

Education Fraud

Breaking the Chain of Trust

PSRB Forum

11th December 2019

Jayne Rowley – Chief Executive



PROSPECTS

HECSU and Prospects Overview

- HECSU is a [Universities UK/GuildHE sector agency](#)
- 3 strategic functions:
 - Student and graduate careers support (1972)
 - National postgraduate services (1996)
 - [Hedd verification services](#) (2011)



Prospects Hedd

- UK's HE national degree verification service
 - Authentication of UK degree-awarding bodies
 - Verification of individual candidate credentials
 - Integration with international student data repositories
 - Investigation and prevention of degree fraud
 - www.hedd.ac.uk



International Developments

- Hedd is consolidating its international connections
- CSCSE (China), Verifdiploma (France), My eQuals (Australia), SAQA (South Africa), CDSL (India) and National Student Clearinghouse (USA) for permanent two-way connections
- Pilot with DUO (Netherlands)



Hedd

- 131 universities
- 500,000+ verification checks
- 87% coverage of UK graduates
- 50% of enquiries are international
- 250+ bogus universities identified
- Numerous fake certificates

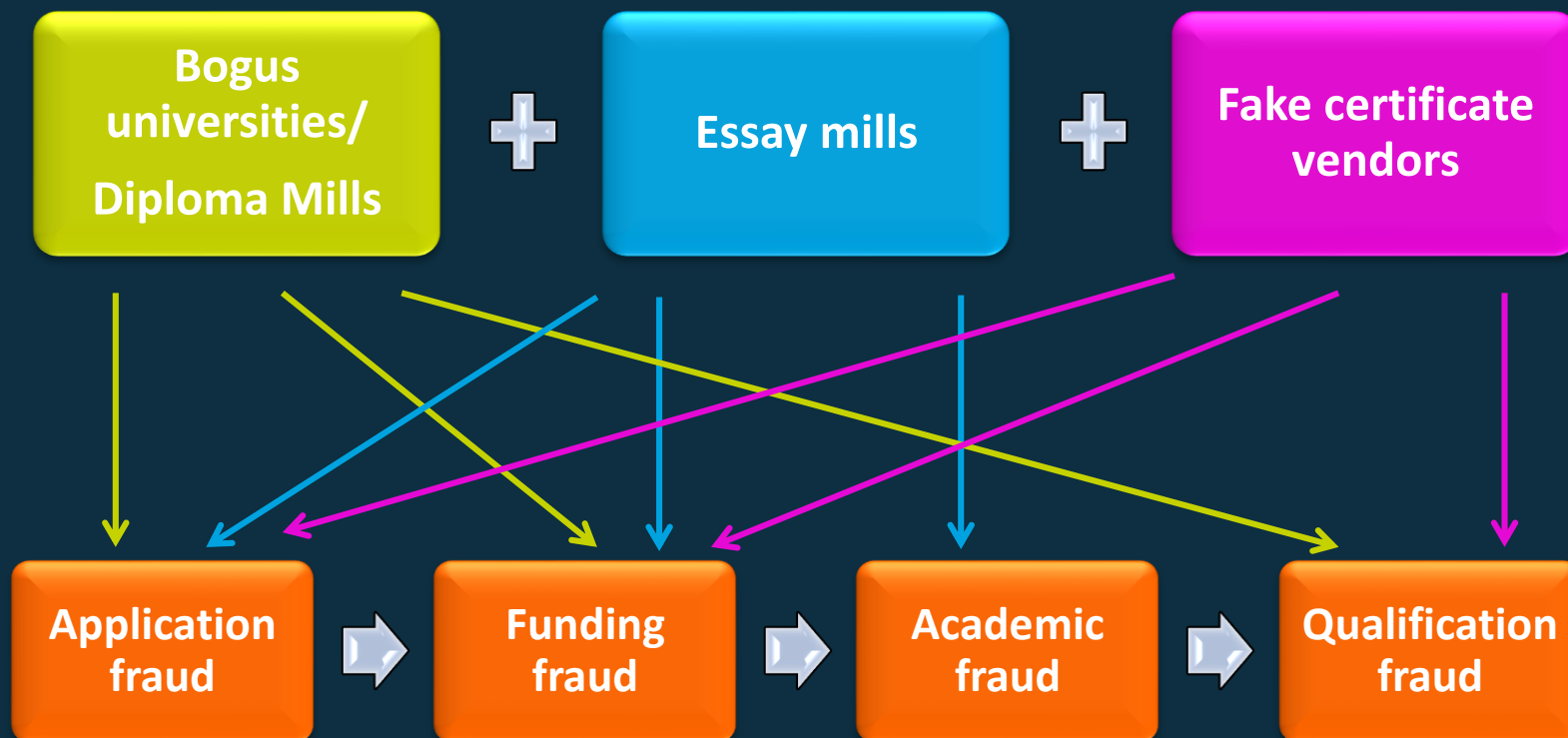


The Chain of Trust

- Trust is critical –
Student/university/funders/employers
- University validity
- Prior learning claims
- Original, authentic academic work
- Entitlement to public financial support
- Legitimate qualifications for employment



Breaking the Chain



Lies and statistics

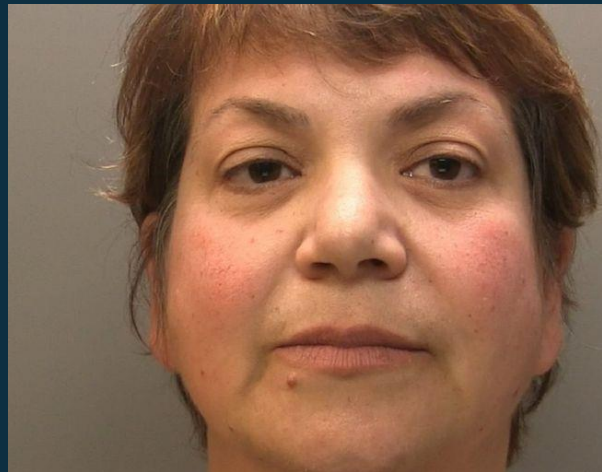
- 49% of large businesses and 48% of SMEs have encountered an applicant who has lied about their degree qualifications.
- 83% of employers believe that some of their hires have lied about their degree
- 20% of employers do not check a candidate's degree qualifications

Hedd/Credence 2019

Fraudsters



40% of companies spent more than £10,000 in the last three years rehiring staff after employing someone who wasn't properly qualified.



Degree mills and bogus universities

- Operate purely to make money
- Enrolment fees, course fees
- 'Life experience degree' awards
- Authentic-looking documentation
- Act as verification services for fraudsters
- Blackmail



Shoaib Shaikh (centre), disgraced CEO of Axact


370 bogus university websites




Rutland University

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President	Vice President
Chris Wallace (PhD, Oxford University) cwallace@rutlanduniversity.co.uk	Sarah Mckoy (PhD, London) smckoy@rutlanduniversity.co.uk


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→ Exams Office

→ Recruitment, Admissions, Marketing and Communications Office

→ Professor Chris Wallace

→ CV2015.pdf

Department Facilities

News and Events


Alumni

Chris Wallace

William Tyler Professor of Economics

Head of Department

Chris Wallace is the William Tyler Professor of Economics and Head of Department. Before arriving in Leicester in 2011, he was the Fellow and Tutor in Economics at Trinity College, Oxford, and a Lecturer, and latterly Professor of Economic Theory, at the University of Oxford between 2000 and 2011. Before this he was an undergraduate and graduate at the London School of Economics; he completed his doctorate in 1999 at Nuffield College, Oxford, where he continued to work as an Open Prize Research Fellow between 1998 and 2000. His research is in the area of game theory: in particular his work focuses on issues of equilibrium selection and the use and value of information in games. He has published papers in journals such as the *Review of Economic Studies*, the *Economic Journal*, the *Journal of Economic Theory*, and the *Journal of Monetary Economics*. He acted as business manager and company secretary for the *Review of Economic Studies* from 2004 to 2012, has been an associate editor of the *Economic Journal* since 2009, and has been Head of Department since 2014.



Contact Details


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- > Email: cw255@le.ac.uk
- > Office: AC108, Astley Clarke Building
- > Office Hours: Wednesdays 10:00 to 12:00

Biography

Curriculum Vitae

Research Interests


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News and Events

Study finds men are more likely to achieve targets if they are set goals
Aug 11, 2015

2015 Economics graduates celebrate with Economics staff
Jul 21, 2015

Canterbury University

Canterbury University

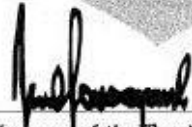
hereby confers upon


the degree of
Associate of Business Administration
in
Computer Engineering

together with all the honours, privileges, rights and obligations thereunto appertaining
in recognition of having fulfilled all requirements of this degree as determined by the
Board of Regents and given on this Day under our Seal.

20th Day of March 1999


Dean of Studies


Chairman of the Board of Regents



Canterbury University campus




Copycat websites



Surrey University

← → ↻ www.surreyuni.org.uk/#/the-university/4579388992 ☆



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The University

we are not affiliated in any way to the University of Surrey

Responding to the needs of the region and providing an education fit for the future go hand in hand at Surrey University.


The Surrey University was formed on in 1970 and holds the distinction of being one of the UK's finest universities.

It has been said that change is the only constant and that has never been more true than it is right now for the UK's higher education sector. Universities have had to adapt to survive and to embrace new ways of working to meet modern challenges. It is within this challenging climate that the Surrey University continues to map its course.

The creation of the Dual Sector University will enable the joint planning of educational provision, the development of progression routes and an increase in participation in higher education through offering different modes of study including distance and blended learning opportunities.

The University's reach also extends to other countries around the world providing strong academic and research networks. Activities include the recruitment of international students onto university programmes in Surrey and in London as well as staff and student exchange programmes, summer schools and cultural visits.



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The University's expertise is also being exploited through its research work and specialist curriculum in many countries including the Middle East.

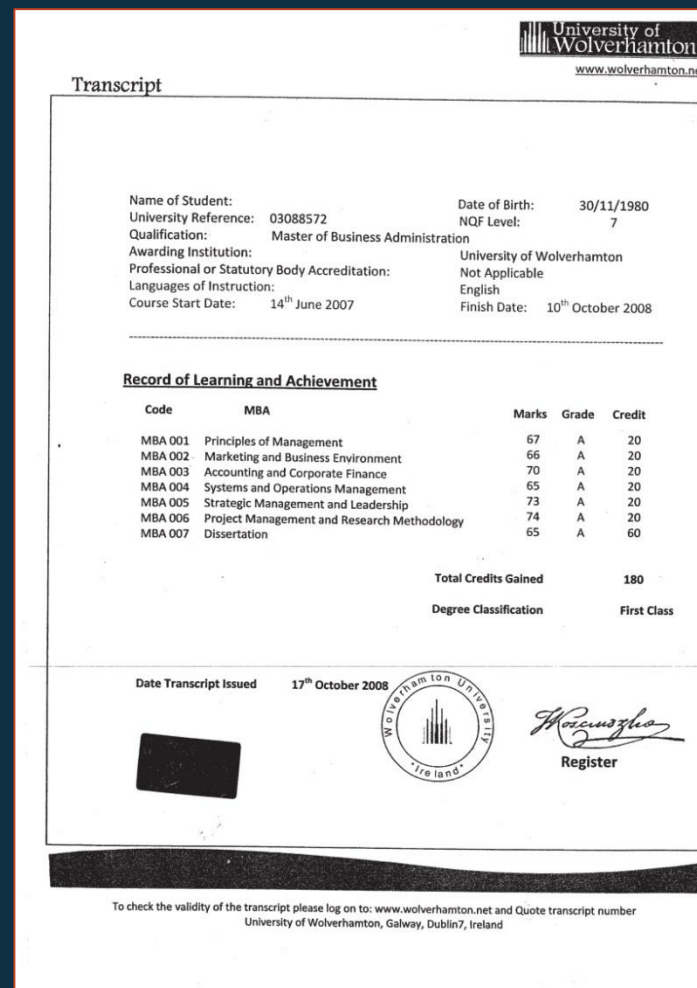
Surrey University is indeed a University for the Twenty-First Century. By being fleet of foot it is able to embrace challenges and turn such challenges into opportunities for the benefit of our community of learners in Surrey and further afield.

© 2013 Surrey University



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Staines-Upon-Thames
Surrey

How does it work?



Taking the 'P'

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Ref. number
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D. Parde
Professor Daune Parde
VICE-CHANCELLOR

WOLVERHAMPTON

University of
WOLVERHAMPTON

University of
Wolverhampton
www.wolverhampton.net

Date of Birth: 30/11/1980
NQF Level: 7

ss Administration
University of Wolverhampton
Not Applicable
English
Finish Date: 10th October 2008

	Marks	Grade	Credit
67	A	20	
66	A	20	
70	A	20	
65	A	20	
73	A	20	
74	A	20	
Arch Methodology	65	A	60

Total Credits Gained 180

Degree Classification First Class

008

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Student Life

Find out what it's like to study and live at the University, with our great study facilities spread across four campuses in the centre of England.

Location

Wolverhampton is situated in the heart of England. It has a wealth of transport connections, whether you want to explore the area or head home for a visit. You can hop in the car or on a bus, coach, tram or train direct from the city. Birmingham International Airport is just a few miles away on a direct train route. [Maps and directions.](#)

City life

Wolverhampton is a multicultural city with places of worship covering a wide range of religious faiths. The city is large enough to have all the facilities you need, yet small enough to retain its distinctive character. [Living in the area](#) - find out all about Wolverhampton, Telford and Walsall.

Campus life

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Tuition Fees & Scholarships for 2013

Key information



Student Support Services to help you



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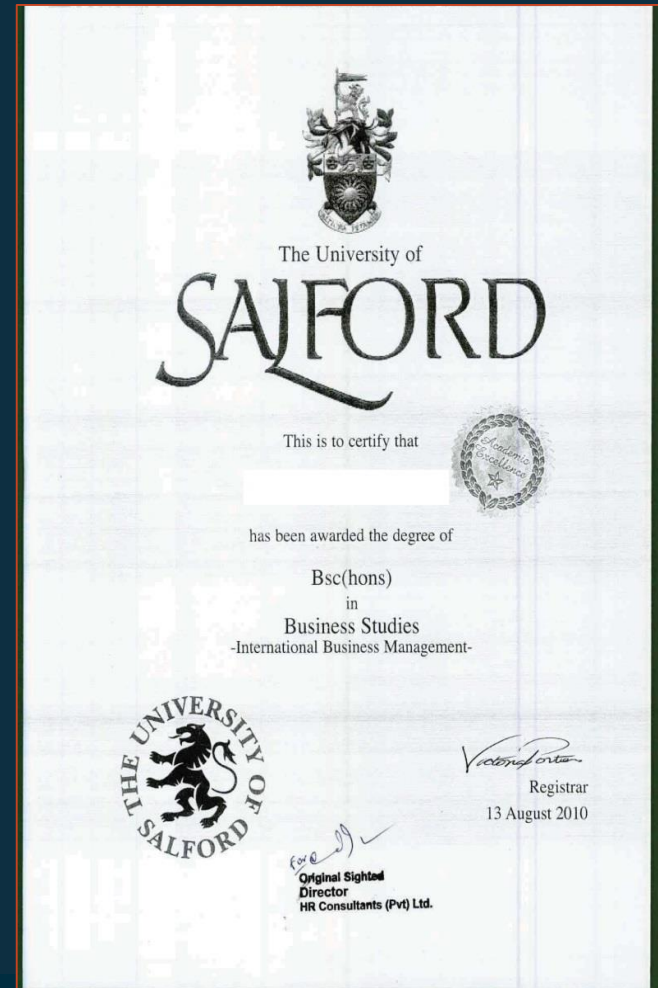


Done

Internet

125%

Fake certificates





THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTTINGHAM

It is hereby certified that after having satisfied all the
conditions prescribed by the University



was on the

sixth day of May, 2002

duly admitted to the degree of

Bachelor of Science with Honours
in Computer Science and Information
Technology in the Second Class, Division One

Vice-Chancellor



Registrar

Individuals

SOLICITORS DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

IN THE MATTER OF THE SOLICITORS ACT 1974

BETWEEN:

SOLICITORS REGULATION AUTHORITY

Applicant

and



Respondent

Before:

Miss J. Devonish (in the chair)

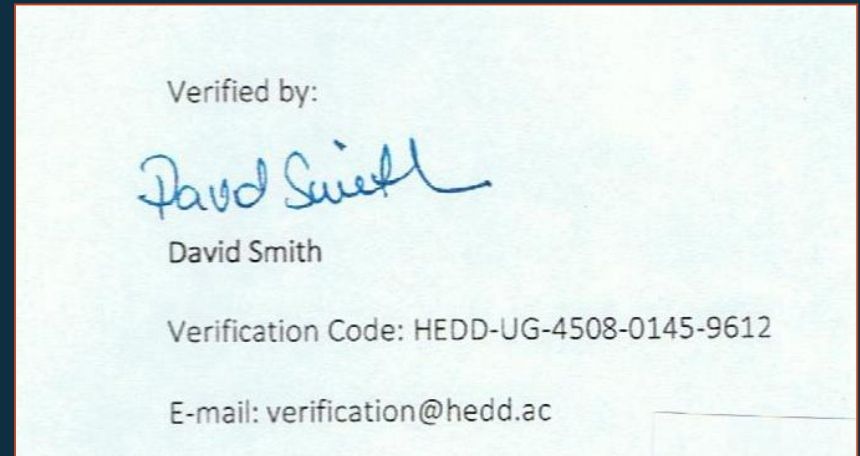
Mr L. N. Gilford

Mr M. Palayiwa

Date of Hearing: 12 January 2016

SOLICITORS DISCIPLINARY TRIBUNAL

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Paper Choice:

Quantity: More than 10 available
3 sold


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
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5 watching

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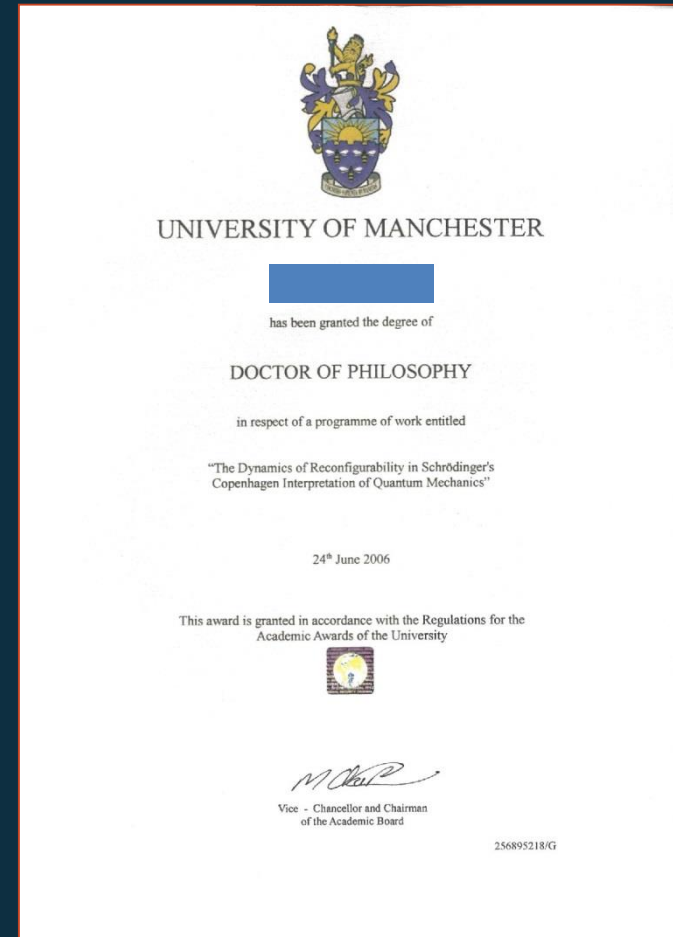
Postage: **Free** Economy Delivery | [See details](#)
Item location: Swansea, United Kingdom
Posts to: United Kingdom | [See exclusions](#)

Delivery: Estimated between **Thu. 25 Jun.** and **Fri. 26 Jun.** 

Payments:      Processed by PayPal | [See payment information](#)

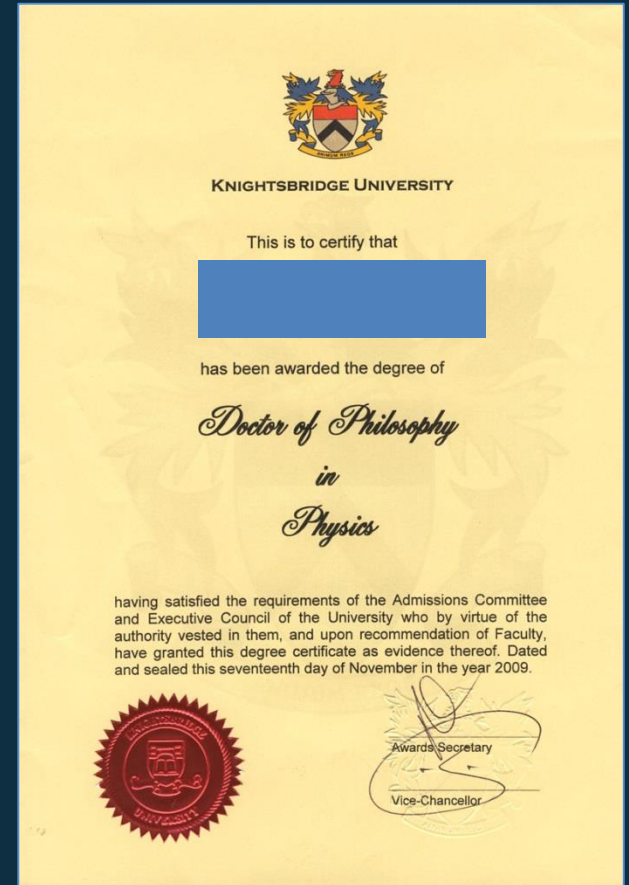
Returns: 14 days refund, buyer pays return postage | [See details](#)

Protection:  **MONEY BACK GUARANTEE** | [See details](#)



DfE degree fraud reporting service

- Investigate and shut down bogus providers
- Collaborate with enforcement authorities
- Raise awareness of degree fraud
 - Universities
 - Employers
 - Students and graduates
- Encourage employers to make more checks

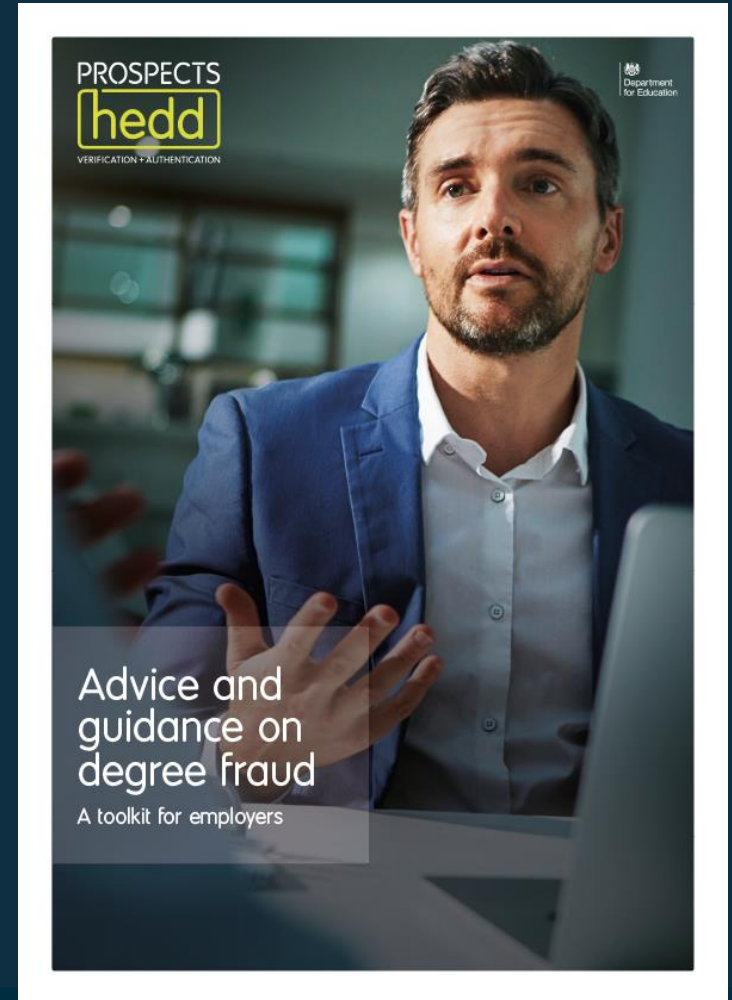


DfE degree fraud reporting service

- 100+ bogus providers investigated
- 250+ bogus institutions now listed on Hedd
- 50+ websites shut down
- Ebay and Amazon commitment to ban listings
- Naming and shaming on the Hedd blog
- Network of enforcement contacts
- Toolkits for employers and universities published
- Advice for students published

Advice for Employers

- Types of degree fraud
- Information for applicants
- Making verification checks
- Taking action against employees
- Sharing information and evidence
- Templates and help.



Advice for HE providers

- Types of degree fraud
- Case studies
- Recommendations for universities
- What action can be taken
- Who can help
- Templates



Degree fraud in the news

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More than 30 fake UK universities closed by watchdog

Bogus degree-awarding institutions are on the increase, with one being no more than a shopfront and others having no physical presence at all



▲ Since 2011, 320 bogus UK universities have been identified and 50% of them are no longer active. Photograph: Alamy

More than 30 fake UK universities have been shut down in the past year as concern grows about students being mis-sold fraudulent degrees.

University watchdog the Higher Education Degree Datacheck (Hedd), which monitors fake degrees, identified a total of 62 bogus institutions in the past year. So far, 32 have been closed by law enforcement and trading standards agencies, and 30 investigations are still in progress.

Websites selling fake Scottish degrees for £200

Scam leads to fears that small businesses could be tricked into employing people with bogus qualifications



Fake degrees from Aberdeen are among those offered online
ALAMY

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Fake degrees purporting to be from Scottish universities are being sold for as little as £200 online, offering students the prospect of well-paid jobs even if they flunk their courses.

Qualifications with the names and logos of some of the country's most prestigious higher education institutions, including Glasgow University, St Andrews, Edinburgh and Aberdeen, can all be easily obtained, a Sunday Times investigation has found.

Current initiatives

- Academic Integrity Advisory Group
 - Charter and Principles
 - Advice and Information Service
 - Legislation
- Ministerial priority
- Degree fraud service
- Groningen Declaration Network
- ETINED Network

Thank you

- Jayne Rowley +44 161 277 5347
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- Use the website: www.Hedd.ac.uk
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