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The *Admissions Policy* and associated *Admissions to Higher Degree Research Programs Procedure* should be referred to for RPL requirements for Higher Degree Research programs.

### **3. Definitions**

See Appendix B.

### **4. Policy Statement**

UNSW qualifications are designed to be coherent and cumulative programs of study, in which specific courses combine to develop discipline knowledge and graduate capabilities. Recognition of prior learning and the granting of credit must support this educational objective.

**4.1** The University recognises that learning can be gained in formal, non-formal and informal contexts.

**4.2** Prior learning may be recognized to meet admission criteria to a program and / or to grant credit towards a program.

**4.3** Credit can be granted as advanced standing or an exemption.

Advanced standing reduces the amount of learning required to achieve a qualification and may be granted in the form of specified credit or unspecified credit.

Exemption does not reduce the amount of learning required to achieve a qualification.

**4.4** Prior learning will be assessed:

for equivalence with UNSW admission requirements, and/or to determine the value of the credit that should be awarded based on the extent to which the recognised prior learning is equivalent to courses in the program to which admission has been granted.

**4.5** Students must formally apply for credit to be granted on the basis of recognition of prior learning before commencing the course for which credit is requested, except in cases where an articulation arrangement between UNSW and another higher education provider has been approved and formally established.

### **5. Legal & Policy Framework**

This policy must be read in conjunction with the *Recognition of Prior Learning Procedure* and with reference to the following:

## **6. Implementation**

This Policy is implemented by procedures detailed in the *Recognition of Prior Learning Procedure*.

### **6.1 Roles & Responsibilities**

Faculty Standing Committees

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