

The MQ Model: **Undergraduate Curriculum** **Architecture Principles** **(Final Working Paper Draft)**

| | |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----|
| Principle 1: Nomenclature | 2 |
| Principle 2: Quality Assurance | 2 |
| Principle 3: Stewardship of Courses | 2 |
| Principle 4: Unit Credit Point System and Unit Identification Coding | 2 |
| Principle 5: Undergraduate Course Types | 2 |
| Principle 6: Single Degree Course Structure (Study Zones) | 3 |
| Principle 7: Core zone | 3 |
| Principle 8: Flexible Zone | 3 |
| Principle 9: Course Structure — 1000 level unit restriction | 3 |
| Principle 10: Course Structure — 3000/4000 level unit requirements | 3 |
| Principle 11: Single Undergraduate Generalist Degree Course Structure | 4 |
| Principle 12: Single Undergraduate Specialist Degree Course Structure | 4 |
| Principle 13: Composition of Core zones | 4 |
| Principle 14: Essential Units - Generalist Degrees | 5 |
| Principle 15: Essential Units — Specialist Degrees | 5 |
| Principle 16: Core Zone Electives | 5 |
| Principle 17: Capstone Requirement | 5 |
| Principle 18: PACE Requirement | 5 |
| Principle 19: Majors | 6 |
| Principle 20: Minors in the Core Zone | 6 |
| Principle 21: Specialisations | 7 |
| Principle 22: Concentrations | 7 |
| Principle 23: Composition of Flexible Zone | 7 |
| Principle 24: Completing a Second Major in the Flexible Zone | 8 |
| Principle 25: Minors in the Flexible Zone | 8 |
| Principle 26: Double Degrees | 8 |
| Principle 27: Unit Sharing in Double Degrees | 9 |
| Principle 28: Timely completion | 9 |
| Principle 29: Double Degree Governance | 9 |
| Principle 30: Reversion to Single Degree | 9 |
| Principle 31: Admission to a second degree after completion of first award | 10 |
| Principle 32: Embedding Institutional Values in Courses | 10 |
| Principle 33 Embedding Indigenous Connected Curriculum in Courses | 10 |
| Principle 34: Graduation | 10 |
| Principle 35: Award Nomenclature | 10 |

Principle 1: Nomenclature

- 1.1 Programs will henceforth be known as “Courses”. (“Course of study leading to an Award”).

Principle 2: Quality Assurance

- 2.1 Majors and Specialisations will henceforth not be considered “courses” from a TEQSA compliance/reporting point of view.
- 2.2 Majors and Specialisations will still be subject to internal University quality assurance review.

Principle 3: Stewardship of Courses

- 3.1 All courses are “owned” by Academic Senate on behalf of the University. Individual faculties/offices, however, act as stewards for individual courses on behalf of Academic Senate. They are responsible for the design, delivery, review, and innovation of courses in compliance with University policies and procedures.

Principle 4: Unit Credit Point System and Unit Identification Coding

- 4.1 Undergraduate courses will utilise a 10 credit point (cp) system or multiples thereof for all units.
- 4.2 A 10cp unit must meet the Commonwealth’s expectation that a unit of study will consist of 150 hours of activity for a student so enrolled.
- 4.3 Courses may continue to use zero credit point units as required.

Principle 5: Undergraduate Course Types

- 5.1 The University offers two undergraduate degree types:
 - a. Generalist Degree Courses (AQF Level 7 comprising 240 credit points of study).
 - b. Specialist Degree Courses (AQF Level 7 or 8 comprising 240 or 320 credit points of study).
- 5.2 These degrees can be undertaken in one of two modes:
 - a. Single Degree
 - b. Double Degree

Principle 6: Single Degree Course Structure (Study Zones)

- 6.1 All single undergraduate degree courses will have the following study zone structure:
 - a. Core zone (Depth component)
 - b. Flexible Zone (Breadth/maturity component)

Principle 7: Core zone

- 7.1 The core zone consists of the course's specific depth requirements for the disciplinary, trans-disciplinary, or professional area of study.
- 7.2 The core zone includes all compulsory requirements for the course.
- 7.3 The core zone delivers the course's learning outcomes (CLO), in conjunction with any other breadth/maturity requirements.

Principle 8: Flexible Zone

- 8.1 The flexible zone consists of "free choice units".
- 8.2 A student can use their flexible zone to enrol in any unit within the University for which they meet the pre-requisites.

Principle 9: Course Structure — 1000 level unit restriction

- 9.1 Students may only complete a maximum of 100cp at 1000 level in a 240 cp undergraduate degree course.
- 9.2 Students may only complete a maximum of 120 cp at 1000 level in a 320cp undergraduate degree course.
- 9.3 Course authorities will decide how the restriction might be applied to their core and flexible zones.

Principle 10: Course Structure — 3000/4000 level unit requirements

- 10.1 A course must be designed with a minimum of 40cp at 3000 level in a 240cp undergraduate degree course.
- 10.2 A course must be designed with a minimum of 80cp at 3000 and/or 4000 level in a 320cp undergraduate degree course.

Principle 11: Single Undergraduate Generalist Degree Course Structure

- 11.1 For single undergraduate generalist degree courses the core and flexible zone requirements are as follows:
- a. core zone is 160 credit points
 - b. flexible zone is 80 credit points

Principle 12: Single Undergraduate Specialist Degree Course Structure

- 12.1 For single undergraduate specialist degree courses the core and flexible zone requirements are as follows:
- a. core zone is at least 160 credit points
 - b. flexible zone is no more than 80 credit points
- 12.2 Both zones must be specified in multiples of 40cp (representing the equivalent of one session of full-time student load).
- 12.3 A core zone in a specialist degree should only be as large as required to meet the course's pedagogical needs. It should not be deployed as a load capturing technique.
- 12.4 It is possible that due to external accreditation requirements, a specialist degree course may have insufficient space to set a flexible zone.

Principle 13: Composition of Core zones

- 13.1 A core zone **may** consist of any or all of the following elements:
- a. Essential Units
 - b. Elective Units (*chosen from Option Sets*)

For generalist degrees

- c. Minors

For specialist degrees

- d. Specialisations
- e. Concentrations
- f. Minors

- 13.2 The core zone of all generalist degrees will include a major.
- 13.3 Course authorities will determine the composition of the core zone within the boundaries informed by principles 14 and 15.

- 13.4 Majors and specialisations may contain their own essential and/or elective units.

Principle 14: Essential Units - Generalist Degrees

- 14.1 Generalist degrees can have a maximum of 80cp of essential units in their core zone.
- 14.2 A core zone essential unit cannot appear in a major.
- 14.3 Essential units can be prerequisites for units within a major.
- 14.4 Course-based coding will be used for essential units.

Principle 15: Essential Units – Specialist Degrees

- 15.1 Specialist degrees can have up to 100 per cent of their core zone made up of essential units.
- 15.2 A core zone essential unit cannot appear in a specialisation.
- 15.3 Essential units can be prerequisites for units within a specialisation.
- 15.4 Course-based coding will be used for essential units.

Principle 16: Core Zone Electives

- 16.1 Course authorities will set designated option sets.
- 16.2 A core zone elective cannot be double counted towards a major or specialisation.

Principle 17: Capstone Requirement

- 17.1 All courses will provide students with a capstone experience.
- 17.2 A course's capstone experience will reside in the core zone in an essential unit.
- 17.3 A capstone may also be combined with a PACE unit.

Principle 18: PACE Requirement

- 18.1 All undergraduate courses have a PACE unit requirement.
- 18.2 A course's compulsory PACE requirement resides in the core zone as either an essential unit or an elective unit chosen from a distinct PACE option set.

Principle 19: Majors

- 19.1 Majors are a mandatory sequence of study within a generalist degree.
- 19.2 Majors contribute to the acquisition of the course's learning outcomes.
- 19.3 Majors are approved by the University and are included in the course's "major schedule".
- 19.4 The length of majors is 80cps.
- 19.5 Majors can appear in more than one course's major schedule. Their structure, however, must be identical. If the major is not identical it will require a different name in subsequent courses.
- 19.6 All majors must have the following structural element: 30cp must be completed at 3000 level or above.
- 19.7 The structure of majors in a course will be determined by the course authority and will be consistently applied across the "major schedule".
- 19.8 Majors are recorded on a student's testamur and academic transcript.

Principle 20: Minors in the Core Zone

- 20.1 A minor is a sequence of undergraduate units drawn from a University approved major or specialisation but with a smaller volume of learning requirement.
- 20.2 A minor has the same name as the major or specialisation from which its units are drawn.
- 20.3 The length of a minor is 40cps.
- 20.4 All minors must have the following structural element: 20cp must be completed at 2000 level or above.
- 20.5 A minor **may** be a required component of a core zone.
- 20.6 A minor **may** also be a "designated" minor. Designated minors are purpose-built sequences of study that are not available as majors or specialisations and are only available in the flexible zone.
- 20.7 A student **may not** qualify for a major and a minor or a specialisation and a minor with the same name.
- 20.8 A minor is recorded on a student's academic transcript.

Principle 21: Specialisations

- 21.1 A specialist degree course may have a specialisation and if it does the specialisation will be a component of the core zone.
- 21.2 Specialisations are approved by the University and are included in the course's "specialisation schedule".
- 21.3 Specialisations are at least 120cps.
- 21.4 All specialisations must have the following structural element: at least 40cp must be completed at 3000 level or above.
- 21.5 A specialisation can appear in more than one course's specialisation schedule. Its structure, however, must be identical. If the specialisation is not identical it will require a different name in subsequent courses.
- 21.6 Specialisations can be recorded in brackets in the name of the degree course.
- 21.7 A specialisation is recorded on a student's testamur and academic transcript.

Principle 22: Concentrations

- 22.1 A concentration is a sequence of study within a specialisation.
- 22.2 Course authorities will determine if their specialisations will have concentrations.
- 22.3 A concentration can be either an identified set of essential units within the specialisation or can be drawn from an option set.
- 22.4 A concentration is recorded on a student's academic transcript.

Principle 23: Composition of Flexible Zone

- 23.1 Students build their flexible zone as they wish. They can adopt a structured or non-structured approach or include elements of both.
- 23.2 A non-structured approach means that students are able to complete a wide range of "free choice units".
- 23.3 Free choice units are any units offered by the University which are not exclusive to a specific course for which the student is admitted.
- 23.4 Where viable a Faculty/Office can design and offer a free choice unit that is only available in the flexible zone.
- 23.5 A student must be able to meet any pre-requisite requirement to undertake a specific free choice unit.

23.6 A flexible zone can also hold the following structured sequences of study:

For generalist degrees

- a. Second majors
- b. Minors

For specialist degrees

- a. Concentrations
- b. Minors

Principle 24: Completing a Second Major in the Flexible Zone

- 24.1 Space in their schedule permitting, students can use their flexible zone to complete a second major from their course's "major schedule".
- 24.2 A student may extend a minor requirement in their core zone to a major through use of the flexible zone. The completion of the major will meet any core zone minor requirement.

Principle 25: Minors in the Flexible Zone

- 25.1 Students can use their flexible zone to complete a minor.
- 25.2 Minors are drawn from any University approved major or specialisation (including outside the student's course) whose units are available in the flexible zone.
- 25.3 Designated minors are designed by academic staff and approved by Academic Senate for inclusion in all flexible zones.
- 25.4 A list of all minors available to all flexible zones will be made available to students.
- 25.5 A student may not qualify for two minors with the same name.
- 25.6 A minor is recorded on a student's academic transcript.

Principle 26: Double Degrees

- 26.1 In double degrees the breadth requirement (flexible zone) of both courses is forgone, and the student completes the depth requirements (core zone) of the two single degrees.
- 26.2 Outside stated University exclusions, students may choose any combination of undergraduate degrees for which they are qualified to be admitted.

- 26.3 Some double degree combinations can lead to professional recognition. In some double degrees, for example, when a specialist course with an accreditation requirement is combined with a generalist course that helps to fulfil the requirements for accreditation, the double degree combination can influence student options in the second course's core zone.

Principle 27: Unit Sharing in Double Degrees

- 27.1 Units completed in a double degree can meet the requirements of both courses of study.
- 27.2 This form of "unit sharing" at 2000 level or above is limited to four units (40cp) for 320cp combinations, with an additional 20cp unit for each additional 80cp of study.
- 27.3 Double degree combinations (including majors or specialisations where applicable) that exceed the requirements of Principle 27.2 cannot be combined as double degrees and the combination will be placed on the exclusions register.
- 27.4 Unit sharing will not produce a discount in the overall volume of learning required by the student to meet the requirements of both degrees.

Principle 28: Timely completion

- 28.1 All students must be advised that due to unit or pre-requisite unavailability, clinical placements, or other possible course restrictions (beyond their individual unit performance), they may be unable to complete their chosen connected double combination within expected normal full-time duration of the courses. Course authorities must monitor combinations to manage systemic timetable clashes.

Principle 29: Double Degree Governance

- 29.1 With each course's core zone previously approved by Academic Senate and with the student simply completing the core zone requirement of two University approved courses, double degree combinations do not require further Academic Senate approval.

Principle 30: Reversion to Single Degree

- 30.1 At any stage of their candidature a student may choose to cease their enrolment in a double degree course and transfer to the stand-alone version of either constituent course (if a single degree version exists).
- 30.2 Students who transfer will have the units hitherto completed in the discarded course counted towards the breadth requirement of the stand-alone program up to the credit point requirement.

- 30.3 Depending on the maturity of their enrolment, a student therefore may not receive the full credit for all units previously undertaken.

Principle 31: Admission to a second degree after completion of first award

- 31.1 A student seeking admission to a second stand-alone course who has completed a first degree award within the previous 10 years will not be required to meet the course's flexible zone requirement. Existing advanced standing/formal RPL rules will apply in the core zone.

Principle 32: Embedding Institutional Values in Courses

- 32.1 The University may embed compulsory co-curricular not-for-credit short modules into courses.

Principle 33 Embedding Indigenous Connected Curriculum in Courses

- 33.1 In alignment with our Indigenous Strategy (2016-2025) and Academic Senate resolutions, the University will deliver an "indigenous connected curriculum".

Principle 34: Graduation

- 34.1 Students will normally have their awards conferred upon meeting the requirements of both degree courses.
- 34.2 Students who successfully complete a double degree will receive two testamurs.

Principle 35: Award Nomenclature

- 35.1 Generalist degree courses are named after the general field of study. There are no further additions to the title permitted.
- 35.2 Specialist degree courses are named after the specialist or professional area of study. They will not incorporate a generalist degree title.
- 35.3 Specialisations can be recorded in brackets in the name of the degree course.