

A stitch in time: Designing a curriculum framework for quality teaching and learning across multiple deliveries by multiple teachers

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Quality teaching and learning in higher education sector faces many challenges - increasing class sizes, more diverse classes, a greater emphasis on compliance, growth in transnational education, increased casualisation of teaching staff, an overall intensification of teaching workload, and increased research outputs. The move to a greater use of various measurements and metrics can have the unintended consequence of increased pressure on teaching staff. As the sector moves towards the minimalist, flexible organisational models in universities, there is a need to provide support to deal with those challenges. As part of an internal university learning and teaching grant that looked at the challenge of ensuring both the quality and compliance requirements the delivery of the same course by different staff in multiple locations, the project team developed collaborative cohort level curriculum design framework where curriculum is designed by teaching staff working together such that the student experience is cohesive, consistent and holistic. It allowed for iterations of skills and knowledges across courses. The framework will assist teaching staff to document the design and delivery of curriculum so as to help maintain the quality of education, ensure equivalency and comparability across locations, help casual staff understand the curriculum holistically, deal with staff turnover, and importantly, create a student-facing learning and teaching plan. Furthermore, the documentation process also serves to evidence any compliance requirements without any additional work.