# Capstone curriculum across disciplines

Synthesising theory, practice and policy to provide practical tools for curriculum design: An OLT National Senior Teaching Fellowship



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Capstone curriculum, when thoughtfully designed, represents an aspirational experience that stimulates student engagement, retention and satisfaction rates. Internationally, capstones are also increasingly considered in assessments of overall program quality.

Capstones engage students in work that is authentic, meaningful and contextualised, providing opportunities to develop professional and personal identities as well as graduate and employability skills.

Good capstones support students to highlight strengths, improve areas of weakness and deal with challenges as independent learners. In this way, capstones build self-awareness, resilience, capacity to lead and confidence to act.

#### Sector-wide engagement







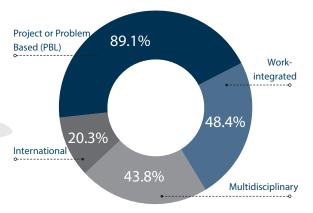








### Capstone typology



These curricula features often overlap. Analysis shows seven unique capstone types with external and academics projects being the most common. See the capstone website for more information.



#### **Activities and outputs**

The Fellowship was designed to draw on prior research, as well as staff expertise, in a series of national activities to support greater understanding and development of capstone design capacity.

Activities and outputs include:

- An international survey and stakeholder interviews;
- National workshops and support for institutions;
- A range of guides, tools and knowledge resources;
- A set of principles and guidelines for capstone design, developed through a sector-wide participatory process.

The fellowship resources are designed to provide theoretically informed but practically oriented tools to support capstone design, management and evaluation in a range of contexts and across disciplines.

#### capstonecurriculum.com.au



## Dozens of resources are available online, including:

- Guides, rubrics, samples and teaching ideas for capstone co-ordinators
- Case studies and capstone concepts
- The principles and guidelines for capstone curriculum





