

Policy on Disciplinary Integrity within Courses

Preamble

The University is committed to the development and delivery of high quality academic courses, which meet the needs of its students, relevant employers and related professions. It has particular concern for excellence in learning and teaching, and research-informed academic programs.

Principles

1. The contribution of demonstrable discipline-based expertise is of key importance in ensuring the quality of academic courses in a University context.
2. From time to time, a faculty or school may seek to incorporate, within a course, discipline-based expertise that is not found within that faculty or school.
3. Genuine cross-disciplinary dialogue respects the integrity of the disciplines concerned, and the needs of students within particular courses.
4. In line with these principles, and as is underscored by the Australian Catholic University [*Code of Ethics in Teaching*](#), units should only be taught by staff with appropriate and demonstrable academic and professional qualifications and expertise in the discipline. “Demonstrable expertise in the discipline” would include the capacity to produce and draw meaningfully upon current research and applied practice in the discipline, thus maintaining research-informed teaching.
5. Where a faculty or school recognises that elements of a course demand disciplinary expertise residing outside that faculty or school, course development or review committees should consider:
 - a. whether there is a suitable unit available within another faculty or school, in which case service teaching may be appropriate;
 - b. where a suitable unit is not available, whether it is necessary:
 - i. to develop and teach the unit collaboratively with another faculty or school in which the required disciplinary expertise resides; or
 - ii. to request that a unit be developed and taught by another faculty or school in which the required disciplinary expertise resides; or
 - iii. where the University does not have appropriate discipline expertise, to give consideration as to how best to employ such expertise.

Title: <i>Policy on Disciplinary Integrity within Courses</i>	Approved by: Academic Board Date: 9 February 2011
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