Foundations of Learning and Teaching – Semester 1, 2015

The Foundations of Learning and Teaching (FOLT) is Curtin’s primary professional learning program for teaching academics. The program is available in both semesters and participation is open to all Curtin academic staff in a teaching role. FOLT has been restructured in the Curtin Converged teaching approach and now comprises three extended modules. These modules will articulate into a range of specialist professional learning programs supporting Transforming Learning @ Curtin. The highly diverse FOLT cohorts will provide you an opportunity to engage with colleagues from a wide range of interdisciplinary backgrounds, levels of teaching experience and teaching philosophies.

What are the aims of FOLT?

FOLT aims to provide staff who are either new to teaching or who want to explore aspects of teaching and learning practice, with the knowledge, skills and confidence to operate effectively in 21st century learning environments. This is achieved by drawing from your own reflections, experience of your peers and educational literature. The program provides an orientation to teaching at Curtin, using a practical, interactive and experiential approach. You will be introduced to:

- Curtin’s philosophy of teaching and learning
- The student learning context and implications for teaching
- Theoretical constructs underpinning teaching, learning, assessment, feedback and learning design in higher education
- Learning technologies to support quality learning and student engagement
- Some tips on the practicalities of teaching in the Curtin Converged model
- Processes to support critically reflective practice for quality enhancement in teaching and learning.

What are the outcomes of FOLT?

Upon completion of the FOLT program, you will be able to:

- Integrate Curtin’s policies, plans, and teaching requirements into your practice
- Engage in scholarly teaching and learning practice by using theoretical knowledge to design activities that foster student-centred learning and engagement in face-to-face, blended and fully online environments
- Demonstrate how to align unit outcomes, learning activities, assessment tasks and the provision of feedback to students
- Identify activities that incorporate global; intercultural and Indigenous perspectives; work integrated learning, and English language development into learning and teaching practice and support accessibility
- Employ critical reflection to your own learning and teaching practice by developing and documenting strategies for improvement (in a teaching portfolio).

What does the program encompass?

FOLT is comprised of three themed modules, as follows.

**FOLT 1: Transforming learning, teaching and assessment**

An introduction to learning, teaching and assessment, theories underpinning good practice and practical strategies for assuring quality are explored. The Curtin context and participants’ individual contexts and experiences will be the focus for discussion of common issues and reflection.
**FOLT 2: Learning Design**

The second module focuses on curriculum-related issues, in particular, constructive alignment of learning outcomes, teaching and learning activities, feedback and assessment is explored. Strategies for integrating global, intercultural, and Indigenous perspectives; work integrated learning; and English language development explored.

**FOLT 3: Teaching excellence and scholarship**

The third module focuses on quality enhancement practices related to evaluating teaching by both students and peers and through critical reflection and scholarship of teaching and learning.

Completion of a *Teaching Portfolio* is a component within FOLT. This will enable you to collate evidence of your teaching and learning activities and professional engagement to demonstrate how your teaching practice is developing. This is a requirement for applications for promotions and can be useful when applying for tenure, awards, grants or simply as a vehicle to guide reflective practice.

Participation in *FOLT 1: Transforming Learning, Teaching and Assessment* is a requirement for all new casual academics (including postgraduate students) employed for more than 12 hours per semester, as per the [Training in Tertiary Teaching for Sessional Staff Policy](#). Faculties will remunerate casual academics for seven hours upon completion of *FOLT 1*.

**FOLT workshops**

The workshops are conducted as an interactive face-to-face and online experience, supported by a rich resource base and opportunities for sustained continued professional learning (supporting the *Curtin Converged Teaching* approach). The face-to-face program is run over three days across both semesters, allowing participants an opportunity to engage progressively and gradually integrate the ideas and strategies into their practice.

*FOLT 1* is also available in a fully online version. For further information contact the [program administrator](#).

---

**Registration to attend FOLT workshops**

Registration to attend the FOLT workshops is via the OASIS Employee Kiosk. First time users of the Employee Kiosk please click on the following link for information on the login process: [https://webkiosk.curtin.edu.au/wss/doc/curtin/ISSI/webhelp/First_Logon.htm](https://webkiosk.curtin.edu.au/wss/doc/curtin/ISSI/webhelp/First_Logon.htm)

Once in the system, select the ‘Training’ tab, then choose ‘Training registration’ > ‘Click Here to View Available Courses’ > click ‘Course Category ‘14 – Foundations of Learning and Teaching’ > then select the FOLT module you wish to enrol for and follow the prompts. You must select ‘Register for Course’, paying attention to the date as there are multiple repeat sessions per module scheduled on different dates. Once you have supplied your phone details, click ’Insert’ to finalise your FOLT registration.

**Further information and contacts**

Further information is available on the [FOLT website](#).

Evelyn Gibbs ([E.Gibbs@curtin.edu.au](mailto:E.Gibbs@curtin.edu.au))  
Program Administrator  
Dr Kuki Singh ([Kuki.Singh@curtin.edu.au](mailto:Kuki.Singh@curtin.edu.au))  
Professional Learning Consultant, FOLT coordinator