it makes sense, not automatically.

For example, first-year dropout rates are not necessarily a good indicator of the quality of the study start.

Sense of ownership

Stakeholders must be involved in selecting development goals and initiatives and be supported in putting them into practice.

For example, one of SDU's common goals is to ensure a safe and inclusive study start, but what this means in practice can vary between different programmes (including further and continuing education programmes).

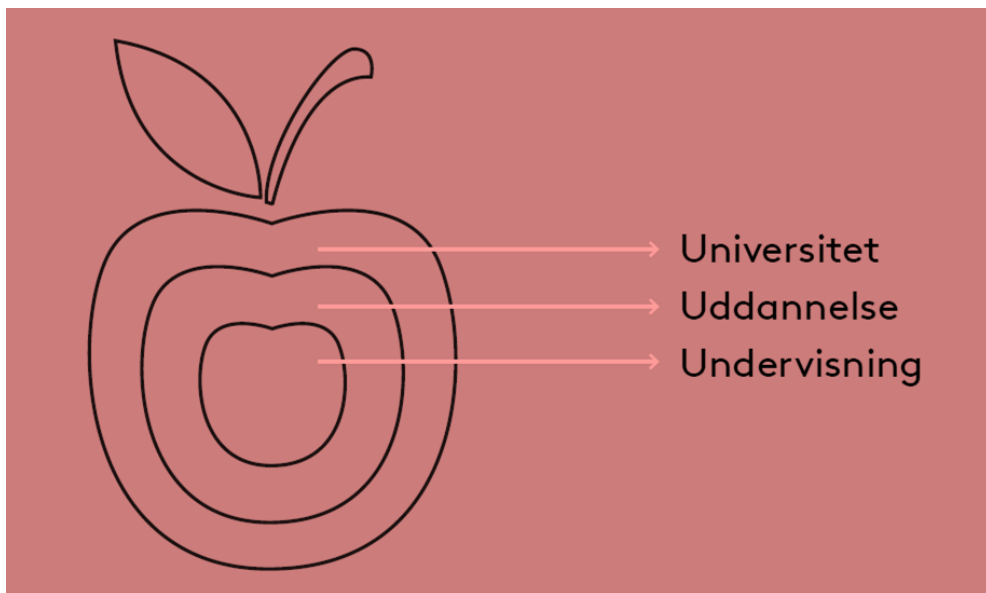
From checklists to development goals

The new proposal will still formulate minimum quality standards, but they will be more ambitious goals that contain clear requirements while pointing to wider ideals. For example:

'Relevant information about each programme is available on the University's website'



'It needs to be clear to prospective applicants what the profile of the programmes is'



Proposal for a new quality policy: **Recognisable**

Building on a tried and tested system

SDU is in a completely different place today than when the quality system was first written down.

The successful elements that have become part of workflows, culture and values must be retained.

We don't demolish, we renovate.

Continuation of basic structure and framework

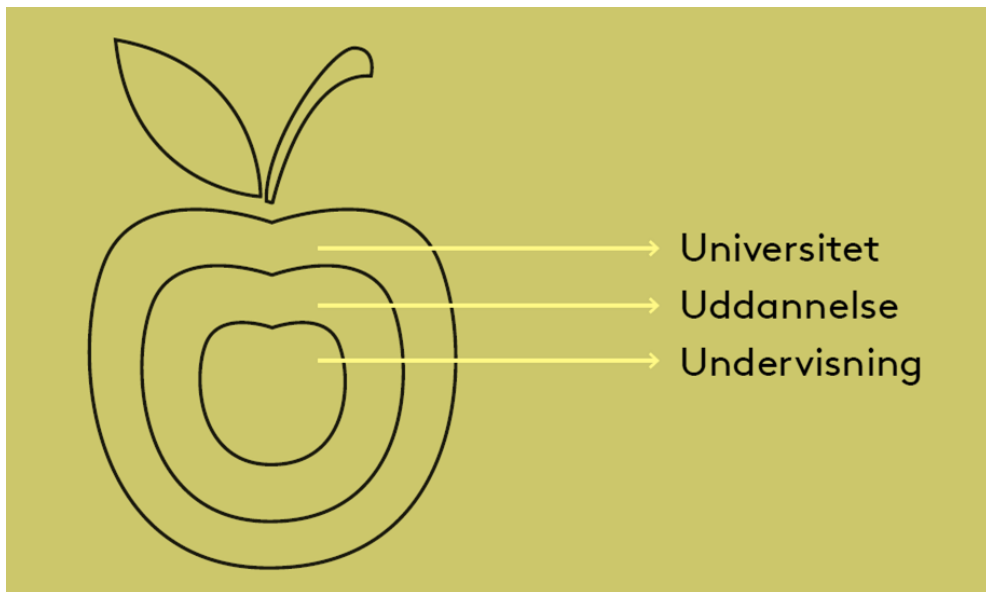
We still have policies, sub-goals, standards, key figures and faculty implementations that guide our work with quality assurance and the development of teaching and programmes.

Nor do we fundamentally change the responsibilities and organisation of work.

Preservation of follow-up processes

The work with quality assurance and development will be able to follow the current annual cycle and procedures. There are no plans to increase the scope or frequency of follow-up and documentation in connection with quality work.

(The next stage of the project, on the other hand, will explore how the follow-up and documentation processes for the quality system can be made simpler and more meaningful, yet still recognisable.)



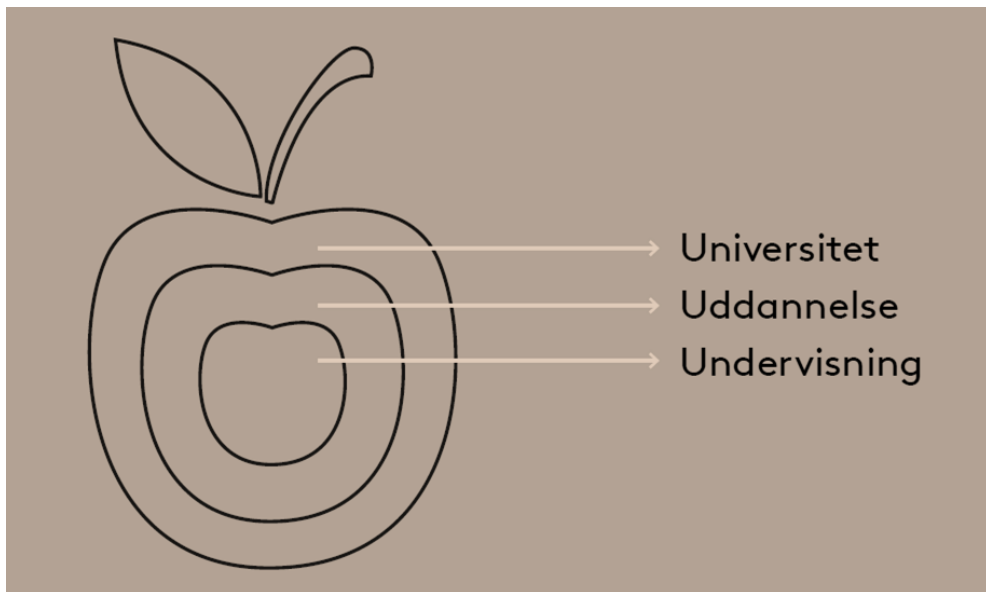
Proposal for a new quality policy: Common solutions

Cut unnecessary variance

The new proposal favours seeking common solutions over variance (where there are no specific reasons for this). This can help free up resources and make it easier to share knowledge and develop together across the organisation.

Shared knowledge as a basis for development

An important contribution to future development will be the 'resource bank', which brings together examples of best practices, research knowledge and inspirational materials that you can draw on in your work. It will also contain information about the support SDU offers (e.g. skills development and data support).



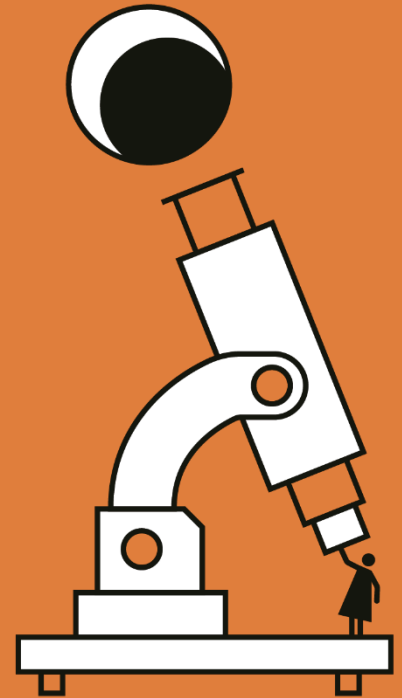
Better opportunities for cross-comparison

The new organisation of the sub-policies formulates common goals and practices across the University and has:

- Common frameworks defined by e.g. legislation, statutes or SDU
- Common guidelines for data support and follow-up
- Shared administrative support

The faculty implementations will share format and appear together, all of which will make it easier to compare the faculties' local organisation of the task solution across faculties.

The next steps and contact info



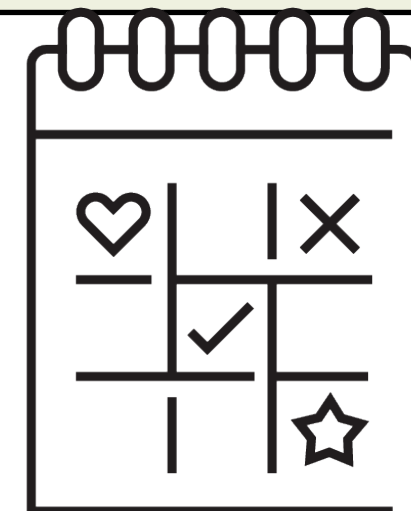
Process for revising the quality policy

March–April 2024	May–June 2024	June–August 2024	September–October 2024	October–November 2024
Informal involvement of selected key stakeholders Programme managers, students and administrative staff comment on the draft of a revised quality policy.	Written consultation 1: Proposals for new common sub-policies The proposal is sent out for written consultation to relevant bodies in the organisation. Other interested parties can also contribute.	Informal involvement of key stakeholders Programme managers, administrative staff, students, etc. are involved in preparing proposals for the implementation of the revised quality policy.	Written consultation 2: Proposal for implementation of new quality policy Proposals for organisation and division of responsibilities within the Central Administration and faculties are sent out for written consultation.	Customisation after formal consultations The proposal for the implementation of new quality policies and implementation is adapted.

Content in the upcoming period of the revision project

In addition to the quality policy, the project has four other main tracks, each with its own focus.

- Documentation and collection: Annual cycle, status meetings and programme reports (to be completed in January 2025)
- Data support: Key figures and other data usage (to be completed in January 2025)
- Skills development: Pedagogical-didactic + Working with the system (to be completed in May 2025)
- Development of the actual system: Future customisations (to be completed in December 2024)



Project organisation and contact info

Project owner

→ Helle Waagepetersen, Pro-Rector

Steering committee

→ Members of the Council for Education across the faculties and from SDU Student Services

Project group

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Questions about the project?

Please contact the project manager or another member of the project team or find info [here](#).

