1. Purpose and Objectives

This policy sets out the processes for appraising curriculum teaching and program quality and risk as well as for undertaking reviews of the University’s undergraduate and postgraduate coursework programs. This policy also sets out the processes for the review of generalist degree programs.

2. Definitions, Terms, Acronyms
Academic Program Review (APR) – A process that ensures the qualitative and quantitative review of generalist degrees every 7 years, and all other teaching programs (or suites of programs) every 5 years.

Curriculum and Teaching Quality and Risk Appraisal (CTQRA) – An annual process designed to:

1. Support access to data for annual appraisal of curriculum, teaching and program quality and risk
2. Determine teaching and learning focused priorities
3. Meet institutional regulatory obligations.

CTQRA is guided by UQ internal and external quality and risk indicators in conjunction with contextualisation from schools and faculties to manage curriculum and teaching alignment for the University Strategic Plan.

Generalist degree – Degree programs in which students can complete a significant proportion of the degree by undertaking courses offered by faculties other than that administering the program.

TEQSA – Tertiary Education Quality and Standards Agency

3. Policy Scope/Coverage

This policy applies to all staff of the University of Queensland.

4. Policy Statement

The University of Queensland is dedicated to appraising the quality of teaching and to undertaking regular reviews as part of the quality assurance framework. The University ensures the systematic and regular review of curriculum, teaching and program quality and risk.

5. Mechanisms

5.1. Risk frameworks

The University’s risk management framework provides a standardised approach to assessing risk at any level of the organisation. In addition TEQSA’s Risk Assessment Framework must be used as a guide in the appraisal process. The Risk Assessment Framework plays a key role in TEQSA’s risk-based approach to assuring higher education standards.

5.2. Curriculum and teaching quality and risk appraisal

School Teaching and Learning Committees conduct comprehensive reviews of curriculum, teaching and program quality and risk annually, ensuring alignment with the University’s Strategic Plan and enabling continuous evidence-based improvement and risk management.

5.3. Academic program review (APR)

The APR process requires that every undergraduate program (with the exception of the Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science – see section 5.4 below), every major or field of study in a
generalist degree, and every suite of postgraduate coursework programs be subject to a comprehensive review through the APR process at least once every 5 years.

The APR process comprises a broadly-based and comprehensive review of a program of study that has, as its goal, an evidence-based evaluation of the viability, quality, structure, focus and outcomes of the program.

5.4. Review of generalist degree programs

The Academic Board conducts a comprehensive review of the University’s major generalist degrees (Bachelor of Arts and Bachelor of Science) every 7 years. This holistic and comprehensive assessment builds on and consolidates the 5-year rolling review of the majors that comprise these degrees. Refer to PPL 3.30.06b Review of Generalist Degree Programs - Procedures [8] for further details.

Workflow State:
Approved

Evaluation Method Details:
Teaching and Learning Committee endorsement - 13 April 2016 Academic Board advice to recommend - 16 May 2016 Recommendation for approval by Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic) - 17 May 2016 Approval by Vice-Chancellor - 19 May 2016

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