

# THE AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL UNIVERSITY

*Programs and Awards Statute 2006*

## EXAMINATIONS RULES 2008

The Council of the Australian National University makes these Rules under section 8 of the *Programs and Awards Statute 2006*.

Dated: 28 March 2008.

Allan Hawke  
Chancellor

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### Name of Rules and commencement

- 1(1)** These Rules are the Examinations Rules 2008.
- (2)** These Rules commence on the day after they are registered.

### Application

**2(1)** These Rules apply in relation to all undergraduate and graduate coursework programs.

### Interpretation

**3(1)** In these Rules, unless the contrary intention appears:

**Course Authority** means a person appointed under subrule 4(2);

**Delegated Authority** means a person appointed under subrule 4(1);

**examination**, in relation to a course, includes any task that is required to be performed by a student for the assessment of the student's performance in that course;

**further examination** means an examination required by a Chair of Examiners for a course under subrule 9(3);

**special examination**, for a student in relation to a course, means an examination the student is permitted to take under subrule 11(1) or 12(6);

**special examination arrangements**, for a student in relation to an examination for a course, are arrangements approved under rule 8 for the student;

**student** means a person undertaking all or part of a program and who is eligible to undertake, or is undertaking, an examination;

**supplementary assessment** in relation to a course includes, but is not limited to, assessment by a formal examination, a practical examination, a take-home examination and an essay.

### Appointments

**4(1)** An ANU College Dean may appoint a member of the staff of the ANU College to be a Delegated Authority for the purposes of these Rules in relation to a course offered by the ANU College.

(2) The ANU College Dean or the appropriate Delegated Authority may appoint a member of the staff of the ANU College in which the course is offered to be a Course Authority for the purposes of these Rules.

### **Meaning of *final examination***

5(1) In these Rules, *final examination* for a course means the final assessment for the course that is in the form of a compulsory formal sit-down theory examination where a student must perform the whole of the examination on a given day at a given time.

(2) For subrule (1), an examination is a final examination for a course only if there is no alternative to examination as the final piece of assessment for the course.

(3) The Delegated Authority may extend the definition of *final examination* for a course to include other forms of examination, including, but not limited to, practical examinations, take-home examinations and essays representing the final assessment in the course.

### **Eligibility to be examined**

6(1) A student is eligible to be assessed for a course if the person is enrolled in the course and complies with the requirements of the Rules and Orders applicable to taking that course.

### **Manner, time and place of examination**

7(1) Notice of the manner, time and place of final examinations to be conducted during University examination sessions at the end of semester (including session):

- (a) for examinations to be administered by the Registrar – must be published on the University's timetable website by the Registrar not less than 3 weeks before the commencement of the examination session; and
- (b) for examinations to be administered by the ANU College offering the course – must be displayed by the Course Authority not less than 3 weeks before the commencement of the examination session in at least one of the following ways:
  - (i) on a noticeboard used for the purpose in the ANU College by which the course is offered;
  - (ii) to students enrolled in the course in class;
  - (iii) if possible, on the website for the course.

(2) A failure to comply with subrule (1) is not to be taken to affect the validity of an examination or of anything done in relation to an examination under these Rules.

(3) In this rule, a reference to a *notice board* is to be read as a reference to a notice board that is commonly used for displaying notices to students, including an electronic notice board or an appropriate part of the University's website.

### **Special examination arrangements**

8(1) A student with a temporary or chronic disability who has dealt with the University's Disability Services Unit in relation to his or her disability may ask the Unit to determine special examination arrangements for the student for an examination, including, but not limited to, additional reading or writing time, the provision of special equipment, separate accommodation or the services of an amanuensis.

- (2) Special examination arrangements for a student referred to in subrule (1) must be approved by the Registrar.
- (3) Details of special examination arrangements are to be sent by the Registrar to the Delegated Authority who may request changes to the arrangements.
- (4) The Registrar is to ensure that the Chair of Examiners for a course is informed of the arrangements.
- (5) A student with a temporary or chronic disability to whom subrule (1) does not apply may ask the Delegated Authority to approve special examination arrangements in relation to the student.
- (6) The Delegated Authority may approve special examination arrangements requested under subrule (5).
- (7) The examinations referred to in subrule (2) or (5) are to be conducted in accordance with the arrangements set out in subrule (1).

### **Examiners**

- 9(1)** The Delegated Authority, on the recommendation of the Course Authority, must, at the commencement of the semester (including a session) in which the course is offered, appoint a Chair of Examiners and at least 1 other examiner, for the course.
- (2) The Chair of Examiners for a course must:
  - (a) ensure that the academic performance of each student attempting the course is adequately and fairly assessed; and
  - (b) ensure that no student is failed in the course unless the student's performance in examinations in the course has been reviewed by at least 2 of the examiners appointed in relation to the course; and
  - (c) submit to the examiners' meeting for the course a written report setting out, for each student examined, the marks and the grade of result that the examiners recommend be awarded to that student.
- (3) Before submitting recommendations under paragraph (2)(c), the Chair of Examiners may require a student to take a further examination to ensure that the academic performance of the student in that course is adequately and fairly assessed, and any such examination may be oral, written or practical.
- (4) The Delegated Authority must ensure that meetings of examiners are held to consider reports on marks, grades of results and further examinations required by the Chair of Examiners, and to moderate results.
- (5) The Chair of Examiners must, before submitting recommendations to the examiners' meeting for a course:
  - (a) permit full-time members of the staff who participated in the teaching of the course to examine and comment on the recommendations; and
  - (b) take into account any matters put to the Chair by those members.
- (6) The Chair of Examiners must make final marks and a grade of result recommended for award to each student for a course available to the Delegated Authority, for approval by the Delegated Authority.
- (7) The Delegated Authority may approve, for a student for the course:

- (a) the marks and the grade of result recommended or amended by the Chair of Examiners; or
  - (b) in exceptional circumstances, marks and a grade of result that are different from the marks and the grade of result recommended or amended by the Chair of Examiners.
- (8)** After the Delegated Authority has approved the results for a course for release, the Delegated Authority must send the results to the Registrar.
- (9)** The Registrar must cause the results in a course to be published.
- (10)** To avoid doubt, for the purposes of subrule (9), *published* includes published electronically in an appropriate part of the University's website, including a part of the website accessible only to a student whose results are so published.

### **Review of decisions**

**10(1)** If, after being notified of the final result for a student in a course approved by the Delegated Authority, the student considers that the established procedures, policies or criteria of assessment for the course have not been followed, the student may apply for a review of the result.

[NOTE: A student who believes that he or she has received an inappropriate or incorrect result in a course is encouraged to follow the guidelines set out in the *Assessment Review and Appeals Procedures* before formally lodging an application under this rule.]

- (2)** An application under subrule (1) must:
- (a) be in writing; and
  - (b) be lodged with the ANU College Dean within 20 working days of publication of the result, unless the College Dean determines otherwise; and
  - (c) be accompanied by appropriate information and documentation; and
  - (d) state clearly the grounds on which the application for the review is based.
- (3)** A review must be conducted under procedures established by the ANU College Dean for the course concerned and may include the consideration of the application by a review panel appointed by the College Dean.
- (4)** The ANU College Dean may inform himself or herself in any way on any matter relating to the review.
- (5)** The decision of the ANU College Dean and the reasons for the decision must be sent in writing by the College Dean to the student, to any further examiners who may have been appointed for the student for the course and to members of any relevant review panel.
- (6)** After the ANU College Dean has:
- (a) confirmed the final result in a course for a student; or
  - (b) approved marks and the grade of a final result (which may be different from the marks and the grade of result in a course recommended by the Chair of Examiners) for the student;
- the College Dean must send the results to the Registrar.
- (7)** The Registrar must cause the student to be informed of the student's result in the course.
- (8)** The decision of the ANU College Dean following a review of a student's marks and grade of result in the course is final.

**(9)** Except with the approval of the Registrar, a student awaiting the outcome of a review of marks and grade of result in a course may not enrol in another course for which the subject course is a prerequisite until the student is awarded a passing result in the course.

**(10)** However, if a person seeking a review is already enrolled, he or she is entitled to remain enrolled pending the outcome of the review.

### **Special examinations**

**11(1)** The Delegated Authority may permit a student who was eligible to take an examination in a course but was unable to attend the examination to take such special examination as the Delegated Authority determines.

**(2)** A student seeking permission to take a special examination must lodge an application with the Registrar not later than 3 working days after the time fixed for the completion of the examination that the student failed to attend, or within such further time as the Delegated Authority allows.

**(3)** An application under subrule (2) is to be accompanied by a statement in writing setting out the circumstances that prevented the student from attending the examination and by such evidence as is available to the student in support of that statement.

### **Students whose studies are affected by illness etc.**

**12(1)** A student who considers that his or her academic performance in respect of a course has been adversely affected by illness or other cause during the period of studies to which an examination relates, may furnish a statement of the circumstances in writing to the Delegated Authority in the ANU College offering the course, together with any medical or other evidence, before the examination is held.

**(2)** If, during an examination the conduct of which is under the supervision of invigilators:

- (a) a student notifies an invigilator that he or she considers that his or her performance in the examination has been adversely affected by illness or other cause in the course of the examination; or
- (b) another person present at the examination notifies an invigilator that it appears that the performance of a student in the examination has been adversely affected by illness or other cause in the course of the examination; or
- (c) it otherwise appears to an invigilator that the performance of a student in the examination has been adversely affected by illness or other cause in the course of the examination;

the invigilator must, as soon as possible after the completion of the examination, so inform the Delegated Authority in writing.

**(3)** If a student considers that the student's performance in an examination other than an examination of the kind referred to in subrule (2) has been adversely affected by illness or other cause during the examination, the student may, before the conclusion of the examination, so notify the Delegated Authority.

**(4)** Upon receiving a notification under subrule (1), (2) or (3), the Delegated Authority must report accordingly to the examiners.

**(5)** The examiners must take the report into account in making their assessment of the performance of the student in the course.

(6) The Delegated Authority may permit a student to whom this rule applies to sit for a special examination in the course.

### **Eligibility for supplementary assessment**

**13(1)** A student must be offered supplementary assessment for a course if the student achieves a final result for a course of N45%-N49%.

[NOTE 1: This includes ungraded (CRS) courses.]

[NOTE 2: for subrule (1), the student must have achieved a result of N45%-N49%, not NCN.]

(2) A student must be offered a supplementary assessment for a course if the student fails the course because of a requirement that a pass in the final examination is necessary to achieve a pass in the course and the student achieves a final result for the course of not less than N45%.

[Note: for subrule (2), the student must have achieved a result of N45% or above, not NCN.]

### **Offer of supplementary assessment**

**14(1)** If a student is eligible for supplementary assessment for a course, the student's Notification of Results must show an interim result of PX for the course.

(2) If a student is notified of an interim result of PX for a course, the notification constitutes an offer by the Delegated Authority of supplementary assessment for the course.

(3) However, subrule (2) does not prevent the Delegated Authority from offering a supplementary assessment in writing or in any other way.

(4) A student must accept or reject the offer by notifying, in writing, the Delegated Authority within 7 working days of the offer being made to the student.

(5) A student who fails a course following supplementary assessment may be eligible to be offered supplementary assessment in another attempt at the same course.

### **Supplementary assessment**

**15(1)** The Course Authority must determine the form a supplementary assessment is to take.

(2) The Delegated Authority must give adequate notice to the student (at the student's most current address notified to the Registrar) of the form, time and place of the supplementary assessment.

(3) If a student passes a supplementary assessment offered under rule 14, the student is regarded as having passed the course concerned with a result of 50PS.

(4) Except with the approval of the Delegated Authority, a supplementary assessment must be held before the end of the first week of the semester (includes session) next following that to which the assessment relates.

(5) If a student fails the supplementary assessment, the student is regarded as having failed the course concerned with a result of N plus the original mark (for a supplementary assessment mentioned in subrule 13(1)) or (for a supplementary assessment mentioned in subrule 13(2)) a result of NCN.

