

Research Integrity Professional Development - Online Unit

New training for HDR students and research academic staff

Curtin is strengthening its research culture as it pursues its objective to be a research-intensive university that attracts and retains iconic scholars who undertake high-impact research that changes lives. To achieve this objective Curtin's research culture must demonstrate honesty and integrity, respect for human research participants, animals and the environment, appropriate acknowledgement of the work of others, and responsible communication of research findings. Curtin's status as a research-intensive university will be determined by the quality, scale and significance of its research.

The Australian Code for the Responsible Conduct of Research (the Code) makes it a responsibility of research institutions to train staff including "...induction, formal training and continuing education for all research staff, including research trainees. Training should cover research methods, ethics, confidentiality, data storage and records retention, as well as regulation and governance." The Code further states that "all research trainees must receive training on research ethics..." and that the training should have high priority for completion early in their careers (Australian Government 2007).

The Office of Research and Development (ORD) has recently acted to improve the quality of, and access to, research integrity professional development through the purchase of an online program developed by Epigeum Ltd. This program has the following advantages:

- high quality materials across a range of research integrity issues;
- inclusive of Higher Degree by Research students;
- consistency across the organisation;
- linked to Curtin's policies, procedures and guidelines;
- results of assessment recorded; and
- online access.

The online **Research Integrity** training has now been implemented following an extensive phase of consultation and development.

Students Access – via Blackboard

All research students have been given access via Student OASIS and Blackboard.

1. Log into Student OASIS <https://oasis.curtin.edu.au/Auth/LogOn>,
2. click on the link to **Blackboard**,
3. The unit appears under the heading '**My Units**'.

It is mandatory that students currently enrolled in a Higher Degree by Research complete the program and pass the Assessment (Quiz) prior to submitting their Application for Candidacy. All other students should have completed the training by 31 December 2014.

Staff Access – via iPerform

All research academic staff have been given access via the iPerform staff training system.

1. Log into Staff OASIS <http://staffoasis.curtin.edu.au/>
2. Click on the '**My Work**' tab
3. Click on **iPerform**. You'll find the program listed under 'My Training'

For access issues to the unit or result queries, please email graduate.studies@curtin.edu.au.

For general help on how to use Blackboard, student users can access support via the information on the **Students** tab of the Blackboard site.

The unit Menu (on the left-hand-side) displays the contents for the course:

- **Announcements** - information about completion of the unit, reminders and important dates)
- **Unit Materials** – are organised into **five discipline areas** – choose the one that best fits your research. See extensive listings below.
- **Assessments** - 16-question quiz
- **My Grades** - will show the Pass/Fail result once a user has submitted the quiz. A Pass grade is awarded where a minimum of 80% of questions are answered correctly.

DISCIPLINE AREAS

The program is offered in five discipline areas:

Arts and Humanities
Biomedical Sciences
Engineering and Technology
Natural and Physical Sciences
Social and Behavioural Sciences

Arts and Humanities

- Archaeology
- Area and regional studies
- Classics
- Cultural and media studies
- English language and literature
- Fine arts and design
- History
- Law
- Modern languages and literature
- Music and musicology
- New media and animation
- Performance arts
- Philosophy and history of ideas
- Theatre and film studies
- Theology and religious studies

Biomedical Sciences

The material in this course is relevant to researchers in many branches of the Health Sciences

- Dentistry
- Kinesiology and Sport Medicine
- Medicine
- Nursing
- Pharmacy
- Public Health
- Joint medical/health programmes, such as Biomedical Engineering
- Associate Health Degree Programmes

Engineering and Technology

- All Engineering Disciplines
- All Engineering Technology Disciplines
- Computer Science
- Engineering Science
- Engineering Physics
- Information Technology
- Information Systems

The Engineering and Technology module can also be taken as an alternative to the Natural and Physical Sciences module in the applied or more mathematical physical sciences, such as chemistry, physics or geology.

Natural and Physical Sciences

- Agriculture and Agronomy fields such as Animal Science, Crop & Soil Sciences, Forestry & Horticulture
- Biochemistry
- Chemistry
- Ecology
- Entomology
- Evolutionary Biology
- Fisheries & Wildlife
- Food Science & Human Nutrition
- Genetics
- Geological Sciences
- Mathematics
- Microbiology
- Molecular Biology
- Pharmacology & Toxicology
- Physics
- Physiology
- Plant Biology
- Plant Pathology
- Zoology

Social and Behavioural Sciences

- Anthropology
- Economics
- Education
- Management/Business
- Political science
- Psychology
- Public affairs
- Social work
- Sociology

ⁱ This development is a key initiative in improving the quality, scale and significance of Curtin's research. The links to policies, guidelines and information sources also make the program an important aspect of embedding and implementing the Curtin research policy suite. The proposal supports the Curtin Strategic Plan 2013-2017 and the Research Enabling Plan, and meets the requirements of the Code in relation to the development of research staff and Higher Degree by Research students.