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You may also visit the DTEM website at www.cdu.edu.au/ehs/dtem/



in Tropical Environmental Management

Introduction

The Professional Doctorate in Tropical Environmental Management (DTEM) is offered by Charles Darwin University, located in Darwin in the Northern Territory. Candidates for the DTEM will undertake course-work, professional placement and research activities and will be required to study at James Cook University and The University of Queensland, in addition to their core activities at CDU.

Situated in the wet-dry tropical savannas of northern Australia, tropical environmental science is an area of research and teaching strength at the University.

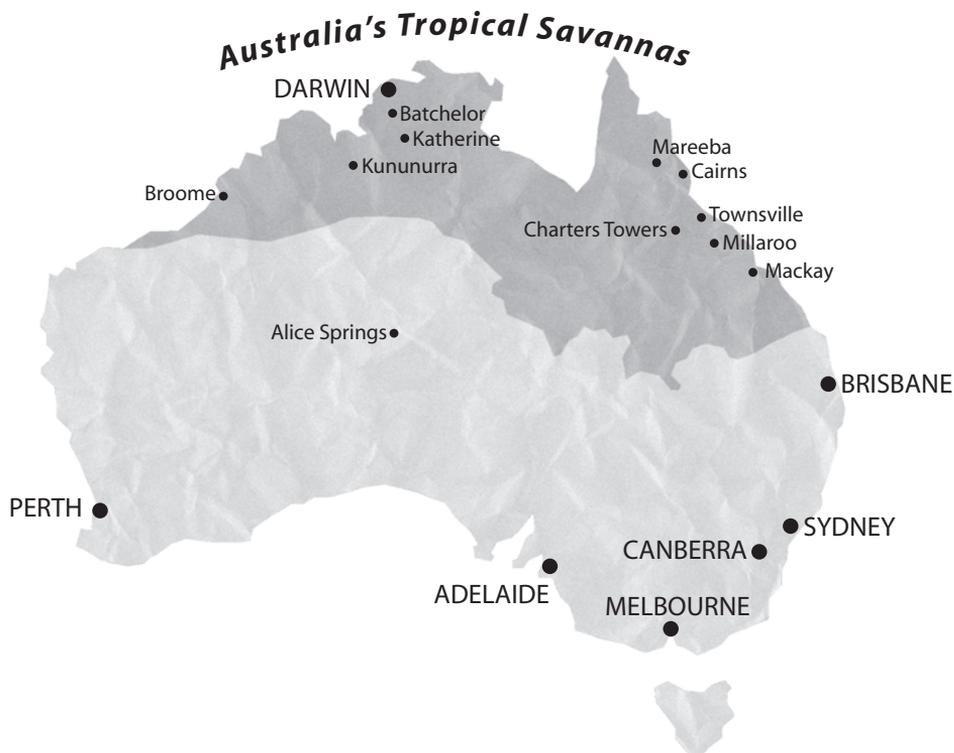
The wet-dry tropics of northern Australia are dominated by savanna landscapes, include smaller areas of monsoonal wetlands and rainforests, and are flanked by diverse marine environments.

Savanna communities are smaller, more remote, younger and poorer than communities elsewhere in Australia. There is a need for increased capacity within this small and scattered population to wisely manage and use the natural resources of the region for the benefit of all.

This exciting new program aims to build regional capacity in natural resource management and related disciplines by providing a research training opportunity that explicitly integrates research with professional practices in the region's institutions. The program fosters a regional perspective on savanna management by requiring students to study at two other regionally important universities and undertake professional placements outside their normal place of work.

This handbook outlines the objectives, structure and content of the Professional Doctorate in Tropical Environmental Management, and introduces the other universities and agencies which are partners in the program.

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Origins of the DTEM Concept

The concept for the Doctorate in Tropical Environmental Management (DTEM) arose from within the Tropical Savannas Cooperative Research Centre (TS–CRC), in which CDU is a partner. The proposal grew from an identified need for further and more professionally focused educational opportunities in tropical northern Australia. The new professional doctorate program will provide a pathway for existing postgraduate coursework programs, such as those developed through collaboration among CDU and TS–CRC university partners, James Cook University (JCU), which has campuses in Townsville and Cairns in Queensland; and the University of Queensland (UQ), which has campuses in Brisbane, Ipswich and Gatton.

This new award will feature two semesters of coursework, a four-semester research component which includes a professional placement, and will require students to undertake at least one course-work unit at JCU and UQ, during their candidature at CDU.

Tropical environmental science and management are research and teaching strengths at Charles Darwin University. This new program will draw upon this strength, and complementary teaching and research strengths at UQ and JCU, and provide students with a regional perspective on natural resource management.

In addition, this cross-jurisdictional, cross-sectoral and cross-institutional program will assist the Northern Territory and Queensland Governments in meeting their commitments under the tripartite Cooperative Framework on Tropical Science, Knowledge and Innovation. This strategic alliance was signed in March 2004, and aims to ensure the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australia work together to build on Australia's world-class reputation for using science to achieve sustainable development in the tropics. Further information about the agreement can be found at the Tropical Futures Forum website at www.tropicalfutures.nt.gov.au/



Research at CDU

Research at Charles Darwin University focuses on the peoples, societies, cultures, economies, institutions, infrastructures, and environments of tropical Australia and South East Asia, and the Australian desert. We aim to have a lasting impact on the policies and actions of governments, non-government organisations, businesses, and individuals while contributing to knowledge both in the region and globally. The diverse Indigenous populations of the region give a special focus to much of our research. We also have a crucial role in helping to train the next generation of researchers by means of Masters and Doctoral degrees and early career research support.

The research strengths of the university are *Natural and Cultural Resource Management, Human Health and Wellbeing, Teaching, Learning and Living and Community, Development and Identity.*

Research within the area of Natural and Cultural Resource Management (NCRM) aims to support sound management of natural and cultural resources to sustain agriculture, pastoralism, forestry, mining, tourism, cultural heritage and natural ecosystems for the benefit of the region and the globe.

At CDU, emphasis is given to:

- Landscapes and biodiversity, including their role in maintaining human health.
- Building livelihoods and economies from natural resources, including small business development, sustainable production from the land, empowerment of indigenous communities, and conflict management between people competing for resources.
- Water resources management from catchments to coasts particularly the cultural values of water, control of pollution, eutrophication and sedimentation, and the maintenance of healthy aquatic ecosystems.
- Cross-cutting tools and analysis, including the assessment and design of institutions for resource management, and analyses that are both spatially and temporally robust.

- Mobilisation of social and cultural systems in support of sustainable ecological practices, and diversification of environmentally related employment and industry.
- Appropriate building design for desert and tropical environments.

Research at Charles Darwin University is carried out in the Institute of Advanced Studies <www.cdu.edu.au/ias/> and all Faculties <www.cdu.edu.au/study/faculties.html>

What is a Professional Doctorate?

In 1990, the National Board of Employment Education and Training encouraged the awards of Professional Doctorates, in response to recommendations made by the Higher Education Council. By 1998, at least thirty Australian universities offered professional doctorates spanning at least nineteen areas of study (Council of Australian Deans & Directors of Postgraduate Study 1998) and in 2002 there were more than 130 programs offered or planned in 35 universities (McWilliam 2002).

A professional doctorate is an equivalent, but different, qualification to a research doctorate. A professional doctorate is “a program of research, scholarship and advanced study which enables candidates to make a significant contribution to knowledge in their professional context” (Council of Australian Deans & Directors of Postgraduate Study 1998). In addition to sound research skills and critical understandings of literature, a candidate for a professional doctorate should demonstrate an understanding of the role of research in professional practice, broad practical knowledge, effective work practices and collaborative skills, and good presentation and communication skills (Council of Australian Deans & Directors of Postgraduate Study 1998).

Maxwell (2002), reporting on the expressed aims of a Doctorate of Technology offered at Deakin University, outlined a program “embedded in the situation and the profession”.

The focus is on “complexity and integration (rather than specialisation and abstraction), and includes consideration of human and commercial concerns”. The graduate also becomes a critical and active consumer of research and its application in professional settings.

Traditionally, knowledge generation in universities has followed a strictly scientific model. The skills of literature search, understanding methodological complexities and options, and academic discourse and etiquette are taught in a one-on-one mentoring relationship, and the setting for knowledge production remains within the university (Gibbons et al. 1994). This is the mode of the traditional PhD (McWilliam et al. 2002).

However, the new setting for knowledge generation is “situated” and contextual and includes government agencies, industry and universities. This new mode of knowledge production differs from that of traditional knowledge production by (a) being produced in the context of application, (b) being guided by consensus among disciplines, (c) including an increased number of sites of knowledge production, and (d) being accountable to a more diverse group, while (e) quality control is via a more diverse range of interests, including intellectual, social, economic or political criteria (Gibbons et al. 1994). This is the mode of the professional doctorate (Mc Williams et al. 2002).

The DTEM will provide new opportunities for professionals to combine expertise in natural resource management with qualifications in additional related areas such as project management, education, communication, research application, Indigenous management of natural resources or regional planning, and the application of these in professional practice. Consultation with partner universities JCU and UQ will identify suites of units, which will comprise these discipline streams. Students will be directed to academic advisers in these institutions for advice when developing their specialisations/streams of coursework study.

Doctorate Objectives

In line with the objectives of professional doctorates in general, the Doctorate in Tropical Environmental Management (DTEM) is built upon existing and new links with industry, and offers cross-institutional, cross-sectoral and cross-disciplinary settings for the development of new knowledge.

The DTEM will:

- Foster understanding of the role of original research in professional practice
- Provide new opportunities for cross-disciplinary education, research and professional practice in tropical environmental management at an advanced level
- Acknowledge the role of government and industry contexts in generating new knowledge, by providing cross-organisational settings for scholarship and research
- Provide new opportunities for the development of a regional perspective on tropical savanna management
- Provide a further opportunity for progression for capable postgraduate coursework graduates wherever they live in the region

Links with industry will be ensured through:

- Inclusion of industry partners in the development of the curriculum

- Professional placements, in which students apply problem-solving models in a new workplace
- Co-supervisory arrangements with industry for research supervision, similar to those required of CRC-supported PhD students
- Requirements for candidates to collaborate with the users of research in developing the project proposal and /or setting of the research activity
- Inclusion of a communication strategy within project proposals

The program will be available to natural resource managers, wherever they live in the savanna ecosystem, and cater to the needs and interests of individual students. The program as a whole will provide increased opportunities for links between tertiary education institutions and the land management agencies within the region.

Rationale for the new program

Australian savannas have suffered in the past as a result of the institutional, political and social boundaries that divide the tropical savannas into three jurisdictions. Activities within the TS-CRC over the past 10 years have served to help span these boundaries, and a tripartite agreement among Western Australia, the Northern Territory and Queensland Governments is forging collaborations across the north.



Managers and leaders within the tropical savannas require an understanding of the savannas as a whole if they are to take advantage of opportunities for collaboration across the region.

As the uses of savannas diversify from predominantly pastoral uses (Holmes 2002), the skills required of the people managing them is changing. Recent reflections on these skills indicated a demand for additional graduate skills (Knight 1999; Malechek & Call 1999; Taylor 2003). These included expertise in professional leadership, communication, environmental economics, and planning, an ability to work in cross-cultural or cross-sectoral settings, as well as expertise in the natural sciences.

A traditional research PhD may not foster such a range of graduate attributes, nor impact upon organisational and professional practice. Mid-career professionals are seeking a more professionally focused program in an industry context, rather than the academic apprenticeship offered in PhD programs (McWilliam et al. 2002). Existing alternatives to a PhD, such as MBA programs, do not offer a focus on natural resource management settings.



Strategic relevance

Flexibility: The DTEM will be available to students wherever they live, due to the capacity of CDU, JCU and UQ to offer external courses or block mode studies in Darwin, Cairns Townsville or Brisbane/Gatton. Research projects may also focus on problems anywhere in the region. The location of professional placement is also flexible.

Maximising research collaborations with government agencies and industry: The DTEM will foster industry links through the very students it is likely to attract (working middle-level industry-based natural resource managers) and the research project on which they will work. Co-supervision by both industry and university staff will benefit industry and university.

Promoting the role of research in the wider community: The research outcomes of DTEM projects will assist with this objective by the situation-based nature of knowledge production.

Relation to government objectives: This proposed cross-jurisdictional, cross-sectoral and cross-institutional program will assist the Northern Territory, Queensland and Western Australian Governments in meeting their commitments under the tripartite Cooperative Framework on Tropical Science, Knowledge and Innovation.

Although not expected to be numerous, DTEM graduates will play an important leadership role in the agencies and other organizations that manage the northern third of Australia. In addition, because of its applied focus and potential for using coursework to scaffold learning in preparation for research, the program may also appeal to savanna managers in savanna regions overseas.

References

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McWilliam E. (2002). "Mid-career alternative: should you do a professional doctorate rather than a PhD?" *Week-end Australian Education Report Series* September 21, 2002: 9-10.

McWilliam E., Taylor P.G., Thompson P., Green B., Maxwell T., Wildy H. & Simons D. (2002). Research training in Doctoral programs: what can be learned from professional doctorates? *Evaluations & Investigations program 02/8*. Department of Education, Science & Training, Canberra.

Spear R.H. (1997). *Professional doctorates: A discussion paper*. ANU Graduate School Occasional Paper GS97/3. http://www.anu.edu.au/graduate/pubs/occaisional-papers/g97_3.html

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Course structure

The DTEM comprises two semesters of coursework and a four-semester research portfolio. The research portfolio includes a one-semester Professional Placement.

The DTEM is classified as a research professional doctorate according to Commonwealth guidelines, because 4 of the 6 semesters of equivalent fulltime study are devoted to research. For this reason admission to the DTEM is handled by the CDU Research Office. Administration and guidelines for the program are stipulated in the Common Rules for professional doctorates. A copy of these Common Rules is provided in Appendix 1 of this booklet.

For information about other policy and procedures relating to all higher degrees by research (HDR) programs please refer to the CDU website at

[<www.cdu.edu.au/research/policies_procedures/postgrad_res_students.html>](http://www.cdu.edu.au/research/policies_procedures/postgrad_res_students.html)

Course proposal

Before beginning study, candidates will develop a course proposal which is submitted to the Research Office, who will forward it to the Faculty of Education Health and Science for approval. The proposal will include an outline of the coursework, professional placement and research thesis components of their program, and will demonstrate how these components provide a comprehensive and integrated program of study and research, which meets the objectives of the program.

Coursework

Within the coursework component of the program, students are recommended to select units from fields (or streams) of study, which complement their existing professional experience or qualifications, and their research portfolio. The coursework component will include units from CDU as well as at least one unit from both JCU and UQ.

All three partner universities have established postgraduate coursework programs, and different and complementary postgraduate teaching strengths, which provide exciting opportunities for collaborative coursework offerings.

- Postgraduate units at UQ include tourism, tropical forestry, rural management systems, environmental policy, rangeland management, protected area management and regional and rural innovation and pastoral management, offered both internally and externally.
- JCU has postgraduate units in tropical marine management, protected area management and Indigenous land and sea management, offered internally and in block mode, with some external offerings.
- CDU has postgraduate units in tropical savanna ecology and management, sustainable development and livelihoods, tropical beef production, tropical wetland management and research in cross-cultural and multi-disciplinary settings, offered in external and internal mode.

Coursework streams (and examples of unit content areas) may include:

- Natural Resource Management: ecology, biometrics and methodological studies
- Research in cross-cultural and multi-disciplinary settings
- Management: Human resources, project management, business, tourism
- Communication, education & extension
- Planning & policy: regional planning, protected area management

Please refer to the CDU, UQ and JCU websites for details of unit availability, and discuss these with a Program Adviser.

Research portfolio

Your research portfolio must include a one-semester professional placement and a thesis based upon a three-semester research project (full-time equivalent).

Professional Placement

The professional placement is a feature of the DTEM. It will draw upon a network of partner agencies in the region to provide professional placements for DTEM candidates.

Senior staff in these agencies will serve as placement supervisors and placement mentors for candidates working on a professional placement project within the host agency. These projects will not be conventional research projects, but professional practice activities associated with, for example, a review or evaluation of an agency activity. Candidates will undertake placement outside their normal place of work.

Please refer to Appendix 2 for a full description of the professional placement.

Research Thesis

The research requirements for a Professional Doctorate are stipulated in the CDU Calendar (and reproduced in Appendix 1). Students will be required to undertake original research, and will choose research topics with an applied, management and/or multidisciplinary focus.

The research project will be undertaken at CDU, with links to external agencies through co-supervision. These external co-supervisory arrangements are a requirement of the program.

Alternative models for the structure of the research portfolio may be considered for approval. For example, a student may produce a portfolio of short projects, leading to an integrated collection of publications or manuscripts.

Preparing your DTEM proposal

Start by reading this booklet thoroughly. You should also contact a Program Adviser to signal your interest in enrolling in the program. The Program Adviser will be able to provide assistance and useful contacts for the preparation of your program proposal.

You will need to request an Application kit from the Research Degrees and Scholarships Officer (see Important Contacts).

You should then investigate the coursework options at CDU, UQ and JCU.

At CDU we recommend postgraduate level units offered in the School of Science and Primary Industries, School of Australian Indigenous Knowledge Systems and in the School of Social Policy and Research.

Please contact a DTEM Program Adviser for further information.

At UQ we recommend postgraduate level units/courses offered in the Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science (NRAVS), Gatton Campus. In particular courses in the School of Natural and Rural Systems Management align with objectives and content of the DTEM.

A full list of postgraduate coursework options can be found at <www.nrsm.uq.edu.au/>. Please note that the term “course” is used at UQ instead of the term “units”.

The DTEM contact in that faculty is:

Dr Don Cameron
Postgraduate Coordinator
School of Natural & Rural Systems Management
The University of Queensland, Gatton
Gatton, QLD 4343 Australia
Phone: +61 - 7 - 5460 1327
Fax: +61 - 7 - 5460 1324
Email: dcameron@uqg.uq.edu.au
<www.nrsm.uq.edu.au/Staff/dcameron.asp>



At JCU we recommend postgraduate level units/courses in the Faculty of Science Engineering & Information Technology. In particular, courses in the School of Tropical Biology and the School of Tropical Environmental Studies & Geography (TESAG) align with objectives of the DTEM.

A full list of postgraduate unit options can be found at <www.tesag.jcu.edu.au/courses/postgrad.shtml#coursework>

The DTEM contact in that Faculty is:

Associate Professor Peter Valentine
Head of School, TESAG
James Cook University
Townsville Qld. 4811
Phone: +61- 7 - 4781 4441
Email: peter.valentine@jcu.edu.au

You may also want to include units/courses from other universities in Australia or overseas.

Cross-institutional enrolments and Credit transfer

For courses/units undertaken at other institutions you will need to enrol at both CDU and at the other institution.

At CDU you will need to register an “intermission”, while you undertake study towards your DTEM at other universities.

For enrolment at JCU and UQ, cross-institutional enrolment forms can be found at:

James Cook University

<www.jcu.edu.au/studying/entry/forms/Application%20for%20Cross%20Institutional%20Enrolment%20SA11c.pdf>

University of Queensland

<www.uq.edu.au/study/forms/enrolment/Cross-InstitApplic.pdf>

For cross-institutional study to be transferred to your academic record at CDU, you will need to apply for Credit Transfer at CDU once you have completed the unit and received an academic record from the other institution. This does not happen automatically. An application form for Credit Transfer can be found at the CDU website at <www.cdu.edu.au/studentnet/adminforms.html>

Entry requirements

Prospective students for the Doctorate in Tropical Environmental Management should be professional practitioners, and

- (a) (i) have qualified with the degree of Bachelor with first or second class Honours; or
(ii) hold qualifications from the University or another tertiary institution deemed by the Faculty/ IAS Board to be equivalent to those in (i) and approved as sufficient qualification; and
- (b) have relevant professional experience, typically five years which may be reduced to a minimum of two years by the Faculty/ IAS Board.

Applicants will require demonstrated capacity to undertake significant research in the proposed doctoral field.

International Students

International students have been welcomed at the University for many years. There is a wide range of support services to assist students with information, facilities, counselling, cultural and social events. In addition, there are clubs, and sporting groups and festivals on campus to enrich academic life.

Courses are taught in English. Students whose mother tongue is not English need to achieve an IELTS score of 6.5 (with no band score less than 6) or a TOEFL score of 575. English Language courses such as ELICOS—English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students—are available at CDU. Some English tutorial assistance is free for those who need it in their first semester. For more details check the international website <www.cdu.edu.au/international/>

There are two ways in which international students may undertake the DTEM.

- Students who come to Australia are enrolled full-time as on-campus students, and require a student's visa. These students are limited to taking no more than 25% of their candidature through external mode or as cross-institutional enrolments. In other words, these students must take 75% of their candidature as internal study.
- Students who do not wish to study full-time in Australia may enrol for an external course and study in their home country. These students may be required to attend field trips, supervisory meetings or other on-campus commitments on a visitor's visa.

The International Student Division is responsible for recruitment and administration of international students before arrival in Australia, and the International Student Support Officer is responsible after arrival. You will be provided with up-to-date information on fees, enrolment, English tuition and settling into the Northern Territory and Charles Darwin University.

International Student Enquiries Officer
Charles Darwin University, Darwin NT 0909.
Tel: +61 8 8946 7215
Fax: +61 8 8946 6644
Email: <international@cdu.edu.au>

Charles Darwin University
CRICOS Provider no. 00300k



International Students & External Study

Please note that there are limits on the proportion of external units for students on an international student visa. Please bear this in mind when selecting electives at other universities.

Fees

The Doctorate of Tropical Environmental Management is a full-fee paying course for both domestic and international students.

The University is pleased to offer 5 fee-waiver scholarships each year for Domestic students, studying either full-time or part-time. Conditions for domestic fee waiver scholarships are that the student be a permanent resident, NZ citizen or Australian citizen, and that their research topic address an area of research focus of the CDU.

Domestic applicants, not receiving a fee waiver scholarship, please refer to the schedules of fees provided on the CDU website at www.cdu.edu.au/hesa/fees.html and follow the links to 2006 Domestic Tuition Fees.

International applicants, please contact the International Student Division for up-to-date information on fees for international students, or see the international website: www.cdu.edu.au/international

Important contacts

Research Degrees & Scholarships Officer

Rachel Mayhead can advise on all matters to do with admission to the program, enrolments and academic administration, including thesis examination.

Mrs Rachel Mayhead
Research Office
Charles Darwin University
Darwin. NT. 0909. Australia
Phone + 61 8 8964 6548
Email: rachel.mayhead@cdu.edu.au

Program advisers

The program advisers can provide information and advice about coursework options and preparing your program proposal.

Dr Penny Wurm
Tropical Savannas CRC
Charles Darwin University
Darwin. NT. 0909. Australia
Phone + 61 8 8964 6355
Fax: +61 – 8 – 8964 7107
Email: penny.wurm@cdu.edu.au Or

Dr Lindsay Hutley
School of Science & Primary Industries
Charles Darwin University
Darwin. NT. 0909. Australia
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Fax: +61 – 8 – 8946 6847
Email: lindsay.hutley@cdu.edu.au

Abbreviations

ARC	Australia Research Council
CDU	Charles Darwin University
DTM	Doctorate of Tropical Environmental Management
CRC	Co-operative Research Centre
EHS	Faculty of Education, Health and Science
ELICOS	English Language Intensive Course for Overseas Students
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
IAS	Institute of Advanced Study (at CDU)
JCU	James Cook University
NCRM	Natural and Cultural Resources Management
NRSM	School of Natural and Rural Systems Management (at UQ)
NRAVS	Faculty of Natural Resources, Agriculture and Veterinary Science (at UQ)
NT	Northern Territory
NZ	New Zealand
RPL	Recognition of Prior Learning
SAIKS	School of Australian Indigenous Knowledge Systems (at CDU)
SPI	School of Science and Primary Industries (at CDU)
TESAG	School of Tropical Environmental Studies and Geography (at JCU)
TS-CRC	Cooperative Research Centre for Tropical Savannas Management
UQ	University of Queensland

Appendix 1

Common Rules - Courses leading to the awarding of a Professional Doctorate

For an electronic copy of these rules, please refer to For the most up to date information refer to the website version at www.cdu.edu.au/governance/commoncourserules.html.

CDU Council approved the following Course Rules at Meeting 03/05 held on 12 August 2005. These rules are scheduled to be updated in February 2006.

1. Introduction

The processes involved in ensuring public accountability in terms of standards for the courses that CDU offers are quite distinct. For a higher education course CDU is self-accrediting hence the need for its own rules under which to operate. Within the TAFE sector CDU does not generally self-accredit and so must adhere to external national principles and rules. Even in cases of self accreditation these external rules are followed. Consequently Charles Darwin University has no general rules for TAFE courses as for these awards a framework for accreditation exists external to the University. Nationally endorsed training packages are progressively replacing many accredited vocational courses. Training Package qualifications provide nationally consistent qualifications based directly on competency standards. For further information visit <http://www.nt.gov.au/nteta/ourservices/rto.htm>

These course rules apply to higher education diplomas, advanced diplomas, associate degrees, degrees of Bachelor, Honours Bachelor degrees, postgraduate certificates and diplomas, degrees of Master and doctorates; specific awards are listed in the By-Laws.

For all these awards there are some General Rules; as described below.

For each category of award there is a common set of rules applicable to all programs leading to an award in that category. In addition, each course may have associated with it Specific Rules that apply only to that course in addition to the Common Rules; Specific Rules are described elsewhere with course details.

In this framework the same nomenclature is used in describing all courses, and courses in the same category have the same basic structure. The result is a simple and flexible arrangement that supports a wide variety of courses of study and a substantial degree of choice.

2. Definitions

“Council” means the Council of the Charles Darwin University.

“Faculty/ IAS” means the Faculty or the Institute of Advanced Studies (IAS) in which the candidate is enrolled for their course.

“Faculty/ IAS Board” means the primary academic body responsible for policy regarding academic affairs of the Faculty/ IAS.

“Dean/ Director” means the Dean of the Faculty or Director of the IAS (or delegate) in which the student is enrolled as a candidate.

“the University” means the Charles Darwin University.

“Award” is a recognised certification of achievement or competence which may be granted to a student after completions of all the requirements of a course.

“Course” is a program of study formally approved/ accredited and which leads to an academic award of the University.

“Specialisation” is an approved combination of units from one identified disciplinary or multi-disciplinary sequence/strand which totals at least 60 credit points of which, at least 40 credit points must be 200 and 300 level units.

“Unit” is a set amount of academic work often characterised by a set of lectures, tutorials, workshops and other teaching and learning sessions, the basic building block of a course. A unit is normally studied over one semester.

With each unit is associated a number of credit points which are intended to give a value to the unit, indicating its contribution to the requirements of a course and to the enrolment load of the student. It is also an indicator of the amount of work the unit might entail. Most units are 10 credit points; such a unit represents a quarter of a load for a semester, that is, about 10 - 12 hours total study time for a week for an average student. A full coursework load for a semester is 40 points; a full load for the year is 80 credit points. Credit points are normally associated with units in multiples of 10 only.

A unit is identified as level 100, 200, 300, 400, 500 according to its academic level.

Units making up a course are also classified as:

- core units which cover the fundamental principles and knowledge that are compulsory for study within the course;
- specialist electives which cover material that is desirable for study within the course or which are needed for specialisation in a particular area;
- electives covering material that may or may not be directly relevant to the field of study underlying the course, but which are relevant to undergraduate study generally.

"Independent study unit" is a unit whose content and structure are agreed by a student and a staff member responsible for the course of which it is intended to be a part.

"Specific Rules" are rules specific to a course and separate to the Common Course Rules, approved by Academic Board.

"Standard Load" is a real or notional program of studies, which a student would be required to undertake in a full year of a particular course. The University has adopted 80 credit points as its standard load.

"Intensive Study" is when the workload for a period is higher than would normally be expected for the period. For example, a one year course where units total 120 points of study is equivalent to one which would be studied over 18 months at normal pace. A number of courses are available in intensive mode.

"Combined Degrees" consists of two awards for which all course requirements have been met through an approved program of study. Such a degree generally requires a longer period of study than for the individual awards comprising it, but the total study period may be less than that required to meet the requirements of the awards individually.

"Conjoint Awards and/or Conjoint Degrees" refer to situations where two institutions arrange to deliver an award or course and issue testamurs that contain both institutional logos. They should not be confused with combined degrees (such as Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws).



3. General Rules

A small number of rules apply to all courses; these are outlined below. In addition, unless otherwise stated in common or specific rules, all courses are subject to University policies including those dealing with admission, credit transfer, recognition of prior learning, assessment and exclusion. In particular, for courses at or beyond the level of the degree of Bachelor, credit for skills recognition of any form will not exceed two thirds of the total credit points; for all other courses, credit for skills recognition may be up to one hundred per cent of the total credit points for the course.

The following rules apply to all courses:

3.1 Registration

A candidate for an award shall be registered in one Faculty/ IAS for an award as specified in the Degrees and Other Awards By-laws but may study in more than one Faculty/ IAS.

3.2 Concurrent Studies

Except with the prior approval of the Dean/ Director of the Faculty/ IAS in which the candidate is registered or, in the case of a candidate for a research degree, the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, a candidate shall not be registered concurrently for any other award of the University or any other tertiary institution, except if undertaking a conjoint award. A candidate undertaking a combined degree shall enrol through a single

Faculty/ IAS with the designated administrative responsibilities for the particular award.

3.3 Leave of Absence

The Dean/ Director of the Faculty/ IAS in which a candidate is registered, or the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, on the recommendation of the appropriate Dean/ Director in the case of a candidate for a research degree, may grant leave of absence from a course of study in special cases. The period of such leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature specified for the course.

3.4 Termination

A candidate whose progress is unsatisfactory may be excluded or have candidature terminated from an award in accordance with the provisions of the Exclusion Rules. Candidature for research degrees and Professional Doctorates may be terminated by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, and relevant Faculty/ IAS Board respectively, pursuant to the Rules for these awards set out below.

3.5 Show Cause

A candidate may be issued with a notice to show cause in an award in accordance with the provisions of the Exclusion Rules. Candidates for research degrees and Professional Doctorates may be issued with a notice to show cause by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, and relevant Faculty/ IAS Board respectively, pursuant to the Rules for these awards set out below.



4. Common Rules - Courses leading to the awarding of a Professional Doctorate

Definitions

“the Panel” means the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research

“Dean/ Director” means the Dean of the Faculty or Director of the IAS (or delegate) in which the student is enrolled as a candidate.

“Program Adviser” means a full-time member of the University academic staff appointed by the Faculty/ IAS.

“Thesis” means the presentation of results of the research component, whether by written or other means.

“Supervisor” means a full-time academic staff member of the University appointed by the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research, in accordance with the University Policy on PhD candidature.

4.1 Preamble

The University offers a degree of Doctor of Philosophy which emphasises original research. However, in education for professions other than academe there are many circumstances where a program of study of equivalent standing to, but different from, that for a Doctor of Philosophy is more appropriate. Such a program would:

- (a) provide advanced study and reflection on practice in a professional field for people of standing in their profession by both drawing on their professional experience and expertise, and extending it;
- (b) provide opportunity to bring together in a scholarly program of study and research professional work done over a period of time.

Such a program, leading to the award of a Professional Doctorate, will be oriented to the informed and critical application of knowledge to problems and issues concerning the professions of professional practice and will include both a coursework component and a research component, the latter comprising at least one-third of the program.

4.2 Preliminary

- (1) These Rules may be cited as the “Professional Doctorate Rules”.
- (2) These Rules apply to courses of study leading to a degree of Doctor as listed in the Degrees and Other Awards By-laws.

4.3 Application

A person seeking to study for a Professional Doctorate shall apply to the Deputy Vice Chancellor, Research on the prescribed form to be admitted as a candidate.

4.4 Qualification for Admission

An applicant may on the recommendation of the Faculty/ IAS Board be admitted as a candidate for the degree if that person:

- (a) (i) has qualified for admission in the University to the degree of Bachelor with first or second class Honours; or
(ii) holds qualifications from the University or another tertiary institution deemed by the Faculty/ IAS Board to be equivalent to those in (i) and approved as sufficient qualification; and
- (b) has relevant professional experience, typically five years which may be reduced to a minimum of two years by the Faculty/ IAS Board.

4.5 Credit for Previous Study

Credit may be granted for previous study at an equivalent level in accordance with the Rules and Policies for Credit Transfer and Recognition of Prior Learning.

4.6 Enrolment

- (1) (a) A candidate shall be enrolled as a full-time or part-time candidate.
 (b) A full-time candidate is one who is enrolled in units with a credit point value of at least three-quarters of the normal full-time load.
- (2) (a) A candidate shall be deemed to be internal or external.
 (b) An internal candidate is one who is enrolled in units where the major portion of teaching is conducted within the University.
 (c) An external candidate is one who is enrolled in units offered by distance education.
- (3) An external candidate shall be regarded as part-time unless the Panel is satisfied that the candidate is able to spend the requisite hours per week on the research component to qualify as full-time.
- (4) A candidate may transfer from one classification to another.
- (5) A candidate shall be registered in one Faculty/ IAS but may pursue a program of study which involves disciplines in more than one Faculty/ IAS.
- (6) A candidate shall enrol by the dates prescribed by the Executive Director Corporate Services each year for the duration of the candidature.

4.7 Attendance

- (1) For the coursework component, a candidate shall attend the University as required by the units in which the candidate is enrolled.
- (2) For the research component a candidate shall attend the University for such period or periods of time as agreed upon in consultation with the Dean/ Director and the supervisor.

4.8 Program of Study

A candidate shall carry out a program of study and research approved by the Faculty/ IAS Board. The program will be of 240 credit points of which the coursework component will be a minimum of 120 credit points and a maximum of 160 credit points made up of core units and specialist electives. The candidate shall attend such seminars and tutorials as the Dean/ Director or supervisor may direct.

4.9 Periods of Candidature

- (1) The normal course duration is three years full-time equivalent. The maximum period of candidature is four years full-time equivalent. The course may be completed in less than three years in consultation with the Dean/ Director and supervisor.
- (2) The Faculty/ IAS Board may grant an extension of the candidature for a further period, or periods.

4.10 Termination, Lapse of Candidature

The Faculty/ IAS Board may terminate the candidature where a candidate fails to:

- (a) make satisfactory progress;
- (b) comply with any reasonable direction of the Dean/ Director or the supervisor;
- (c) provide any report required in accordance with these Rules;
- (d) pay any fees or charges owing to the University;

A candidature shall be deemed to have lapsed where a candidate fails to lodge the output from the required research component as approved within the program of study for examination and comply with any other part of the approved program of study within a period of four years for a full-time candidate and seven years for a part-time candidate.

4.11 Withdrawal from Candidature

A candidate may withdraw from candidature at any time by giving written notice to the Registrar.

4.12 Advising and Supervision

- (1) (a) At the commencement of candidature the Faculty/ IAS Board shall appoint a full-time member of the academic staff of the University as Program Adviser.

(b) The candidate in conjunction with the Program Adviser shall develop at an early stage the candidate's program of study.

(c) The Program Adviser shall submit the program to the Faculty/ IAS Board which may approve the program or require it to be amended and resubmitted.
- (2) (a) The Panel shall appoint a full-time member of the University academic staff as supervisor of the research component of the program in accordance with the University Common Rules for PhDs. The supervisor may be the Program Adviser.

(b) The supervisor will be assisted by a minimum of two associate supervisors appointed by the Panel in accordance with the University Common Rules for PhDs, who may be members of the University staff or competent specialists outside the University. In the case of an external candidate, the Panel will ascertain that the candidate has access to an appropriate local supervisor approved by the Panel.



- (3) The Panel may at any time on the grounds of illness or absence from the University of a supervisor or on application by the candidate or supervisor on grounds accepted as reasonable by the Panel, appoint another person as supervisor.

4.13 Reports

- (1) The Program Adviser shall report twice a year to Faculty/ IAS Board on the progress of the candidate.
- (2) For the research component a candidate shall submit for comment through the supervisor and the Dean/ Director, at such times and in such form as may be prescribed, reports to the Panel on progress in the prescribed course of study and research.

4.14 Thesis

- (1) A candidate shall submit to the Research Office four temporarily bound copies of the thesis for examination in the form prescribed from time to time together with a declaration from the principal supervisor that the thesis is ready for examination.
- (2) In circumstances where the supervisor declines to sign such a declaration the thesis may only be submitted for examination if the candidate signs a declaration that the opinion of the supervisor is known but the candidate insists that the thesis be examined.
- (3) The thesis shall not include any substantial portion that has been submitted for examination for any other degree of this or any other university or tertiary institution.
- (4) Three copies of the thesis, one of which must be on acid free paper and all permanently bound according to the requirements of the Rules for Presentation of Theses, shall be submitted to the Research Office after any corrections or amendments required by the examiners have been attended to and a recommendation for the award of the degree has been accepted by the Academic Board. These copies shall be retained by the University.

4.15 Theses Submitted in Alternative Forms

A candidate may submit the results of the research component in a form other than that specified in Rule 4.14 hereof. Such work shall be submitted in such other form as the Committee determines.

4.16 Examination

The examination for the research component shall be in accordance with the Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) Rules.

- (1) The Panel shall appoint three examiners of the thesis, at least two of whom shall be external to the University and none of whom shall have participated in the supervision of the candidate.
- (2) The examiners shall be required to present separate reports normally within a period of two months. If reports are not received within two months, alternative examiners may be appointed.
- (3) An examiner may question the candidate through the Panel on any matter which the examiner considers requires clarification. A copy of any such questions and the answers will be provided to all examiners.
- (4) An examiner may recommend to the Panel that the candidate be required to submit to examination, whether written, oral or practical.

4.17 Consideration of Examiners' Reports

After considering the examiners' reports, the Faculty/ IAS Panel may recommend to the Panel that:

- (1) the thesis be accepted as being of an appropriate standard as to warrant the awarding of the degree if the other requirements of the program have been met;
- (2) the thesis be accepted subject to minor corrections being made to it;
- (3) the candidate be required to submit to written, oral or practical examinations, as the Panel considers desirable;
- (4) the candidate be required to re-enrol to complete further work and the thesis be resubmitted for examination;
- (5) the thesis is not of an appropriate standard to warrant the awarding of the degree.

4.18 Award of the Professional Doctorate

The Faculty/ IAS Panel may recommend through Academic Board to Council that a candidate who has duly complied with the requirements of these Rules and in respect of whom the Panel has made a favourable recommendation in respect of the candidate's thesis, be awarded a degree of Doctor as listed in the Degrees and Other Awards By-laws.

Where a candidate satisfies the requirements of the course, Council, on the recommendation of Academic Board, shall award the degree.



Appendix 2

Study plan for Professional Placement

Unit Code	<p>Students wishing to complete the placement over 1 semester enroll in: SBI561 DTEM Professional Placement #40</p> <p>Students wishing to complete the placement over 2 semesters enroll in: SBI560 DTEM Professional Placement #20 in semester 1 or 2 SBI560 DTEM Professional Placement #20 in semester 2 or 1</p> <p>Note: SBI560 is an administrative unit to manage part-time student enrolments. Students enroll in the same unit code twice.</p>
Recommended study commitments	<p>This is a professional placement, where the student will attend a professional setting on a full-time basis for 1 semester (15 weeks) full-time or 2 semesters part-time. Total hours 40 per week to be undertaken during the placement.</p>
Prerequisites/Co-requisites	<p>Students must be enrolled in the Doctorate of Tropical Environmental Management. The Professional Placement activities must comprise an integrated role in the student's research portfolio and DTEM proposal. It is expected that the student will have completed all coursework requirements of the DTEM prior to commencing their professional placement.</p>
Occupational Health & Safety	<p>No special requirements. There may be considerations with individual placements that will be dealt with on a case by case basis.</p>
Unit Purpose	<p>The purpose of this unit is for the students to deepen their understanding of the application of research to professional applications and problems.</p>
Learning Outcomes	<p>At the completion of this unit students will have:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">(1) broadened their professional understandings by working in a new work placement outside their usual place of employment;(2) solved a real problem by research application;(3) demonstrated project management skills with the assistance of a professional mentor;(4) communicated their experiences through a formal written report and an oral presentation in the work placement, and(5) expanded their professional networks beyond their usual place of employment.

Learning Strategies/ Approach

The Professional Placement is a special feature of the DTEM. This opportunity will draw upon the TS-CRC network of partner agencies to provide professional placements for DTEM candidates. Senior staff in participating agencies and organisations will serve as Placement Supervisors and Placement Mentors for candidates working on a substantial project within the host agency.

These Professional Placement projects will not be conventional research projects, but professional practice activities associated with an agency activity. The focus of projects will be on research formulation, evaluation and review to solve a workplace problem.

Examples of placement projects could include:

- preparation of a research proposal which the student may then undertake as the research component of their DTEM program
- a review or evaluation of an aspect of an agency's activities against performance criteria or best-practice models
- a substantial ARC Linkage Grant application

Candidates will undertake placements outside their normal place of work. Thus, Professional Placements will provide new professional development opportunities for candidates and increased capacity for host agencies or organisations.

The candidate will be appointed to a participating natural resource management or other relevant agency located in the tropical savannas of northern Australia. During the placement, the candidate will work on a professional project under the guidance and mentoring of a senior staff member in the host agency. The candidate will be required to present their findings in a spoken presentation and submit a written report at the conclusion of the placement.

At the commencement of the placement the candidate will be assigned a Placement Supervisor and a Placement Mentor, who will be senior staff members in the host agency.

Assessment will comprise an ungraded pass based on the recommendation of the Placement Mentor.

Class Schedule

Activity	Focus	Value	Length	Due date
Develop Proposal	<p>i. Student is directed to a suitable Placement by the Professional Placement Coordinator and Course Coordinator.</p> <p>ii. Placement Plan is developed in consultation with the Placement Supervisor, Mentor and Student.</p> <p>iii. Placement plan includes (a) objectives, (b) methods, (c) timeline, (d) resources required, (e) a statement of any confidentiality or IP issues underpinning the project, and (f) a statement of the employment terms under which the Placement is being undertaken (this must be attached to the Placement Plan, and signed by the student, Placement Supervisor and Placement Mentor)</p> <p>iv. The Placement Plan must be submitted to the Placement Coordinator for approval no later than Week 3 of semester.</p>	N/A	As agreed to by the Placement Supervisor, Mentor and Student.	Week 3
Spoken presentation	A spoken presentation, reporting on the progress and outcomes of the placement project will be made in the workplace to appropriate staff, as agreed to by the Placement Supervisor, Mentor and Student.	N/A	As agreed to by the Placement Supervisor, Mentor and Student.	Week 10
Written report	The written report will represent the major outcomes of the placement, and will report on the objectives and outcomes indicated in the placement proposal	100%	*15,000 words or as agreed to by the Placement Supervisor, Mentor and candidate, in the Placement Plan.	Week 15

* The length and format of the final document will be determined by the objectives of the Professional Placement project. This recommended length is provided only as a guide.



Assessment

Overview

The duties of the agency Placement Supervisor will be to (a) assist in the development of the Placement Plan, (b) ensure access to necessary resources of the host agency (c) supervise the Placement in a similar manner to a manager or research supervisor (which ever is most appropriate to the Placement).

The duties of the agency Placement Mentor are to (a) assist with the initial planning of the project and outline of the work to be undertaken by the candidate, (b) prepare a final written critique of the report submitted by the candidate, outlining whether or not it met the requirements of the host agency, and identifying the strengths and weakness of the report.

The duties of the CDU Professional Placement Coordinator are to (a) ensure the Placement Plan is complete, achievable and agreed to by all parties involved, (b) ensure that candidates receive professional and ethical treatment during their placement, and (c) award a final grade (pass or fail), based on the report by the Placement Mentor.

The duties of the Candidate are to (a) submit an agreed to Placement Plan to the Placement Coordinator, (b) conduct themselves in a professional and ethical manner during the placement, (c) meet the requirements of any specified conditions agree to in the Placement Plan, and (d) submit a final report to the Placement Mentor and Placement Coordinator.

Placements will not require a university supervisor (unless the placement is at a university).

Assessment information

The candidate will be required to present their findings in a spoken presentation and submit a written report at the conclusion of the placement. This report will not be graded but will be reviewed by the Placement Mentor (see above) who will (a) determine whether the report meets the original objectives of the placement project (and if so the student will be awarded an un-graded pass) and (b) provide a written critique of the work, indicating its strengths and weakness as a professional document, as feed-back for the student. A candidate whose Professional Placement report is not deemed adequate by the Placement Mentor will normally be invited to re-work and re-submit their report until the goals are met.

This process is analogous to those that may occur in a workplace, whereas grading is not. Ungraded assessment is usual practice for assessment of doctoral level research activities.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Students may apply for RPL, notwithstanding that the Professional Placement must comprise an integrated component of the research portfolio and DTEM proposal. It is expected that Professional Placement will be a feature of program that will attract students to it.



Credit Transfer

Not available.

Delivery and submission

The student will submit a copy of their placement report to the Unit Coordinator, Placement Supervisor and Placement Mentor.

Extensions and late submission

The timeline for completion of the placement is not expected to exceed 15 weeks, but this may be negotiated with the Placement Supervisor, and with the approval of the Unit Coordinator.

Resubmission

The student may be invited to resubmit their placement report until the placement objectives have been met.

University Plagiarism policy

Plagiarism is the unacknowledged use of material written or produced by others or a rework of your own material. All sources of information and ideas used in assignments must be referenced. This applies whether the information is from a book, journal article, the internet, or a previous essay you wrote or the assignment of a friend. Plagiarism policy is available at: <www.cdu.edu.au/governance/documents/3.3academicandscientificmisconduct.doc>

Exams

There are no exams in this unit.

