Examination Policy

Section 1 - Policy Statement

(1) The purpose of this Policy and the associated Examination Procedure for Staff is to achieve coordinated and consistent examination practices across Australian Catholic University (ACU).

Section 2 - Policy Scope

(2) This Policy applies to all central and School-based examinations at ACU, and to all staff and students.

Section 3 - Definitions

(3) Terms used in this Policy and the associated procedures are consistent with the Glossary of Student and Course Terms. In addition, the following words and expressions in this Policy have the meanings listed below:

Term	Definition
In-person examination	means examinations that take place in an exam venue at an ACU campus or Satellite Centre or an established examination centre.
Online examination	means a timed, supervised or unsupervised, summative assessment conducted running a standardised operating system. All online examinations are held and conducted through the learning management system (Learning Environment Online (LMS)).
LMS	ACU uses the 'Canvas' Learning Management System.
Central examination	means any examination administered by Scheduling Services.
School-based examination	means any examination administered by a School, Faculty or other academic organisational unit.
Examination adjustment	means a change to examination conditions that take account of an ongoing medical or personal condition.
Special examination adjustments	means a change to examination conditions that account for a temporary disability or acute medical condition.

Section 4 - Timing of Examinations

Standard Study Periods

(4) There will be a designated, maximum three-week examination period at the end of the first and second semesters for the conduct of central examinations.

Non-standard Study Periods

(5) Examinations for units offered in non-standard study periods will be arranged and conducted by the relevant School.

Deferred Examination Periods

(6) There will be a deferred examination period not less than two weeks after the end of the central examination periods for the first and second semesters.

Examination Sessions

(7) Examinations may be held within the period 8 am to 8 pm Monday to Friday (including public holidays) and 8 am to 5 pm Saturdays throughout the examination periods.

Section 5 - Examination Organisation

(8) An examination may be a central examination, organised by Scheduling Services of Student Administration, or a School-based examination organised by the relevant School.

Central Examinations

(9) All central examinations will occur within the examination periods as identified in the common academic calendar. Examinations falling outside these periods will be organised by Schools as per clauses (12) – (16) of this Policy.

(10) For central examinations, Schools are responsible for:

a. production of quality-assured examination papers;
b. submission of examination papers to Scheduling Services in accordance with the timelines identified in the Examination Procedure for Staff;
c. ensuring availability of a designated responsible academic staff member during examinations in accordance with Section 8 of the Examination Procedure for Staff;
d. collection of examination papers for in-person examinations in accordance with Section 19 of this Policy and Section 9 of the Examination Procedure for Staff;
e. marking, grading and submission of results.

(11) For central examinations, Scheduling Services is responsible for:

a. timetabling of examinations within the period designated for central examinations, including deferred examinations;
b. publishing a timetable online for the advice of students and staff;
c. allocation of examination rooms;
d. coordination of examination papers, printed and digital;
e. coordination of digital examination paper upload into LMS;
f. secure management of examination papers;
g. supply of examination writing booklets and multiple choice answer sheets;
h. provision of adequate examination supervision (including online invigilation);
i. processes relating to recruitment, appointment and management of examination supervisors; and
j. implementing any examination adjustments for students as required in accordance with Section 18 of this Policy.

School-Based Examinations

(12) School-based examinations may be held during the designated central examination period, or at any other time specified for an examination in the published unit outline.

(13) School-based examinations held during the central examination period should be held after the final examination session for the day, commencing at 6.00 pm or on Saturdays.

(14) In the event of a clash between a central examination and a School-based examination, the central examination will have priority and the School-based examination will need to be rescheduled.

(15) School-based examinations will not be held during the Universities Australia common vacation week, or an official pre-examination study week as identified in the common academic calendar, without prior approval from the Academic Registrar.

(16) For School-based examinations, the School is responsible for:

a. setting and publishing an examination timetable;
b. ensuring that School-based examinations do not cause a timetable clash with central examinations;
c. organising examination venues;
d. quality control of examination papers, including content and ensuring adherence to the standard ACU format;
e. printing of quality-assured examination papers;
f. uploading digital examination papers into the LMS, supply of examination materials (for example, writing booklets and multiple choice answer sheets;
g. provision of adequate examination supervision (invigilation);
h. where appropriate, processes relating to recruitment, appointment and management of examination supervisors;
i. acting on advice from the relevant Disability Advisor regarding reasonable adjustments for students with disabilities; and
j. marking of examination papers and submission of results.

Examinations in Courses With Professional Experience Requirements

(17) For any course, or course cohort, with a professional experience component occurring during the central examination period, effort will be made to schedule all examinations during a minimum of one calendar week out of the three-week official examination period.

(18) If a clash between a professional experience placement and a scheduled examination is identified at the time of publication of the final examination timetable, a student may submit an application for a Deferred Examination with evidence of the dates of the professional experience placement. Such applications will receive automatic approval and the student will be notified in accordance with Section 21 of this Policy.

Supplementary Examinations

(19) For standard study periods, where supplementary assessments take the form of a written examination (in-person or online), they will be managed by Scheduling Services. All other forms of supplementary assessment will be managed by the relevant School.

(20) Supplementary examinations will be held concurrently with any deferred examinations for the unit.

Concurrent Use of the Same Examination Paper

(21) Concurrent use of the same examination paper is permissible only:

a. where an examination is being held for the same unit in multiple locations at the same time; or
b. where required for units being taught out or as part of transition arrangements

(22) Requests for concurrent use of the same examination paper must provide the following:

a. a separate examination request and examination paper for each campus hosting the examination, even where content is identical; or
b. where concurrent use of an examination paper is requested to be used for multiple units the request must identify each of the units and campuses to be examined concurrently.

(23) Requests for use of an examination paper for multiple examinations will be accommodated where possible. If not possible, an additional examination paper will be required

Section 6 - Examination Scheduling

(24) Central examinations can be between one and two hours in duration including reading time.

(25) The central examination timetable will be scheduled in one or two hour blocks.

(26) Examinations will be scheduled taking into consideration the mix of units undertaken by students and endeavouring to minimise, or preferably eliminate, clashes of examinations for units taken by class cohorts or individual students.

(27) Subject to space constraints, priority will be given to the scheduling of central in-person examinations for units with enrolments of 400 students or more. Where clashes cannot be avoided, special arrangements will be made to enable affected students to undertake the examinations as close as possible to the scheduled time, while maintaining the security of examinations.

(28) A student may be required to undertake a maximum of two examinations in a single day or three examinations in any two consecutive days.

(29) A student should have a minimum of a two hour break between end time of one examination and start time of another.

(30) Where a unit has in excess of 900 enrolments, online examinations will be scheduled inside at least a four-hour window to ensure system capacity is not compromised.

Section 7 - Publication of Examination Timetables

(31) Final central examination timetables will be published at least six weeks prior to the commencement of the main examination period and at least one week prior to the commencement of the deferred examination period.

(32) Examination timetable information will be made available online to staff and students. It is the responsibility of each student to:

a. identify the dates, times and venues of examinations they are to attend; and
b. notify Scheduling Services of any clashes by the published due date, using the relevant form.

Section 8 - Location of Examinations

Venues

(33) Venues for examinations must adhere to the University examination standards. See Schedule 1 for minimum

requirements for examination venues.

(34) Students will sit examinations at the campus or Satellite Centre at which they attend classes for the unit being examined, or an established examination centre.

Online, Multi-mode and Off-campus Units

(35) Students enrolled in a unit offered in multi-mode or at a location other than an ACU campus or Satellite Centre, may sit examinations at the campus, ACU Satellite Centre or established examination centre closest to their semester address. Students will be notified of the location of the examination venue via their personal examination timetable.

(36) Students enrolled in a unit offered in online mode will undertake their examinations online.

Variation of Examination Venue

(37) In exceptional circumstances a student may apply to sit an examination at a venue other than those outlined in clauses (33) and (34) of this Policy.

(38) The application must be made in writing to the Academic Registrar at least six weeks before the commencement of the relevant examination period.

(39) If a variation of exam venue is approved to enable a student to sit the examination at an alternative venue, the student may be required to pay a prescribed fee.

In Situ Examination

(40) In exceptional circumstances a student who is remote from the University on practical experience and is required to undertake an in-person examination during that practical experience, may apply for an in situ School-based examination.

(41) The application must be made in writing to the Head of School at least six weeks before the commencement of the relevant examination period.

(42) The student must be notified of the outcome of the application within ten calendar days of the receipt of the application.

(43) If approved, the School will be responsible for ensuring appropriate local supervision is arranged.

(44) If an in situ exam is approved, to enable a student to sit the examination at an alternative venue, the student may be required to pay a prescribed fee.

Section 9 - Production of Examination Papers

(45) Examination papers will be produced in accordance with the Examination Procedure for Staff.

Section 10 - Examination Supervision

(46) Examination supervisors are responsible for the conduct of examinations and for ensuring compliance with this Policy. A student must comply with all directions given by the examination supervisor and the supervisor’s decision is final.

(47) In an examination, a student may be required to:

a. confirm their identity and eligibility to be in the examination through provision of an ACU Student Card;
b. demonstrate that they are not in possession of any unauthorised device or material as specified in Section 14 of this Policy;
c. answer any question relating to their behaviour whilst under examination supervision;
d. leave an examination room if a supervisor considers that a student's behaviour is such as to disturb or distract any other student;
e. surrender any device or material, which the supervisor considers to be unauthorised, for the duration of the exam; and/or
f. comply with any direction that the supervisor deems necessary to ensure the proper and efficient conduct of the examination.

Section 11 - Conduct of Students in Examination

(48) A student must comply with the Academic Regulations, the Student Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy and Student Conduct Policy.

(49) Students are subject to the provisions of the Dealing with Instances of Fraudulent Information Policy.

(50) Students must carry and produce their ACU Student Card at each examination.

(51) The ACU student card must be displayed prominently on the desk during in-person examinations. In cases where student does not have their ACU Student Card, ACU will implement other identity checking processes.

(52) Students will have their attendance recorded at every examination.

Section 12 - Conditions for In-person Examinations

Entry to Examination Room

(53) A person other than the supervisor, or other authorised person[1], may not enter or remain in an examination room during an examination, or during the period of 45 minutes immediately preceding or immediately following an examination session, without the permission of Scheduling Services.

> [1] An authorised person in this circumstance would normally be limited to a candidate for that examination, a National Unit Lead or nominee, or a member of staff of Student Administration. Authorised visitors should acknowledge the supervisor's need to maintain examination integrity and must follow the supervisor's directions.

(54) A student, on entering an examination room, must proceed to the place to which that student is directed by the supervisor. A student must not leave that place without permission or direction from a supervisor.

(55) A person, whether a student or not, who is permitted to enter or leave an examination room must comply with conditions as outlined by the supervisor.

Starting time

(56) The time listed on the examination timetable is the time when the examination commences. Students must not commence writing until the supervisor has given permission.

Late arrival

(57) Students who arrive within the first 30 minutes after the start of an examination will be permitted to undertake that examination but will not be allowed additional time.

(58) Students who arrive later than 30 minutes after the start of an examination will not be permitted to undertake that examination.

Leaving the examination room

(59) Except in circumstances related to illness as provided for in clauses (61) to (64) of this Policy, a student must not leave the examination room:

a. during the first 30 minutes of an examination; or
b. during the final 10 minutes of an examination.

(60) Where it is unavoidable, a student may take bathroom break. They will need to inform the exam invigilator and no extra time will be provided. There is no time limit on breaks, however lengthy and/or repeated bathroom breaks that appear suspicious may be reported to the Faculty for further review.

Illness during examination

(61) If a student becomes ill during an examination and temporarily leaves the examination venue, but remains under supervision, no extra time will be allowed for the student to complete the examination. In this circumstance the student may submit an application for special consideration as per the Assessment Policy and Assessment Procedure.

(62) If the candidate decides to continue the examination, the Examination Supervisor may make a decision to move the student to an alternative location, to reduce disruption to other students. The time required for the move will be added to the student's allocated examination time.

(63) If the student cannot continue with the examination, the supervisor will note this and report the matter to Scheduling Services.

(64) If a student becomes ill during an examination and is unable to continue the examination, the student may submit an application for a Deferred Examination. If a Deferred Examination is granted the original sitting of the examination will not be marked.

Conclusion of examination

(65) At the conclusion of the examination all students must maintain examination conditions until all papers have been collected and the supervisor has given students permission to leave the examination room.

Section 13 - Conditions for Online Examinations

Timing of Examinations

(66) The time listed on the examination timetable is the time when the examination opens online.

(67) Students will normally be allocated a window of time, as per the examination timetable, in which to commence their examination.

(68) It is the responsibility of the student to ensure they allow adequate time to complete the examination before the examination closes.

Interruptions during examination

(69) If a student becomes ill during an examination and is unable to continue the examination, the student may submit an application for a Deferred Examination using the Application for Deferral (DEF) form. If a Deferred Examination is granted, the original sitting of the examination will not be marked.

(70) Where it is unavoidable, a student may take a bathroom break. They will need to announce to the camera that they are taking a bathroom break and no extra time will be provided. There is no time limit on breaks, however lengthy and/or repeated bathroom breaks that appear suspicious may be reported to the Faculty for further review.

Section 14 - Materials in Examinations

Nominated materials permitted in examinations

(71) Where specified books or other materials (restricted open book examinations) are permitted to be taken into an examination, such materials will be limited to those specifically approved by the National Unit Lead and such materials will be listed on the examination paper cover sheet.

(72) Where an examination is designated 'open book', the relevant text book and allowable materials subject to clause (73) may be used in the examination.

(73) The supervisor or other authorised person will ensure such materials comply with the approved list provided by the National Unit Lead and do not contain any unauthorised materials.

(74) The use of e-books is not permitted in any in-person examination.

Use of dictionaries in examinations

(75) English language dictionaries are not permitted in an examination.

(76) A student may take a standard English/foreign language dictionary[2] (bilingual dictionary) in printed, not electronic format, into an examination in any unit. Specialist dictionaries, for example medical dictionaries, are not permitted.

> [2] The National Unit Lead should be aware that bilingual dictionaries normally include the meaning of words in the foreign language.

(77) The dictionary must not contain any notations or any additional material and must be presented to the supervisor for inspection.

(78) Students will be refused permission to use dictionaries that contain notations or additional materials.

Use of personal electronic devices, smart wearables and digital tools in examinations

(79) Smart wearables, devices and digital tools listed in clause (80) must not be used or accessed during an examination except with the prior approval of the National Unit Leader or where examination adjustments are arranged under Section 18 of this Policy. Such approval must clearly identify the category of electronic device allowed in the specific examination.

(80) Prohibited devices and digital tools include, but are not limited to:

a. electronic dictionaries and thesauri;

b. translation software;
c. browser add-ons;
d. personal electronic devices and smart wearables, including smart watches, in-ear or external headphones, mobile phones , tablets, calculators and AI-enabled glasses; or
e. generative artificial intelligence (GenAI) technologies; and
f. student file-sharing websites.

(81) A student may be required to demonstrate that they are not in possession of, using or accessing any device or digital tool prohibited under clause (80). Non-compliance in an in-person examination may result in a device being confiscated by the Examination Supervisor for the duration of the examination. In an online examination, non-compliance will cause an incident to be raised for review in order to determine whether academic misconduct has taken place.

(82) Any suspected use or access may be dealt with in accordance with the provisions under Section 23 of this Policy.

(83) Electronic devices which can be approved are restricted to those which are hand-held, internally powered, silent and not capable of wireless communication with other electronic devices.

(84) Calculators and other electronic devices approved for use in an examination must have any programmable memory cleared prior to the examination commencing and must not be AI enabled. Non-programmable calculators, where allowed, must have volatile memory only and must not have alpha facilities.

(85) A student using an authorised electronic device in an examination is responsible for its operation. Any failure or malfunction of the device will not constitute grounds for a deferred examination or other special arrangements.

Mobile Phones

(86) In accordance with clause (80) of this Policy, mobile phones must not be used in any examination

In-person examinations

(87) If a mobile phone is brought into an examination room, it must be switched off and placed face down on the floor under the student's desk. Non-compliance will result in the mobile phone being confiscated by the Examination Supervisor for the duration of the examination.

Online examinations

(88) A mobile phone must not be accessible to the student for the duration of the examination. Non-compliance will result in an incident being raised to investigate whether academic misconduct has occured.

Watches

(89) Watches are not permitted in an examination. If a watch is brought into an examination, it must be placed face down on the floor under the student's desk. Non-compliance will result in the watch being confiscated by the Examination Supervisor for the duration of the examination in an in-person examination. In an online examination, non-compliance will cause an incident to be raised for review in order to determine whether academic misconduct has taken place.

Materials left outside examination room

(90) The University accepts no responsibility for the security of any materials left outside an examination room.

Section 15 - Availability of National Unit Lead

In-person examinations

(91) The National Unit Lead of a unit, or alternative contact as approved by Head of School or equivalent, must be contactable during the whole of the examination to answer any questions which may arise regarding the examination paper. Scheduling Services staff or examination supervisors must not make a determination regarding the content of an examination paper.

Computer-based In person examinations

(92) In addition to clause (91) of this Policy, the National Unit Lead must be present for at least 15 minutes at the beginning of an in-person computer-based examination to set and deliver the required password for/to students and to ensure the examination commences appropriately.

(93) The National Unit Lead must provide students sitting a computer-based examination, and the examination supervisor(s) with written information equivalent to that provided on the cover sheet of a paper-based examination.

Examinations conducted in a clinical or science laboratory

(94) Where an examination is conducted in a clinical or science laboratory, the National Unit Lead must be present for the duration of the examination and is responsible for the supervision of all students undertaking the examination

Examinations with approved electronic devices

(95) If an electronic device has been approved for use in an in-person examination, the National Unit Lead, or nominee approved by the Head of School or equivalent, must be present to inspect such devices to ensure that they comply with clauses (83) to (85) of this Policy.

Section 16 - Interruption to In-person Examinations

(96) Where an examination is affected by an unexpected interruption (for example, a power failure, computer/software malfunction, earthquake, bomb threat, fire alarm etc.) the supervisor will implement appropriate immediate action including any action necessary under the Critical Incident Management Policy.

(97) Minor disruptions to an examination, for a period of 15 minutes or less, will be accommodated by the provision of an equivalent period of additional time added to the end of the allocated examination time by approval of the Coordinator, Examinations and Results.

(98) The Academic Registrar or nominee will determine the appropriate course of action in the event of a significant disruption to an examination. A significant disruption may include repeated minor disruptions in the same examination session.

(99) In the event of an evacuation of an examination venue, the Academic Registrar in consultation with the Executive Dean or nominee will determine which of the following outcomes will apply, with consideration to minimising disadvantage to students:

a. the examination may be declared void and a new examination scheduled for a date and time within the current examination period;
b. students' examination scripts may be marked and the mark stand;
c. an alternative assessment item may be set with a suitable due date for submission;

d. as well as the outcome in b, an additional assessment item may be set with a suitable date for submission.

Section 17 - Interruption to Online Examinations

(100) Where there is an interruption to an online examination the student may apply for a deferred examination using the Application to Defer (DEF) form with supporting documentation (e.g. screenshots).

(101) Where there is a significant interruption to an online examination as a result of a known ACU technical issue, students may apply for a deferred examination using the Application for Deferral (DEF) form and will be automatically approved.

Section 18 - Examination Adjustments for Students with Disabilities or Medical Conditions

Permanent disability and/or chronic medical condition

(102) Adjustments to the examination conditions for students with a permanent disability and/or chronic medical condition will be incorporated in Education Inclusion Plans developed by the Access and Disability Service.

Unexpected temporary disability or medical condition

(103) If a student has an unexpected temporary disability or medical condition, the student may apply for special adjustments to examination arrangements through submission of the relevant form to Scheduling Services.

(104) If, due to the timing of the request, the University cannot implement the requested provisions, the student may be required to sit the examination during the deferred examination period.

Notification of examination adjustment and special adjustment requirements

(105) Students with a disability and/or medical condition should consult a Disability Adviser to register for examination adjustments as early as possible, preferably at the time of enrolment and no later than the census date of the relevant study period.

(106) Access and Disability Service will provide Scheduling Services with a list of examination adjustment requirements throughout the semester. Requests for Examination Adjustments after lecture week twelve will not be considered for central examinations in the main round.

(107) Where examination adjustments are not advised to Scheduling Services by the above date, one of the following actions will be taken:

a. the student may be required to sit their examination/s during the deferred examination period; or
b. The Access and Disability Service may liaise with the relevant School/s regarding the provision of a School-based examination/s outside the central examination period; or
c. The Access and Disability Service may liaise with the School/s regarding alternative assessment/s in lieu of an examination/s.

(108) The student will receive written advice of the decision on any application for an examination adjustment by Scheduling Services, with advice of any approval also being provided to the relevant School.

Section 19 - Collection of In-person Examination Papers

(109) The National Unit Lead, or nominee, must collect students' examination scripts in person from the examination distribution room, within 2 working days of the examination date consistent with Section 9 of the Examination Procedure for Staff.

Section 20 - Missing Examination Papers, Writing Booklets or Answer Sheets

(110) In the event of examination papers, writing booklets or answer sheets being lost, stolen or destroyed, the Academic Registrar, in consultation with the Executive Dean or nominee, and/or the Chief Information and Digital Officer will determine a course of action for those students who have been directly affected so as to minimise disruption or disadvantage to those students.

(111) The final decision may be one of the following, or an alternative action, as determined by the Academic Registrar, in consultation with the Executive Dean:

a. a final grade in the unit is awarded based on the aggregate grade, where all of the learning outcomes of the unit have been met;
b. the student is required to re-sit an examination; or
c. the student is required to submit an alternative item of assessment

Section 21 - Deferred Examinations

Central Deferred Examinations

Application

(112) Where a student is unable to attend an examination due to illness or other exceptional circumstance beyond their control, the student is required to submit the Application for deferral (DEF) form for deferred examination along with supporting documentation or Professional Authority as per clause (124) of this Policy.

(113) Applications for deferred examinations must be submitted along with the required supporting documentary evidence no more than five calendar days after the examination.

Determination of Application for a Deferred Central Examination

(114) The Academic Registrar or nominee will determine the outcome of an application for a deferred central examination.

(115) Scheduling Services will notify a student of the outcome of their deferred examination application in writing no less than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the deferred examination period.

(116) Where the application is approved, the details of the examination date, time and location will be published on the students' Personal Examination Timetable.

(117) In cases where an application is submitted prior to the originally scheduled examination and the application is refused, the student will be notified of the decision, in writing, prior to the originally scheduled examination.

School-based Deferred Examination

Application

(118) Where a student is unable to attend an examination due to illness or other exceptional circumstance (beyond their control) the student is required to submit the relevant documentation for a School-based deferred examination with the National Unit Lead as per clauses (120) to (123) of this Policy.

(119) Applications for deferred examination must be submitted along with supporting documentary evidence as per clause (124) of this Policy no later than five calendar days after the day of the examination.

Determination of Application for a Deferred School-based Examination

(120) The relevant School authority will determine the outcome of an application for a School-based deferred examination.

(121) The School will notify the student of the outcome of their deferred examination application in writing not less than one week prior to the examination date determined by the National Unit Lead.

(122) Where the application is approved, the written notification will include the details of the examination date, time and location.

(123) In cases where an application is submitted prior to the examination and the application is refused, every effort will be made to contact the student prior to the scheduled examination.

Evidence in Support of Application for Deferred Examination

(124) Any application for a deferred examination must be supported by appropriate documentary evidence (e.g. Professional Authority). An electronic version of the documentary evidence may be submitted, but a student may be required to produce the original on demand. The authenticity of documentary evidence may be confirmed with the named provider.

Limit on Number of Deferrals

(125) An examination or alternative assessment may be deferred no more than once after the original scheduled examination.

(126) If the student is unable to undertake the deferred examination or assessment, further deferral of the examination will not be granted and the National Unit Lead will be required to provide a final result for the unit.

(127) If the student provides evidence of continuing exceptional circumstances, the Course Adviser, after consultation with the student and the National Unit Lead, may recommend to the Head of School or equivalent that:

a. the student's enrolment in the relevant unit be cancelled without academic penalty (but with financial liability); or
b. other alternative assessment be arranged, having regard to the circumstances of the case.

Section 22 - Publication of Past Examination Papers

(128) Subject to clause (130) of this Policy, past examination or sample papers for every unit that has a final examination will be published in the 'Past Exam Repository' page located on the Library website as outlined in the Examination Procedure for Staff.

(129) Where there are multiple examination papers for the same unit in the same semester, only one paper is required for publication.

(130) The following categories of examinations will be exempt from publication:

a. multiple choice examinations;
b. examinations involving practical work;
c. computer exercises;
d. modelling and extended problem-solving mathematical problems;
e. online examinations or tests conducted using LMS;
f. examinations or tests with unresolved copyright implications.

(131) Where all or segments of examination papers are exempt from publication, the National Unit Lead is required to provide students with sample examination questions relevant to the examination paper for that unit of study via LMS at the commencement of the study period. No material with unresolved copyright issues may be used.

(132) Where a paper contains both exempt and non-exempt questions, the exempt segment may be deleted prior to publication.

(133) Examination papers will not be given to students at the conclusion of a central or deferred examination.

(134) Past examination papers will be available for up to three years from the date of publication on the 'Past Exam Repository' page.

Section 23 - Breach of Policy

Expulsion from examination room for in-person examinations

(135) An Examination Supervisor may expel any student from the examination room, where the supervisor has reasonable grounds for believing that the student is in breach of this Policy.

Report and investigation

(136) An Examination Supervisor must report any alleged breach of this Policy to the Coordinator, Examinations and Results, who will refer the matter to the relevant officer.

(137) Where an incident is reported during an online examination any alleged breach will be referred to the Coordinator, Examinations and Results, who will refer the matter to the relevant officer.

(138) Any alleged breach of the examination conditions in Section 12, 13 or 14 of this Policy will be referred to the Academic Registrar who may:

a. issue a formal warning; or
b. refer the matter to the Designated Officer for resolution in accordance with the Student Conduct Policy.

(139) In cases of alleged cheating the matter will be referred to the Head of School responsible for the unit and must be investigated and resolved in accordance with the Student Academic Integrity and Misconduct Policy.

(140) In cases of alleged falsified documentation the matter will be referred to the Academic Registrar, and must be investigated and resolved in accordance with the Dealing with Instances of Fraudulent Information Policy and Dealing with Instances of Fraudulent Information Procedure.

(141) In all other cases the matter will be referred to the Designated Officer and must be investigated and resolved in accordance with the Student Conduct Policy.

Section 24 - Roles and Responsibilities

Student Responsibilities

(142) Students are required to be available to undertake examinations throughout the periods designated for central examinations, including supplementary examinations and deferred examinations as published in the Common Academic Calendar and associated study periods.

(143) Students are required to be available to undertake School-based examinations at the dates and times specified in the relevant unit outlines.

(144) Students with an Education Inclusion Plan are responsible for providing it to their National Unit Lead to discuss implementation of adjustments as per the Students with Disability Policy.

(145) Students are required to familiarise themselves with the provisions of this Policy and the related policies as listed.

Staff Responsibilities

(146) Staff responsibilities relating to examinations are detailed in the Examination Procedure for Staff.

Section 25 - Recordkeeping

(147) Records related to Examinations will be maintained in accordance with the Records and Archive Management Policy of the University.

Section 26 - Schedules

Schedule 1 - Examination Venue Standards

(148) Any venue that is used by Australian Catholic University for examinations must adhere to the following minimum standards:

a. appropriate lighting;
b. air conditioning;
c. adequate space;
d. preference for flat floor. Lecture theatres may be required at times due to lack of flat floor space;
e. desk and chairs for open book examinations;
f. single desks wherever possible;
g. quiet surrounding (no construction noise and no facilities/construction work);
h. wheelchair access requirement for students with examination adjustment;
i. amenities (male, female and accessible);
j. venue must comply with safety regulations; and
k. close to public transport and/or parking facilities.

Section 27 - Associated Information

(149) For related legislation, policies, procedures and guidelines and any supporting resources please refer to the Associated Information tab.

Status and Details

Status	Current
Effective Date	24th November 2026
Review Date	24th November 2029
Approval Authority	Academic Board
Approval Date	11th November 2026
Expiry Date	Not Applicable
Responsible Executive	Helen Murnane Academic Registrar
Responsible Manager	Helen Murnane Academic Registrar
Enquiries Contact	Catherine McKiver Senior Policy Officer Student Administration