



# UNE Strategic Teaching and Learning Plan 2012-2016

## THE TEACHING AND LEARNING CONTEXT

The **UNE Strategic Plan 2011-2015: *Learning Without Limits*** lays out an ambitious vision for the university to be the nation’s pre-eminent collegiate university, the highest quality provider of online and blended delivery courses, and the university of choice for research into regional issues of global significance.

***Learning Without Limits*** also identifies a number of high-level “priorities and strategies” that light the way ahead for teaching and learning. These “priorities and strategies” are presented below. They provide strong guidance as to where we should concentrate our future efforts in the teaching and learning arena and provide a firm basis for the subsequent development of the **UNE Operational Teaching and Learning Plan 2012 - 2016**.

## UNE STRATEGIC PLAN PRIORITIES AND STRATEGIES THAT APPLY TO TEACHING AND LEARNING

<b>To distinguish ourselves by the quality of our on-campus experience</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Promote the academic culture of our colleges</li> <li>▪ Prioritise the academic experience for on-campus staff and students</li> <li>▪ Pursue the highest standard of face-to-face and blended delivery options utilising new approaches and technologies for on-campus students</li> <li>▪ Provide on-campus students with a formative lifestyle, not merely a qualification</li> </ul>
<b>To lead the nation in the innovative use of educational technology for distance education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Enhance the quality of our online course offerings and experiment with new technologies</li> <li>▪ Expand and enhance our network of Study Centres to service blended delivery students everywhere</li> <li>▪ Enhance our IT service capacity to support our aspiration to be the leading provider of flexible and online learning</li> <li>▪ Enhance availability of online academic support</li> </ul>
<b>To set the standard for social inclusiveness and access for all to higher education</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Establish novel partnerships with universities and VET providers targeted at low SES students</li> <li>▪ Innovate in the recruitment and retention of regional, remote and ATSI students, particularly within the New England region</li> <li>▪ Participate in the global movement towards open courseware</li> </ul>

## THE UNE TEACHING AND LEARNING PLAN

The **UNE Teaching and Learning Plan 2012-2016** has been developed to pick up and enlarge upon the lead given by the UNE Strategic Plan. As such, the **UNE Teaching and Learning Plan 2012-2016** presents a set of organisational “priorities and strategies” that respond to the teaching and learning related “priorities and strategies” in the UNE Strategic Plan. The **UNE Teaching and Learning Plan 2012-2016** also espouses the goal, the vision, and the values that the university holds for teaching and learning.

Lastly, the **UNE Teaching and Learning Plan 2012-2016** and the accompanying Operational Plan are living documents, subject to the expected reviews and revisions in line with the University’s overall Strategic and Operational planning cycles.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING GOAL

UNE provides the highest quality learning experience for all students, through the delivery of relevant, future-oriented and quality assured courses using a teaching and learning model that is built on flexibility, innovation and the creative use of educational technologies.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING VISION

UNE provides its students with a transformative learning experience that is enabled by a high quality, innovative and flexible learning environment. UNE graduates are global citizens who have developed the skills and knowledge to participate successfully in the workforce and in society at large. UNE staff members are supported to engage effectively with the student learning experience and are able to respond appropriately to the needs of a diverse student body.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING VALUES

UNE is committed to the following values in all teaching and learning activities:

**Formative** – we use innovative teaching strategies to develop graduate attributes that equip students to be successful and socially responsible global citizens.

**Respectful** – the university community respects diversity which is foundational to our teaching and learning philosophy.

**Inclusive** – the academic environment is accessible to, and engaged with the communities we serve – whether they be local, regional, rural, remote, metropolitan or international.

**Flexible** – we promote a culture that is responsive to diverse staff and student needs and expectations.

**Innovative** – we are committed to the development and incorporation of pioneering teaching and learning approaches.

## TEACHING AND LEARNING PRIORITIES

The **UNE Teaching and Learning Plan 2012-2016** incorporates eight teaching and learning priorities that collectively cover the key aspects of teaching and learning that will be a focus for the University during the period to 2016.

<b>Quality Teaching and Learning</b>	Create and sustain high quality approaches for effective teaching and learning in both physical and virtual learning environments
<b>Academic Programs</b>	Develop and offer high quality academic programs that are future-oriented and relevant to the needs of students, employers and professional bodies
<b>Research Informed Teaching</b>	Foster and promote teaching practices that are informed by research and scholarship
<b>Collaboration</b>	Facilitate and support interaction, collaboration and engagement between and among students, staff, communities and professional organisations
<b>Social Inclusion</b>	Promote social inclusiveness by actively seeking to increase the opportunities for students and staff from diverse cultural, social and economic backgrounds to participate in the University community
<b>Graduate Attributes</b>	Recognise the diversity of student learning needs and, in doing so, ensure our graduates are provided with generic and discipline specific attributes and knowledge
<b>Staff</b>	Attract, develop and retain high quality staff who are central to the realisation of our teaching and learning priorities
<b>Celebrate success</b>	Promote excellence and celebrate staff and student success in teaching and learning

## TEACHING AND LEARNING STRATEGIES

Over the period to 2016, UNE will implement a range of strategies in each teaching and learning priority area to achieve our teaching and learning goal.

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Quality Teaching and Learning</b> Create and sustain high quality approaches for effective teaching and learning in both physical and virtual learning environments.	i. Articulate a shared Teaching and Learning Model based on our teaching and learning values
	ii. Align UNE's policy frameworks and business processes to facilitate agility and innovation
	iii. Invest in the scholarship of teaching and learning to underpin innovation
	iv. Enable the contribution to, and adoption of, future trends to innovate in teaching and learning in ways that meet the expectations of all students
	v. Leverage the latest communication technologies to provide quality learning opportunities for our students
	vi. Build on the contribution of the colleges in supporting quality teaching and learning
	vii. Participate in global movement towards open courseware

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Academic Programs</b> Develop and offer high quality academic programs that are future-oriented and relevant to the needs of students, employers and professional bodies.	i. Provide a high-quality and standards-based formative educational experience that is aligned to student needs, both undergraduate and postgraduate
	ii. Develop curricula that meet contemporary discipline demands and systematically incorporate UNE's graduate attributes
	iii. Monitor market needs and respond regularly
	iv. Put in place budget strategies to ensure the continual renewal of courses and units, the achievement and maintenance of teaching excellence, and to sustain high quality teaching infrastructure
	v. Implement transparent quality assurance processes
	vi. Seek out and embrace new collaborative partnerships, education markets and opportunities
	vii. Facilitate student mobility to encourage appreciation of the global context of their discipline, break down barriers and enhance cross-cultural understanding
	viii. Provide professional development for post-graduate students wishing to pursue an academic career

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Research Informed Teaching</b> Foster and promote teaching practices that are informed by research and scholarship.	i. Establish a community of practice for the dissemination of best practice examples of research informed teaching
	ii. Support staff to actively participate in the national and international scholarship of teaching and learning to inform the development of courseware
	iii. Encourage collaborative partnerships with the communities we serve (e.g. low socioeconomic status [SES] and Indigenous communities) to understand their learning needs and inform approaches to teaching and learning

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Collaboration</b> Facilitate and support interaction, collaboration and engagement between and among students, staff, communities and professional organisations.	i. Facilitate local, national and international best practice collaboration
	ii. Provide flexible technology enabled learning spaces to support collaborative learning
	iii. Build and enhance collaborative learning communities in colleges, on-campus and online using the latest technologies
	iv. Adopt appropriate pedagogy and supporting technology to enhance learner engagement nuanced by learner engagement nuanced by cohort/discipline

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Social Inclusion</b> Promote social inclusiveness by actively seeking to increase the opportunities for students and staff from diverse cultural, social and economic backgrounds to participate in the University community.	i. Employ innovative recruitment and retention activities aimed at regional, remote and Indigenous students, particularly within the New England region
	ii. Develop innovative partnerships focused on students from low SES areas and Indigenous students (e.g. alternative entry pathways, scholarships, strategic courses) that build capacity in these students and their communities
	iii. Develop courseware and teaching and learning approaches that are accessible and enable all students to engage in the teaching and learning process
	iv. Mentor and empower students to raise their educational aspirations
	v. Support students throughout their programs with appropriate careers advice
	vi. Enhance the experience of non-residential on-campus students

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Graduate Attributes</b> Recognise the diversity of student learning needs and, in doing so, ensure our graduates are provided with generic and discipline specific attributes and knowledge.	i. Ensure our graduate attributes reflect the needs of employers, professional bodies and market needs
	ii. Ensure our graduate attributes promote social and cultural understanding including an appreciation of Indigenous culture and history
	iii. Leverage relevant Advisory Boards to contextualise graduate attributes within curricula

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Staff</b> Attract, develop and retain high quality staff who are central to the realisation of our teaching and learning priorities.	i. Embed a culture of continuous improvement supported by a program of professional development designed to enable staff to incorporate innovation appropriately
	ii. Invest in specialist skills and highly qualified staff to support the delivery of curricula
	iii. Develop specialist skills in current staff (e.g. capacity building, knowledge transfer)
	iv. Support a workforce that contributes specialist skills to the development, delivery and evaluation of courseware and learning support
	v. Promote effective leadership capacity in teaching and learning both internally and externally
	vi. Facilitate staff mobility to inform global perspectives on teaching and learning and establish global learning networks for staff and students

Teaching & Learning Priority	Teaching & Learning Strategy
<b>Celebrate Success</b> Promote excellence and celebrate staff and student success in teaching and learning.	i. Identify and nurture high achieving students
	ii. Provide scholarships that recognise and reward students' academic, sporting and community leadership
	iii. Recognise and reward individuals and teams for outstanding and innovative approaches to teaching and learning