



UNSW
College

Diploma of Architecture Program Structure & Course Outlines

Program Structure

- The Diploma of Architecture comprises 8 courses taken over three terms of full-time study. Students must complete 48 Units of Credit (UOC). Each course is 6 UOC
- DPCA1001, DPCA1002 and DPCA1003 are all one course delivered over 1- 3 terms:
- Pre-requisites must be satisfied before selecting any course within the program.
- A core course is one that must be satisfactorily completed to meet the requirements of the program.
- An elective course is one which must be completed to satisfactorily complete the program and, if relevant, specialisation.
- Students will study a mix of core course and prescribed electives depending on your specialisation



Diploma of Architecture Sample Program

Course Code	Course Title	UoC	Suggested Enrolment Term	Pre-requisites/ Co-requisites
7 CORE COURSES IN ALL SPECIALISATIONS				
DPCA1001	Communication and Academic Literacy 1	4	1	
DPAC1001	Practical Design Studio 1	6	1	
DPAC1002	Communication In the Built Environment	6	1	
DPAC1003	Design History and Theory 1	6	2	
DPCA1002	Communication and Academic Literacy 2	1	2	DPCA1001 Communication and Academic Literacy 1 (Pre-requisite)
DPAC1005	Architectural Composition and Modelling	6	2	DPAC1002 Communication in the Built Environment (Pre-requisite)
DPAC1006	Building Environments and Technics 1	6	2	
DPCA1003	Communication and Academic Literacy 3	1	3	DPCA1002 Communication and Academic Literacy 1 (Pre-requisite)
DPAC1004	Practical Design Studio 2	6	3	DPAC1001 Practical Design Studio 1 (Pre-requisite)
1 ELECTIVE - THESE WILL DEPEND ON THE SPECIALISATION CHOSEN				
DPAC1007	Architectural Science & Environment	6	3	
DPAC1008	Interior Architecture Critical Perspectives	6	3	DPAC1003 Design History and Theory 1 (Pre-requisite)
DPAC1010	Introduction to Landscape Architecture & Analysis	6	3	



Course Outlines

Course Outline Quick Links

[DPAC1001 Practical Design Studio 1](#)

[DPAC1002 Communication in the Built Environment](#)

[DPAC1003 Design History and Theory](#)

[DPAC1004 Practical Design Studio 2](#)

[DPAC1005 Architectural Composition & Modelling](#)

[DPAC1006 Building Environments and Technics 1](#)

[DPAC1007 Architectural Science & Environment](#)

[DPAC1008 Interior Architecture Critical Perspectives](#)

[DPAC1010 Introduction to Landscape Architecture and Analysis](#)

[DPCA1001-3 Communication and Academic Literacy](#)





DPAC1001 Practical Design Studio 1

Course Description

Practical Design Studio 1 sets the foundation for the practice of design thinking in the built environment with particular emphasis on research-led design inquiry as well as pursuing expansive exploration of ideas through iterative and reflective design techniques.

The design brief at the basis of the course introduces students to the key phases, processes, materials and elements of the built environment from the macro scale of landscape and architecture through to the micro scales of interiors and industrial design and the digital potential of computational design.

The course will encourage a design response that is critical, curious and inquisitive leading to design proposals that speculate on the future relationships between people and the built environment.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Understand the purpose of a design brief at a fundamental level.

CL02: Demonstrate fundamental skills in gathering, analysing and interpreting research to inform critical design perspectives and design strategies.

CL03: Demonstrate fundamental skills in design processes and actions in response to a given design brief and strategy.

CL04: Assemble and utilize a basic material response as a response to a given design brief and strategy.

CL05: Develop basic modes of communication including hand sketching, model making, digital fabrication and visualisation in the representation of design research, process and proposal.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
6 hours (1 x 2 hrs lecture + 1 x 4 hrs workshop + optional consultations)	6 hours	12 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Course Introduction + the Design Studio Environment

Unit 2: Design Thinking: What is a Design Brief?

Unit 3: Creative Research: Brief Interpretation + Translation to Strategy

Unit 4: Design Concepts: Abstract Explorations through Sketch (Point, Line, Plane)

Unit 5: Design Concepts: Abstract Explorations through Models (Volume and Geometry)

Unit 6: Design Concepts: Abstract Explorations through Precedent (Appropriation, Collaging and Remixing)

Unit 7: People, Place and the Human Scale

Unit 8: Articulating Space and Form: The Connection of Spaces and Objects

Unit 9: Crafting Experience: Narrative and Storytelling

Unit 10: Design Proposal: Technical Representation + Evoking Emotions

Unit 11: Design Proposal: The Big Picture + Course Summary



Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Design Brief to Strategy Understanding a Design brief and Translation to a Design Proposal. (Assignment, Individual)	Term 1, Week 3	20%	CLO1-3, CLO5
2. Design Exploration Site Analysis, Precedents 1 & 2. Abstraction. (Assignment, Individual)	Term 1, Weeks 5, 6 & 7	30%	CLO2-3, CLO5
3. Design Development Design Portfolio and Silent Pin Up. (Assignment, Individual)	Term 1, Week 10	20%	CLO1, CLO3-5
4. Design Proposal Portfolio and Presentation (Presentation, Individual)	Term 1, Week 12	30%	CLO1-5





DPAC1002 Communication in the Built Environment

Course Description

This course will give students the tools and techniques to communicate their designs, ideas and concepts. Students are introduced to methods of communicating from conceptual design through to design resolution. The course exposes students to a wide range of styles and mediums for communication ranging from the technical to the experimental. Through a series of projects, students are encouraged to explore this range of communication styles and embed their style within the work.

This course teaches both analogue and digital skills, encouraging students to oscillate between them to explore different ways of designing and communicating. Upon completion students will be exposed to drawing, modelling and presentation skills that form the foundation of how they will communicate their ideas, process and designs throughout their degree and into practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Demonstrate an elementary understanding of the principles of orthographic drawings across a range of scales, projects and applications.

CL02: Construct digital and analogue 3D models to explore form and convey design intent.

CL03: Use appropriate visual media and language to communicate the design process, proposals and technical information.

CL04: Reflect on the work produced throughout the course and curate the work and methods of representation that best communicate the process and intent of production.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4.5 hours (1 x 1hr lecture + 1 x 3.5 hrs tutorial + optional consultation)	4.5 hours	9 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Orthographic Drawings

Unit 2: Communication and Presentation

Unit 3: Process Models & Planar Materials

Unit 4: Iterative Models & Massing Materials

Unit 5: Presentation Models

Unit 6: Digital Fabrication for Model Making

Unit 7: Explorative Model Making

Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Engagement Portfolio (Individual)	Term 1, Weeks 2, 4 & 10	15%	CLO1-4
2. Introduction to Orthographic Representation (Individual)	Term 1, Week 6	30%	CLO1-2
3. Representational Model Making (Individual)	Term 1, Week 8	20%	CLO2-3
4. Explorative Model Making (Individual)	Term 1, Week 12	35%	CLO2-4





DPAC1003 Design History and Theory

Course Description

Design History and Theory explores connections between the disciplines of architecture, interior architecture, landscape architecture and industrial design. We will investigate sites, ideas, concepts and technologies of historic and present-day significance and how their principles have survived and evolved over a long period of time.

The history of design thinking offers insight into a human being, who feels an affinity with a city at all scales from the landscape, street, building, and room, as well as the fundamental elements of a column, door, window, ornament, chair, door handle and right down to product and object.

Lectures and tutorials will focus on stimulating debate and discussion about how these principles have informed present-day practice and the importance of surveying the past to enable current practice.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Discuss a range of significant historical design ideas, practices and sites within their social, cultural, environmental and technological contexts.

CL02: Identify relationships between historical design approaches and contemporary design challenges.

CL03: Demonstrate a capacity for reasoned enquiry and discovery through research, analysis, critique and reflection.

CL04: Communicate effectively and persuasively in varied modes, including text, images and analytical drawings produced using both manual and digital tools.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4.5 hours (1 x 2 hrs lecture +1 x 2.5 hrs tutorial + optional consultation)	4.5 hours	9 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Introduction: The History of Design Thinking: Architects, Interior + Landscape Architects and Industrial + Computational Designers

Unit 2: Classical Rome and Greece

Unit 3: The Early Renaissance and High Renaissance

Unit 4: Baroque and the Enlightenment Period

Unit 5: 18th - 19th Century Industrial Period

Unit 6: Australian Contexts

Unit 7: 20th Century – Global

Unit 8: Product and Object Design

Unit 9: The Making of the Modern Landscape

Unit 10: 21st Century – Post War to Present Contemporary Society

Unit 11: Computational Design – Enabling Digital Technologies

Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Design History Research Assignment Case study, 1200 words.	Term 2, Week 6	20%	CLO1, CLO4
2. Design History Assignment: Part 2 Critical Analysis of Contemporary Dwelling Interior 2,500 words.	Term 2, Week 10	30%	CLO1-4
3. Engagement Portfolio	Term 2, Weekly	50%	CLO1-4





DPCA1004 Practical Design Studio 2

Course Description

“When I’m working on a problem, I never think about its beauty, I just think about how to solve the problem, but when I finish it, if the solution is not beautiful, I know it’s wrong.” - Buckminster Fuller

The Built Environment is made up of a range of disciplines, each of which has a particular focus. However, it is common to work across or to collaborate with multiple disciplines. This studio asks students to design a range of interventions, beginning with an object, then a building and finally designing a landscape response. Students are encouraged to think creatively about how they integrate their interventions with the existing site and the surrounding context. Each intervention should address challenges and opportunities identified through a thorough site analysis to create a design response that is functional, beautiful and enhances the site.

The studio is structured around the idea of Small – Medium – Large – Extra Large, which runs throughout all of the content and assessments. This approach reflects the way large scale projects are often undertaken in practice. With multidisciplinary teams working across a project at different scales, whilst maintaining a constant dialogue between disciplines to ensure a cohesive project that draws on the team’s strengths and talents. The studio will operate in the same way, with interdisciplinary teams undertaking site analysis and research followed by a series of individual interventions that begin small and increase in scale.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Analyse the spatial, historical, political, environmental, material, and contextual forces that influence the site and brief.

CL02: Interrogate design methods using appropriate precedent, program and systems studies.

CL03: Develop interventions through an iterative design process that engages with context, site, and user experience.

CL04: Demonstrate a fundamental understanding of material selection, fabrication techniques, and processes.

CL05: Effectively communicate your ideas, process and understanding through a range of 2D and 3D representational techniques.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
8.5 hours (1 x 2 hrs lecture + 1 x 2.5 hrs tutorial + 1 x 4 hrs workshop + optional consultation)	8.5 hours	17 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Studio introduction & site visit

Unit 2: Site analysis + research

Unit 3: Refining and communicating your analysis

Unit 4: Design exploration

Unit 5: Design development

Unit 6: Spatial design

Unit 7: Developing your spatial design

Unit 8: Site systems

Unit 9: Integrated design



Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross reference to learning outcomes
1. Individual/In-class Presentation: Site Analysis	Term 3, Week 3	20%	CLO1, CLO5
2. Individual/In-class Presentation Intervention 1: Object.	Term 3, Week 6	20%	CLO2-3, CLO5
3. Individual/In-class Presentation Intervention 2: Space.	Term 3, Week 10	20%	CLO2-5
4. Individual/In-class Presentation Intervention 3: Site.	Term 3, Week 14	40%	CLO2-5





DPAC1005 Architectural Composition & Modelling

Course Description

This course builds on capabilities and skills from DPAC1002 to develop a further range of communication skills specific to Design, Architecture and Computational Design. Students will explore intermediate analogue and intermediate-advanced digital representation techniques in a suite of software and evidencing through a digital and physical output. Emphasis will be placed on an iterative, theoretical and practical approach to making as a means of spatial exploration, research and articulation of design environments.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Translate verbal and written ideas into visual design work.

CL02: Demonstrate developed ability of analogue making and 3D digital software knowledge in relation to architecture and design evidenced in assessment outcomes.

CL03: Demonstrate application of design theory in design creation evidenced in assessment outcomes.

CL04: Create a design proposal using 3D digital software.

CL05: Formulate a design drawing set using 3D software, demonstrating technical drawing conventions.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4.5 hours (1 x 1 hr lecture + 1 x 3.5 hrs tutorial + optional consultation)	4.5 hours	9 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Line Theory

Unit 2: Drawing standards

Unit 3: Shape Theory

Unit 4: Form Theory

Unit 5: Movement & Proportion theory

Unit 6: Computational Design

Unit 7: Analogue & digital model making

Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Rebuild Precedent & Site Analysis 400-600 words. (Assignment/Individual)	Term 2, Week 4	20%	CLO2, CLO5
2. Engagement Portfolio Weeks 4-7 (10%) Week 8 (10%) (Assignment/Individual)	Term 2, Weeks 8 & 9	20%	CLO2-3, CLO5
3. Design Addition & Introduction to Parametric Design 5 mins + feedback. (Presentation/Individual)	Term 2, Week 10	35%	CLO1-5
4. Packaging Final: Portfolio Submission 1 x A3/4 booklet and model. (Presentation/Individual)	Term 2, Week 12	25%	CLO1-5





DPAC1006 Building Environments and Technics 1

Course Description

Building Environments and Technics 1 is an introduction to the structural, constructional and physical principles of the built environment.

The course will investigate the significance of building materials and the perception of spaces in relation to their use along with the construction of primary building elements including foundations, floors, walls, openings, roofs and stairs and their application to the built environment.

The interface between architecture and interior will be explored through the principles of structure, substrate and skin with a particular emphasis on the role of materiality in construction and fabrication technologies.

Students will learn to read and produce documentation and models of a technical level of execution and accuracy in line with industry standards.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Identify and understand the fundamental construction technologies and primary building components of the built environment and the interface with the human scale.

CL02: Apply understanding of fundamental construction, structural and material principles to a simple design brief.

CL03: Evaluate and recognize the importance of sustainable practice through construction and fabrication methods, material selection, environmental performance and human interaction with the built environment.

CL04: Demonstrate fundamental skills in communicating construction, structure and material application through technical drawings, specification sheets and model making.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
5.5 hours (1 x 1.0hr lecture + 1 x 4 hrs tutorial + optional consultation)	5.5 hours	11 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Construction Fundamentals: Design - Structural Principles

Unit 2: Construction Fundamentals: Making Methods + Operational Principles

Unit 3: Construction Fundamentals Expanded: Design - Structural Principles

Unit 4: Construction Fundamentals Expanded: Making Methods + Operational Principles

Unit 5: Technical Documentation: Key Drawing Conventions

Unit 6: Technical Documentation: Material Properties and Systems

Unit 7: Technical Documentation: Codes and Standards (AS1428.1, AS1120, NCC, Australian Standards)

Unit 8: Model Making: Assessment Briefing and Precedent Gallery

Unit 9: Construction Methods and Fabrication Technologies

Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Application of Fundamental Principles (Assignment/Individual)	Term 2, Week 4	20%	CLO1
2. Technical Documentation (Assignment/Individual)	Term 2, Week 9	30%	CLO1-4
3. Model Making (Presentation/Individual)	Term 2, Week 12	30%	CLO1, CLO4
4. Exam (Exam/Individual)	Term 2, Week 4	20%	CLO1, CLO3-4





DPAC1007 Architectural Science & Environment

Course Description

This course introduces students to the design strategies and scientific understanding needed to minimise buildings' impact on natural resources and the environment. It includes life-cycle thinking in architectural design, a history of environmental design concepts in architecture, understanding and responding to climate, design innovation, solar architecture, building fabric performance and wind, ventilation, and cooling. In completing the course, students will master the basic techniques to reduce building-related carbon emissions and enhance human comfort through climate-sensitive design. In addition, they will gain the ability to analyse climatic and geomorphological contexts to optimise building design for sun, temperature, wind, human metabolism, and perception.

The primary aim of this module is to inform and inspire you to design sustainable, comfortable architecture. It is important to consider that 'building science' and 'environmental design' are not distinct fields separate from studio design. You do not design a building and then later consider 'how can I make this comfortable?' Nor is building science only concerned with math and physics; instead, it looks at how scientific principles should inform the design process. How a building performs environmentally is a key consideration throughout the design process and is intrinsically linked to aesthetics, spatial delight, material selection and more. The hope is this course will foster a passion in you to design sustainable architecture in the studio, and importantly, across your future careers.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Design architecture that integrates relevant environmental design strategies, systems and technologies considering climate, thermal comfort, materials, and energy use.

CL02: Demonstrate a basic understanding of the current scientific view of how nature works and relate this to building.

CL03: Evaluate the lifecycle environmental performance of domestic architecture in the Australian context.

CL04: Analyse the characteristics of climate and demonstrate how a building may be planned and constructed to take advantage of that climate to assure the comfort of its occupants.

CL05: Demonstrate an understanding of the basic regulations and standards that govern environmental performance in buildings in Australia.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
3.5 hours (1 x 3.5hrs tutorial plus optional consultation)	3.5 hours	7 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Introduction: Climate Change and the Built Environment

Unit 2: Life Cycle Thinking

Unit 3: Thermal Comfort and Climatic Analysis

Unit 4: Computational Analysis and Site Studies

Unit 5: The Sun & Solar architecture

Unit 6: Building Fabric Performance

Unit 7: Wind, Ventilation and Cooling



Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Environmental Home Audit 1,000 words report on environmental data and performance of an apartment/house (Individual).	Term 3, Week 6	30%	CLO1-2, CLO4
2. Fabric Development Project 1,0000 words. Develop energy-efficient and environment-friendly fabric (Groupwork).	Term 3, Week 12	40%	CLO1-5
3. Fortnightly quizzes	Term 3, Weeks 2, 4, 6, 9, & 11	30%	CLO1-5





DPAC1008 Interior Architecture Critical Perspectives

Course Description

Interior Architecture Critical Perspectives builds on your foundational study in the History of Design Thinking. The course focuses on interior space as a site of dwelling and introduces you to historical, cultural and theoretical perspectives on the concept of dwelling and its material constructions.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Outline and describe various concepts of dwelling within historical and cultural contexts.

CL02: Comprehend and apply the principles of scholarly enquiry in the form of an independent research task.

CL03: Effectively communicate the outcomes of research through a combination of verbal, visual and written forms.

CL04: Evaluate and describe how research can inform interior architecture practice.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4.5 hours (1 x 2 hrs lecture + 1 x 2.5 hrs tutorial + optional consultation)	4.5 hours	9 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: An Introduction to Academic Writing and Research in Interiors + Assessment 1 Q+A

Unit 2: Contexts of Interior Histories & First Cultures' Dwellings

Unit 3: 20BCE – 400CE Dwellings

Unit 4: 600CE – 1400CE Dwellings

Unit 5: 1420CE – 1600CE Dwellings

Unit 6: 1600CE – 1800CE Dwellings

Unit 7: 1800CE – 1900CE Dwellings

Unit 8: 1900CE – 1960CE Dwellings

Unit 9: 1960CE – Present Dwellings

Unit 10: 20th/21st Century Dwellings

Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross-reference to learning outcomes
1. Case Study (Assignment, Individual)	Term 3, Week 6	20%	CLO1-3
2. Critical Analysis (Project, Individual)	Term 3, Week 12	40%	CLO1-4
3. Engagement Portfolio (Portfolio, Individual)	Term 3, Weekly	40%	CLO1-4





DPAC1010 Introduction to Landscape Architecture and Analysis

Course Description

This course introduces students to the concept of landscapes as inter-related processes and systems. It focusses on the human, biotic and abiotic characteristics of landscapes in urban and non-urban settings. Through a range of assessment tasks students record and analyse the landscape using presentation techniques associated with the practice of landscape architecture. The course examines two large-scale, iconic landscapes in Sydney introducing students to the layers and processes that make up the whole landscape through an exploration of ecology, landscape ecology, ethics, sustainability and biodiversity.

Students then focus on plants and their role in ecology and landscape architecture through a design and botanical classification. Students develop a vocabulary of planting elements and an ability to design with plants to achieve specific spatial qualities. By analysing small-scale planting designs and developing a personal herbarium, students lay down the foundation of horticultural knowledge and develop skills in planting design and design communication.

This course includes two field trips within the Sydney Region.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01 - Interpret the key attributes and inter-relationships of landscape systems.

CL02 - Classify plant species according to their botanical and design features and their role in ecological communities.

CL03 - Formulate and develop design strategies using plant material in evocative and ethically appropriate ways.

CL04 - Effectively communicate your observations, analysis and proposals using a range of representational techniques.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4.5 hours (1 x 1 hr lecture + 1 x 3.5hrs tutorial + optional consultation)	4.5 hours	9 hours

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Introduction to Landscape Architecture and Analysis

Unit 2: Landscape Layers: Landform, Geology and Soils

Unit 3: Landscape Layers: Vegetation and Ecological Communities

Unit 4: Complex Urban Sites: Introduction to Homebush Bay

Unit 5: Introduction to Planting Design

Unit 6: Plant Forms and Spatial Design

Unit 7: Technical Challenges in Horticulture

Unit 8: Ecology, Landscape Ecology and Ethics

Unit 9: Living Architecture

Assessment Tasks

Type	When assessed	Weighting	Cross reference to learning outcomes
1. Sketchbook	Term 3, Week 4	20%	CLO1, CLO4
2. Report (Groupwork)	Term 3, Week 8	25%	CLO1, CLO3, CLO4
3. Design Journal	Term 3, Week 11	30%	CLO2 - 4
4. Herbarium	Term 3, Week 3 & 8	25%	CLO2, CLO4



DPCA1001-3 Communication and Academic Literacy (Cal) 1, 2 & 3

Course Description

This course is designed to equip learners with the academic literacy and communication skills they require to succeed in their tertiary studies. This course is characterised by a focus on tertiary orientation, academic literacy, critical thinking, and learner autonomy. The study of advanced functional language forms which promote textual coherence and cohesion at a tertiary level are embedded. The aim of this course is to assist the process of acculturation and promote broader engagement in campus life. It also aims to foster a deeper understanding of how word choice, sentence structure, and the organisation of ideas can affect clarity of expression and facilitate greater communicative and academic competence. Students learn to recognise and create texts based on logical organisational patterns and identify expressions commonly used in academic discourse to signal relationships between ideas. There is a strong emphasis on reflection and the learning process. Learners are encouraged to work collaboratively and to develop effective self-directed study skills. Course materials are based on topics and issues which reflect the variety of disciplines students will go on to pursue as part of their future courses of study. Authentic tertiary input and resources are used where appropriate to ensure that learning activities are relevant and meaningful. The themes selected as the context for the learning activities reflect broad topics which may be studied from a variety of disciplinary perspectives. The focus includes macro-language skills, discourse management and academic literacy skills. CAL encourages collaborative and independent work with both peers and teachers to better prepare students for the Australian university context. Learners are engaged in practical task-oriented activities and assessment tasks. They are encouraged to analyse ideas, evaluate claims, and search for answers to self-generated questions. A range of academic spoken and written text types are addressed throughout the course. Some of these texts include: academic readings, case studies, reports, critical reviews, reflections, summaries, annotated bibliographies, short-answer responses, tutorial discussions, presentations, simulations etc. The course, is organised in a series of skills-based modules and is delivered in a fully online or fully face-to-face mode, using blended learning approaches. The spread of hours across the CAL course is 48 to 144 hours dependent of English language proficiency. Student requiring greater English language support may take the course over three terms.

Course Learning Outcomes

On successful completion of this course students will be able to:

CL01: Use & produce language required to operate successfully at an Australian university.

CL02: Select, analyse and evaluate information, ideas, & academic sources.

CL03: Clearly express ideas, organise information, & incorporate evidence.

CL04: Produce written texts demonstrating recognised academic conventions.

CL05: Engage in group discussions & deliver oral presentations.

CL06: Communicate with peers & university staff in both academic & social domains.

CL07: Demonstrate a reflective & self-directed approach to learning.

No. timetabled hours per week	No. personal study hours per week	Total workload hours per week
4-8 hours per week (Term 1)	Approx. 2 – 4 hours per week	6 – 12 hours per week
2 hours per week (Term 1, 2 or 3)	Approx. 1 – 2 hours per week	3 – 6 hours per week
2 hours per week (Term 1, 2, or 3)	Approx. 1 hours per week	3 – 6 hours per week

Topics included in the Course

Unit 1: Developing an academic style: Communicating at university + Being a critical reader.

Unit 2: Critical analysis and expressing ideas clearly: Writing for university + Presenting and supporting claims.

Unit 3: Incorporating different perspectives: Referring to academic sources + Synthesising information from multiple sources.

Unit 4: Negotiating and problem solving: Developing credible arguments.

Unit 5: Negotiating and problem solving: Analysing problems and evaluating responses.

Unit 6: Joining a discourse community: Investigating your field of study.

Unit 7: Joining a discourse community: Reporting on research findings.



Assessment Tasks

		48 Hours		144 Hours – Students who require extra English language support	
Type	Cross-reference to learning outcome	When assessed	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)	When assessed	Weighting (% of total marks for unit)
Reflection Activities: Reflective video, writing and interview	CLO1-3, 5-7	Week 3, 12, Term 1	20%	Week 3, Term 1 Week 12, Term 2 Week 12, Term 3	10%
Quizzes Quiz 1: Listening Skills Quiz 2: Reading & Writing Quiz 3: Academic Language Quiz 4: Academic Language	CLO1, 3, 6-7	Week 3-12, Term 1	20%	Week 4, Term 1 Week 6, Term 1 Week 7, Term 1 Week 3, Term 2	10%
Seminars Part 1. Critical Reading Seminar Part 2. Group Seminar Presentation	CLO1-7	N/A	0%	Week 8, Term 1 Week 12, Term 1	20%
Case Study Students identify the core issues and pose justifiable solutions to the problem	CLO1-4, 6-7	Week 2, Term 1	20%	Week 6, Term 2	10%
Emergency Summit Students assume the role of a real-world stakeholder in an 'Emergency Summit' and prepare a well-reasoned response to a given 'wicked problem'.	CLO1-7	Week 6, Term 1	20%	Week 11, Term 2	10%



Assessment Tasks

Individual Poster Presentation/Report	CLO1, 7	Week 3, Term 1	20%	Week 6, Term 3 Week 11, Term 3	20%
Integrated Skills Test Reading, Listening & Writing	CLO1-4	N/A	0%	Exam Week, Term 3	20%

