

REGULATION 88

AWARDS, COURSES AND UNITS



Current version with effect from:	N/A
Approved by:	Council
Approval History:	8 Feb 2023, 8 Mar 2023, 5 Jul 2023
Repealed:	13 Mar 2024, effective 1 Apr 2024
Transitional note:	The information covered in this regulation can now be found in the new Regulation 11 Awards, Courses, Units, effective 1 Apr 2024

88.A Temporary Note: Transitional Provisions

- 88.A.1 The Council's intention is for this Regulation to govern all awards, courses and units of study of the University from 1 January 2025.
- 88.A.2 Each award of the University not included in this Regulation continues to be governed by its own Regulation until such time as:
- the Council incorporates that award into this Regulation by addition of its title in Regulation 88.4; and
 - the Academic Board approves a Course Record for the award in accordance with Regulation 88.5; and
 - the Council repeals the individual Regulation for that award.
- 88.A.3 Students who are admitted to an award are entitled to choose to complete their course of study as prescribed by the Regulation in the form which existed at the time of their admission.
- 88.A.4 This Temporary Note ceases to have effect and is to be removed on the date on which the Council has completed repeal of all other Regulations governing individual awards of the University.

88.1 Awards, Courses and Units of the University of Divinity

- 88.1.1 The objects of the University of Divinity as prescribed by the *University of Divinity Act* section 4 include the conferral of "degrees, diplomas and certificates and other awards in Divinity and associated disciplines".
- 88.1.2 Using the powers contained in section 30 (j) of the *University of Divinity Act*, the Council has resolved that all matters concerning the degrees, diplomas, certificates and other awards of the University are subject to this Regulation and policies of the University pursuant to it. This includes all courses and units offered by the University through its Colleges or Schools.

88.1.3 Definitions

For the purposes of this Regulation:

- an award of the University of Divinity is a qualification approved by the University Council that is recognised by the conferral of a degree, diploma or certificate

- b) a group of awards is a sequence of awards in the same or similar area that provides for a student enrolling in a longer award to exit early with a shorter award or for a student who successfully completes a shorter award to proceed to a longer award
- c) a course is a sequence of units or other educational activities approved by the Academic Board that leads to the conferral of an award of the University
- d) a unit is discrete quantum of study organised around a topic that contributes to a course of study leading to an award of the University.
- e) Divinity means the study of religious beliefs, practices and thought that leads to awards in Divinity, Ministry, Philosophy, Spirituality or Theology.
- f) Associated disciplines means study leading to awards in any area of knowledge or professional practice that in the opinion of both the Academic Board and the Council falls within section 4 of the Act (Objects of University).

88.2 Graduate Attributes

88.2.1 The Graduate Attributes of the University are:

- a) Learn: Graduates are equipped for critical study, especially of Christian texts and traditions
- b) Articulate: Graduates articulate theological insight and reflection
- c) Communicate: Graduates communicate informed views through structured argument
- d) Engage: Graduates engage with diverse views, contexts and traditions
- e) Serve: Graduates are prepared for the service of others

88.2.2 The Graduate Attributes may only be amended by the Council after seeking the advice of or receiving a recommendation from the Academic Board.

88.3 Principles

88.3.1 Each award of the University must:

- a) Have a clearly articulated Statement of Rationale and Course Outcomes
- b) Be driven by scholarship in both content and design, drawing on the expertise of qualified and experienced content specialists and course designers
- c) Equip students to achieve the Course Outcomes, to acquire the Graduate Attributes, and to meet relevant professional accreditation standards
- d) Align with the University's vision, strategic plan, and graduate attributes
- e) Align with the needs of the University's partners, including students, Colleges, churches and religious orders, agencies, and government.
- f) Fall within the definition of divinity and its associated disciplines as approved by the Academic Board

- g) Comply with regulatory requirements, including the *Australian Qualifications Framework* and the *Higher Education Standards Framework*
- h) Be viable, responding to an ongoing and demonstrable demand
- i) Be sustainable, supported by adequate resources
- j) Be developed, monitored, and reviewed with intellectual and procedural rigour, including measurement against external benchmarks.

88.3.2 The Course Outcomes for an award must:

- a) identify the minimum knowledge and ability accomplished by every graduate of an award
- b) be appropriate to the level and volume of the award
- c) conform with the *Australian Qualifications Framework*
- d) reflect the University's Graduate Attributes
- e) relate to the Rationale of the award
- f) be achievable and measurable
- g) include no less than three and no more than six outcomes

88.3.3 Proposals for the development, major modification or review of courses leading to an award or awards of the University must ensure that evidence and advice is sought from:

- a) prospective students, current students and / or graduates of the award
- b) benchmarking of the proposal against similar courses at other Universities
- c) internal and external academic experts in the area of the proposal
- d) pedagogical expertise in the design of courses, units and assessments
- e) industry experts in the area of the proposal, such as professional associations and potential employers
- f) the Colleges and Schools of the University.

88.4 Policies

88.4.1 The Council is responsible for the development, approval and review of effective policies that ensure a quality student experience and provide consistent rules for awards, courses and units in the following areas:

- a) Academic Documents Policy
- b) Academic Dress Policy
- c) Campus Policy
- d) Graduation Ceremonies Policy

88.4.2 The Academic Board has delegated authority and is accountable to the Council for the development, approval and review of effective policies and procedures that ensure a quality student experience and provide consistent rules for awards, courses and units in the following areas that implement the principles of this Regulation:

- a) Admissions Policy
- b) Assessment Policy
- c) Course Accreditation, Course Development and Course Modification Procedures
- d) Credit Policy
- e) Enrolment Policy
- f) Graduation Eligibility Policy
- g) Learning Management System Policy
- h) Student Progress Policy
- i) Student Unit Evaluation Policy
- j) Unit Policy, to govern the development, approval and review of units.

88.5 Awards of the University

88.5.1 An award may only be approved or renewed by the Council after consideration of:

- a) a business plan that provides evidence of its alignment with the University's mission and strategy, demand from students or stakeholders, and financial sustainability
- b) an education plan approved by the Academic Board that provides evidence that sufficient academic staff, academic and library resources, and an appropriate learning environment exist to support the award
- c) a Course Record approved by the Academic Board.

88.5.2 Awards approved by the Council under this Regulation are:

<i>Program</i>	<i>Title</i>	<i>Postnominals</i>	<i>AQF</i>
Counselling	Diploma in Counselling	DipCouns	5
	Advanced Diploma in Counselling	AdvDipCouns	6
	Bachelor of Counselling	BCouns	7
	Master of Counselling	MCouns	9
Leadership	Graduate Certificate in Leadership	GCL	8
	Graduate Diploma in Leadership	GDL	8
	Master of Leadership	MLE	9
Professional Supervision	Graduate Certificate in Professional Supervision	GCPS	8
	Graduate Diploma in Professional Supervision	GDPS	8

Professional Practice	Doctor of Professional Practice	DPP	10
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88.6 Course Records

88.6.1 Every award or group of awards must have a Course Record using Schedule A: Course Record Template.

88.6.2 The Council decides the title, postnominals, AQF Level and regalia pertaining to each award, and must seek the advice of the Academic Board prior to approval or amendment of this information. This information must be recorded in the Course Record. The title of an award of the University must:

- a) comply with the *Australian Qualifications Framework*
- b) concisely and clearly reflect the content and outcomes of the award
- c) be unique to that award within the University
- d) support the reputation of the University and its awards for scholarship of the highest quality
- e) reflect conventions in the higher education sector and community expectations.

The standard names and abbreviations used at the University for postnominals are:

<i>Award Descriptor</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>	<i>Award Area</i>	<i>Abbreviation</i>
Undergraduate Certificate	Cert	Divinity	Div
Diploma	Dip	Ministry	Min
Advanced Diploma	AdvDip	Philosophy	Phil
Bachelor	B	Spirituality	Sp
Graduate Certificate	GC	Theology	Theol
Graduate Diploma	GD	Counselling	Couns
Masters	M	Other	<i>initial letter</i>
Doctorate	D		

88.6.3 The Academic Board must specify in the Course Record the Colleges and Schools of the University that are authorised to admit and enrol students in the award or awards covered by that Course Record. Prior to such authorisation being granted, the Academic Board must be satisfied that the College or School understands and is able to execute its obligation to ensure that any student admitted or enrolled in that award has access to the course and units across the University necessary to complete that award.

88.6.4 The Academic Board decides the academic fields to be included in Schedule A: Course Record Template.

88.6.5 The Vice-Chancellor decides the administrative fields to be included in Schedule A: Course Record Template.

- 88.6.6 Academic information in a Course Record may only be approved or amended by the Academic Board, subject to the University's Course Development or Course Modification Procedures.
- 88.6.7 Administrative information in a Course Record may only be approved or amended by the Vice-Chancellor or the Vice-Chancellor's delegate.
- 88.6.8 The approved Course Record must be publicly available on the University's website, excluding information recorded by the University solely for statutory or regulatory or administrative purposes that is not required for a prospective or current student or a course advisor to understand the purpose and requirements of the award.

REPEALED