

The Program

All new SCU staff within their first three years of teaching are invited to enrol in the Foundations of University Teaching Practice (FUTP) program offered by the Centre for Teaching and Learning. This is a flexible professional learning opportunity designed to improve your teaching and learning practice, enhance the learning experiences of your students, and flexibly fit in your busy career. This program will also be of interest to experienced staff seeking fresh inspiration, particularly in relation to teaching in the online environment.

The FUTP consists of **six** discrete modules, combining online learning materials and tailored support through the Centre for Teaching and Learning. Use is made of the Blackboard portfolio tool for uploading and submission of all assessment tasks. Participants are provided with criteria for each assessment task against which to self-assess their work prior to submission.

The modules are participant-focused, inquiry-based and allow you to apply what you learn to your own teaching and learning context. Each module is designed around a core educational concept or experience applied to your role as a university academic, supported by activities and underpinned by authentic assessment tasks directly relevant to your teaching. The module – *Becoming an Effective Teacher* – is designed as an entry point module, to be completed first. After that, you are encouraged to complete the four **core modules** followed by selecting **one elective**.

These modules will be open and supported in Blackboard. Staff are encouraged to complete the entire FUTP within the 2018 dates.

The Modules

Entry point module

Becoming an Effective Teacher (designed to be completed first)

This module introduces the fundamental elements of effective teaching. In this module you examine reflective practice, what beliefs you have as a teacher and develop your own Philosophy of Teaching statement.

Core Modules

Engaging Learners

Engagement is key to effective student learning. This module explores theories and approaches to learning and introduces ways for enhancing student engagement. Both the learning activities and assessment tasks are designed to give you practical strategies for engaging your students effectively.

Being a Successful Online Teacher

This module prepares you to be a successful online teacher. In the module you will learn about designing and organising an online unit, facilitating and moderating, as well as assessing student learning in an online environment.

Assessment Basics

Assessment plays a critical role in guiding and shaping student learning. In this module you will learn about the purpose of assessment, the assessment cycle, examine your own assessment approaches, and reflect on their effectiveness.

Elective modules (select one)

Peer Review of Teaching: A collaborative approach

This module focuses on peer review and, in particular, the practice of collaborative peer review. You select a part of your blended or online teaching to review, and then *work with a peer* to review your teaching and theirs.

Facilitating Online Learning

Facilitating your students to learn in an online environment is a complex task. This module introduces you to effective online communication processes, to the importance of discussion, and presence, plus handy tips and advice for online facilitation.



Assessment

Each module includes 2 pieces of assessment which you complete and submit using the Blackboard ePortfolio tool. Completing these assessment tasks assures you have achieved the learning outcomes for each module. After completing each module, you will be issued with a digital credential in the form of an electronic **badge**. This credential is evidence of your completion of the module. A **Statement of Attainment** is issued for successful completion of six modules, plus a final unifying statement. The unifying statement is a final written task, and provides an opportunity for you to reflect on the skills and knowledge gained through the FUTP.

Time commitment

The time commitment for the entire program of six modules is 130 hours. Each module is approximately 15 hours of study time with the exception of the elective modules, which are 20-25 hours. (You only need to complete one elective module.) These designated hours allow staff to actively engage with the content and learning activities and complete two assessment tasks per module. Additional hours have been allocated to accommodate the preparation of the final portfolio, and unifying statement, by those staff undertaking six modules and submitting their final portfolio as evidence for a Statement of Attainment. Completed FUTP portfolios will be assessed as submitted until the 16th November and will resume in February 2019.

Eligibility

The modules are free to all eligible staff, and are designed for new SCU staff within their first three years of teaching as well as current staff who want to improve their teaching and learning practice. For casual/sessional staff interested in taking either single modules, or completing the whole program of six modules, you are advised to contact your Head of School to approve enrolment.

Access & support

The FUTP is available entirely through Blackboard. Facilitators from the Centre for Teaching and Learning will be available to respond to queries and generally assist you in your learning. Orientation sessions will be held via Collaborate.

Enrolment is via the [Foundations in University Teaching Practice](#) program web page.

Further information

For further information about **enrolments**, please contact Josephine Crompton. josephine.crompton@scu.edu.au

For further information about the **program**, please contact Dr Lachlan Forsyth. lachlan.forsyth@scu.edu.au