

Schedule A: Deakin Curriculum Framework

(Approved by Academic Board on 19 July 2016)

This Schedule is made pursuant to the [Higher Education Courses Policy](#).

Deakin courses, underpinned by research, are designed and continually enhanced to enable students, through engaging learning and assessment experiences in the cloud or on a campus, to create and curate compelling evidence of their achievements for graduate employability and engaged citizenship. Employability means that students and graduates can discern, acquire, adapt and continually enhance the skills and attributes that make them more likely to find and create meaningful paid and unpaid work that benefits themselves, the workforce, the community and the economy.

Deakin's Curriculum Framework focuses on these elements through four key aspects:

1. **Expectations:** Outcomes and standards are clearly articulated and relevant to graduate destinations and are aligned with the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#) and relevant professional standards.
2. **Evidence:** Assessment and feedback are carefully designed authentic opportunities to enable students to demonstrate, improve and evidence achievement of outcomes.
3. **Experience:** Inspiring educators offer personal, interactive and inclusive learning experiences and resources on campus, in the cloud and wherever learning occurs.
4. **Enhancement:** Emphasis is on systematic and systemic evidence-based enhancement of courses.

Deakin courses align these four aspects to create integrated and coherent learning in a partnership between teaching teams, students and industry. Deakin course design and delivery is benchmarked against external reference points and regularly reviewed and enhanced.

1. Expectations

Deakin Graduate Learning Outcomes describe the knowledge and capabilities graduates demonstrate at the completion of their course:

- a. **Discipline-specific knowledge and capabilities:** appropriate to the level of study related to a discipline or profession
- b. **Communication:** using oral, written and interpersonal communication to inform, motivate and effect change
- c. **Digital literacy:** using technologies to find, use and disseminate information
- d. **Critical thinking:** evaluating information using critical and analytical thinking and judgment
- e. **Problem solving:** creating solutions to authentic, real world and ill-defined problems
- f. **Self-management:** working and learning independently, and taking responsibility for personal actions
- g. **Teamwork:** working and learning with others from different disciplines and backgrounds
- h. **Global citizenship:** engaging ethically and productively in the professional context and with diverse communities and cultures in a global context.

These outcomes are specified at the course level, contextualised to the discipline, assessed against clearly articulated standards throughout the course and warranted by the qualification.

2. Evidence through assessment

All course learning outcomes are assessed and evidenced by the end of the course.

Evidence includes qualitative judgements and quantitative measures. Graduate performance in professional settings is multilayered and complex, and evidence of success is best captured from multiple perspectives in a range of tasks over time.

Assessment at Deakin is a partnership between learners and teaching teams and:

- a. is fair, equitable and inclusive
- b. places assessment for learning at the centre of unit and course design
- c. prompts diagnostic, timely and meaningful formative feedback, and summative judgments about performance against clearly articulated criteria and standards
- d. is reliable and valid
- e. simulates the challenges students will encounter in their future professional, personal and civic lives
- f. ensures academic and (where relevant) research integrity and elicits inclusive and trustworthy evidence of student achievement
- g. ensures students are inducted into assessment practices and cultures
- h. includes self-assessment and peer assessment where appropriate
- i. is manageable and sustainable for staff and students
- j. inculcates in students the lifelong practice of creating and curating evidence of their achievements and professional readiness.

3. Experience

Learning experiences at Deakin maximise personal connection and interaction with and between students and teaching teams who engage, enthuse and inspire.

Experiences are inclusive and equitable regardless of enrolment mode, place and space and provide accessible, interactive, media-rich learning resources. Classes and seminars focus on dialogue and interaction in connected and aesthetically pleasing spaces.

Learners new to Deakin are assisted through transition into the University learning environment.

4. Enhancement and review

Deakin's courses are regularly evaluated and continually improved by evidence-based review.

Evidence includes:

- a. feedback from students about what helps and hinders their learning
- b. progress and achievement of students during their study
- c. advice from peers, professional bodies and Advisory Boards
- d. evidence that graduates are successful as employable and engaged citizens.

Courses are managed efficiently, make best use of the trimester system and digital environments for optimal intake, ensuring that regulatory and professional accreditation requirements are met or exceeded.