

## JACS

### Generic codes

Alongside the JACS subject classification a range of generic codes is available for use in completion of Fields 43 - 45 of the HESA Student Record. These afford the flexibility required to code multi-disciplinary programmes and those that consist of a collection of generically associated course elements.

Generic codes consist of a subject group letter followed by a zero. Where a programme consists of a range of subjects or modules falling predominantly within a single subject group, for example, the Physical Sciences group, the programme would be coded F000.

In this way, generic codes could be used to code programmes which span one, two or three subject groups, for example:

#### 1 Single subject group

BA Humanities	
SCAS	Y300
HESACODE	Y30

On the assumption that this particular course consists predominately of Historical and Philosophical studies (V), the appropriate coding would be:

JACS derived course code:		V000						
HESA Student Record:	<b>Field 43</b>	V000	<b>Field 44</b>	Blank	<b>Field 45</b>	Blank	<b>Field 46</b>	Blank

#### 2 Balanced combination of two subject groups

BSc Combined Sciences	
SCAS	Y100
HESACODE	Y10

This course may consist equally of Biological Sciences (C) and Physical Sciences (F) and would thus be coded:

JACS derived course code:		CF00						
HESA Student Record:	<b>Field 43</b>	C000	<b>Field 44</b>	F000	<b>Field 45</b>	Blank	<b>Field 46</b>	1

#### 3 Major/minor combination of two subject groups

BSc Combined Sciences	
SCAS	Y100

HESACODE	Y10
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Where the course consists predominately of Biological Sciences (C), but there is a notable element of Physical Sciences (F), the programme would be coded thus:

JACS derived course code:		C0F0						
HESA Student Record:	<b>Field 43</b>	C000	<b>Field 44</b>	F000	<b>Field 45</b>	Blank	<b>Field 46</b>	2

#### 4 Combination of three subject groups

BA Politics, Philosophy and Economics	
SCAS	Y616
HESACODE	L10

Triple combinations, previously uncodable under SCAS, are allocated a generic code showing each of the three subject groups studied:

JACS derived course code:		MVL0						
HESA Student Record:	<b>Field 43</b>	M000	<b>Field 45</b>	V000	<b>Field 45</b>	L000	<b>Field 46</b>	Blank

In producing course codes, this procedure allows only a limited number of code variants; if necessary, zero could be substituted by A or B allowing further permutations of the derived codes.

Although this system of generic codes does not provide a way of coding truly interdisciplinary programmes of study, UCAS research has indicated that there is only a limited number of such programmes. For these remaining interdisciplinary programmes, UCAS will no longer use Y codes but will assign each a four-digit numeric course code (eg 0001, 0002, etc), whereas Y codes will continue to be used to identify the subject at the programme of study level in the HESA record.

#### 5 Interdisciplinary programmes of study

BSc Combined Studies	
UCAS course code:	0001
HESA Student Record:	<b>Field 43</b> Y000

NB As with the other generic codes described above, these codes are strictly for use at the programme of study level only.

Note that in the limited number of cases of these truly interdisciplinary courses, the numeric course code assigned by UCAS cannot be used in the HESA subject of qualification aim (alphanumeric) fields. Therefore, in the transfer of information from UCAS-to institutions-to HESA, these numeric course codes will need to be translated (to Y000) before information

is returned to HESA. It is hoped that assistance with this translation will be made available to institutions.