Part 1—Preliminary

1. Title
These rules are the Undergraduate Degree Course Rules.

2. Terms used
(Note: The Glossary provides a fuller explanation of the terms used in these rules.)

In these rules:

area of knowledge means a group of associated disciplinary fields corresponding to a particular undergraduate pass degree;

broadening units means the units referred to in rule Rule 5(5)(c);

Category A broadening units means broadening units that—

(a) have as their main focus some aspect(s) of the globalised and culturally diverse environment; and

(b) are approved by the Academic Board, on the recommendation of the Board of Coursework Studies, as Category A broadening units;

Note: Details of units that have been approved by the Academic Board as Category A units are provided at http://handbooks.uwa.edu.au/page/56205.

complementary unit means a unit that is approved by the Academic Board as a complementary unit in relation to a degree-specific major;

course means a plan of study, approved by the Academic Board, that a student must successfully undertake before qualifying for a degree;

degree-specific major means one of the majors that are approved by the Academic Board as degree-specific majors;

Note: Details of majors that have been approved by the Academic Board as degree-specific majors are provided at http://handbooks.uwa.edu.au/page/55399.

LOTE units means units that are approved by the Academic Board as language other than English units;

normally, in relation to a statement made in these rules, means the statement applies subject to one or more
exceptions approved by the Academic Board;

relevant board means a Board of the University relevant to the case in point;

undergraduate degree course means an undergraduate pass or honours degree course or the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course;

undergraduate pass degree course means the course for the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Commerce or Bachelor of Design pass degree;

unit means a discrete element in a course that normally represents six credit points.

3. Range of undergraduate enrolments

A student who is an undergraduate must be enrolled in—

(a) an undergraduate pass degree course; or

(b) an honours degree course referred to in Rule 10; or

(c) the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course referred to in Rule 13.

4. Nomination of degree-specific major for undergraduate degree course

A student enrolled in an undergraduate pass degree course or the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course must nominate a degree-specific major for the course in which the student is enrolled.

Part 2—Undergraduate pass degree courses

5. Undergraduate pass degree courses

(1) An undergraduate pass degree course consists of 24 units.

(2) The units must include a degree-specific major in the form of either a single major or a double major.

(3) A single major consists of eight units from the same disciplinary field with, normally—

(a) two Level 1 units; and

(b) two Level 2 units; and

(c) four Level 3 units.

(4) A double major consists of 14 units with, normally—

(a) two Level 1 units that are acceptable to each major; and

(b) four Level 2 units; and

(c) eight Level 3 units.

(5) An undergraduate pass degree course—

(a) must not include more than 12 Level 1 units; and
must include at least four Level 3 units; and

c) must include four units (broadening units) from one or more areas of knowledge that, except as stated in Rule 6(2) and (3), do not include the area of knowledge in which a student's degree-specific major is offered.

6. Broadening units

(1) Subject to (3), at least one of the broadening units in an undergraduate pass degree course must be selected from Category A broadening units.

(2) Rule 5(5)(c) does not prevent a student enrolled in the Bachelor of Arts degree course from including LOTE units as broadening units as long as those units do not form part of the disciplinary field of the student's degree-specific major.

(3) Permissible substitutes for Category A broadening units are—

(a) an approved Study Abroad/Student Exchange program for credit; or

(b) a LOTE unit except if it forms part of the disciplinary field of the student's degree-specific major.

7. Academic Conduct Essentials, Communication and Research Skills and Indigenous Studies Essential modules

(1) Except as stated in (2), a student who enrols in an undergraduate pass degree course of the University for the first time, irrespective of whether they have previously been enrolled in another course of the University, must undertake modules called Academic Conduct Essentials (the ACE module), Communication and Research Skills (the CARS module) and Indigenous Studies Essentials (the ISE module) in the teaching period in which they are first enrolled.

(2) A student who has previously achieved a result of Ungraded Pass (UP) for the ACE module, the CARS module or the ISE module is not required to repeat the relevant module.

8. Satisfactory progress

(1) Subject to (2), to make satisfactory progress in a calendar year a student must pass units to a value of at least half the total value of units in which they remain enrolled after the final date for withdrawal without academic penalty.

(2) A student who has not achieved a result of Ungraded Pass (UP) in one or more of the ACE module, the CARS module or the ISE module when their progress status is assessed will not have made satisfactory progress.

(3) A student who fails a unit twice is not permitted to enrol again in that unit unless the relevant board approves otherwise.

9. Progress status

(1) A student who makes satisfactory progress is assigned the status of 'Good Standing'.

(2) Unless the relevant board determines otherwise because of exceptional circumstances—

(a) a student who does not make satisfactory progress for the first time is assigned a progress status of 'On Probation';

(b) a student who does not make satisfactory progress for the second time is assigned a progress status of 'Suspended';
(c) a student who does not make satisfactory progress for the third time is assigned a progress status of 'Excluded'.

**Part 3—Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Design and Bachelor of Science honours degree courses**

10. Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Commerce, Bachelor of Design and Bachelor of Science honours degree courses

(1) The honours degree course consists of the equivalent of eight units.

(2) The honours degree course includes a research dissertation that is normally—

(a) equivalent to four units; and

(b) required to be completed, whether on a full-time or part-time basis, within two consecutive semesters.

(3) Except as stated in (4), a student who enrols in the honours degree course for the first time, irrespective of whether they have previously been enrolled in another course of the University, must undertake modules called Academic Conduct Essentials (the ACE module), Communication and Research Skills (the CARS module) and Indigenous Studies Essentials (the ISE module) in the teaching period in which they are first enrolled.

(4) A student who has previously achieved a result of Ungraded Pass (UP) for the ACE module, the CARS module or the ISE module is not required to repeat the relevant module.

11. Satisfactory progress

(1) Subject to (3), to make satisfactory progress in a calendar year a student must pass all units in which they remain enrolled after the final date for withdrawal without academic penalty.

(2) For the dissertation component of the honours degree course the relevant board determines whether satisfactory progress has been made having regard to the report of the student’s supervisor.

(3) A student who has not achieved a result of Ungraded Pass (UP) in one or more of the ACE module, the CARS module or the ISE module when their progress status is assessed will not have made satisfactory progress.

12. Progress status

(1) A student who makes satisfactory progress is assigned the status of 'Good Standing'.

(2) A student who does not make satisfactory progress in terms of Rule 11(3) is assigned the progress status of 'On Probation'.

(3) Unless the relevant board determines otherwise because of exceptional circumstances a student other than one described in (2) who does not make satisfactory progress is assigned the progress status of 'Excluded'.

**Part 4—Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course**

13. Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course

(1) The Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course consists of 32 units.

(2) The units must include—
(a) no more than 12 Level 1 units; and

(b) at least four Level 3 units; and

(c) four units (broadening units) from one or more areas of knowledge that do not include the area of knowledge of the degree-specific major; and

(d) the equivalent of eight Level 4 units; and

(e) a degree-specific major in the form of either a single major or a double major; and

(f) a research dissertation component equivalent to four Level 4 units.

(3) LOTE units are broadening units as long as those units do not form part of the disciplinary field of the student’s degree-specific major.

(4) Permissible substitutes for Category A broadening units are—

(a) an approved Study Abroad/Student Exchange program for credit; or

(b) a LOTE unit except if it forms part of the disciplinary field of the student’s degree-specific major.

(5) A single major consists of eight units from the same disciplinary field with, normally—

(a) two Level 1 units; and

(b) two Level 2 units; and

(c) four Level 3 units.

(6) A double major consists of 14 units with, normally—

(a) two Level 1 units that are acceptable to each major; and

(b) four Level 2 units; and

(c) eight Level 3 units.

(7) At least one of the units in the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course must normally involve the study of a language other than English.

(8) A unit that is a complementary unit in relation to a student’s degree-specific major must be included in the student’s degree course.

(9) Students are normally required to undertake a residential program approved by the Academic Board before the Level 1 units are completed.

(10) A semester of study outside of Australia (that may include a research placement) must normally be undertaken after the Level 1 units are completed and before the Level 3 units are completed.


(1) Except as stated in (2), a student who enrolls in the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) degree course for the first time, irrespective of whether they have previously been enrolled in another course of the University, must undertake modules called Academic Conduct Essentials (the ACE module), Communication and Research Skills (the CARS module) and Indigenous Studies Essentials (the ISE module) in the teaching period in which
they are first enrolled.

(2) A student who has previously achieved a result of Ungraded Pass (UP) for the ACE module, the CARS module or the ISE module is not required to repeat the relevant module.

15. Satisfactory progress

(1) Subject to (2) to (4) inclusive, to make satisfactory progress in a calendar year a student must achieve at least a credit pass in all units in which they remain enrolled after the final date for withdrawal without academic penalty.

(2) A student must normally achieve a weighted average mark of at least 80 calculated as an average of the student’s best six unit results in each of their first two academic years, subject to (3), and a weighted average mark of at least 75 for the student’s best six unit results in their third academic year.

(3) If a student has completed more than a full-time load in the period for which the weighted average mark is calculated, the weighted average mark is calculated using the student’s lowest scoring units that permit progression and the remainder, if the student is in their first or second academic years, contribute to the weighted average mark calculation for the next period.

(4) A student who has not achieved a result of Ungraded Pass (UP) in one or more of the ACE module, the CARS module or the ISE module when their progress status is assessed will not have made satisfactory progress.

16. Progress status

(1) A student who makes satisfactory progress is assigned the status of ‘Good Standing’.

(2) A student who does not make satisfactory progress in terms of Rule 15(4) is assigned the progress status of ‘On Probation’.

(3) Unless the relevant board determines otherwise because of exceptional circumstances or (4) applies, a student who does not make satisfactory progress is assigned the progress status of ‘Excluded’.

(4) A student who has a weighted average mark below 80 in their first academic year but who, in the opinion of the Board of Studies for the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours), has a reasonable prospect of attaining a cumulative weighted average mark of 80 by the time their progress is next assessed, is assigned the progress status of ‘On Probation’ and appropriate conditions are applied to allow close monitoring of the student’s progress in the next period with a view to course transfer if appropriate.

(5) To be awarded the Bachelor of Philosophy (Honours) a student must achieve an Honours classification of 2A or above.

(6) A student who is awarded an Honours classification below 2A is awarded the degree to which their degree-specific major belongs with the relevant classification of Honours.

CRICOS Provider Code: 00126G
Last updated 21 Dec 2011 14:38
Location: http://rules.handbooks.uwa.edu.au/page/20303