The Unitec Learning and Teaching strategy
2020 - 2022

Unitec Vision:

Ngakau Mahaki: Led by Te Noho Kotahitanga we manaaki the success of our learners and communities.

Unitec Strategic Priorities

- Rangatiratanga. Improve the success of all learners, achieving parity for Māori, Pacific and Under 25s by 2022, enhancing International learner success, and serving the educational needs of the West, Central and North Auckland communities
- Mahi Kotahitanga. Provide high quality learning, teaching and applied research to develop work-ready lifelong learners and return to Category One
- Wakaritenga. Engage and inspire staff so they are proud to work at Unitec and are equipped with the capabilities to support quality learning
- Kaitiakitanga. Build a financially sustainable organisation to invest in the future with an operating surplus by 2022

Principles for Learning & Teaching at Unitec

- is led by Te Noho Kotahitanga
  - Rangatiratanga (Authority and Respect)
  - Wakaritenga (Legitimacy)
  - Kaitiakitanga (Guardianship)
  - Mahi Kotahitanga (Co-operation)
  - Ngākau Māhaki (Respect)
- is learner-centered
- is an active process, balances independent and collaborative learning
- values and embeds mātauranga Māori, informed by Te Tīpare framework
- is based on respectful, reciprocal relationships between people, places and contexts
- is authentic and applied to real-world context to develop knowledge, skills and attitudes for work-readiness
- is informed by research and reflection
- integrates multiple literacies[i] for life-long learning
- includes appropriate use of digital technology to enhance face-to-face, blended and on-line learning
- is supported by Unitec's [teaching competency framework](#)

Goal 1: Kura ako[ii] – We design contemporary programmes, courses and assessment to develop work-ready life-long learners

Alignment to Te Tīpare: Mātauranga Māori, Manaaki, Aro

Objectives:
Our Programmes and Courses:
1. Are based on industry and community needs and designed to meet the Graduate Profile
2. Are research informed
3. Support parity targets and Priority Group Success Strategies by embedding authentic Māori and Pacific worldview, content and pedagogy
4. Employ the most appropriate mix of learning modes (blended, online, face-to-face, work based) for the targeted group of learners
5. Factor the wellbeing of learners into scheduling
6. Plan for the use of pedagogically appropriate digital learning technologies across the programme
7. Explicitly connect learning outcomes, pedagogy and assessment (constructive alignment)
8. Seek opportunities for innovative approaches to design, delivery and recognition, including collaboration within NZIST
9. Meet a (to be agreed) set of online/blended learning guidelines and standards when a highly blended or online mode is selected

Our Assessment
10. Provides valid evidence of achievement of learning outcomes; is quality assured
11. Promotes learner engagement and enhances learning
12. Where possible, is authentic/real-world, contributing to positive learning and development of capabilities for the workplace

Goal 2: Ako[iii] – We continue to enhance the quality of our learner-centered teaching and learning

Alignment to Te Tīpare: Ako, Whanaungatanga

Objectives:
Our Learning & Teaching:
1. Builds and maintains respectful and reciprocal learning relationships (whanaungatanga) to enhance learning
2. Uses a range of teaching techniques and activities to support chosen delivery modes (face to face, blended, on-line, work based)
3. Is based on ako and requires the active engagement of learners
4. Uses range of appropriate strategies to enhance the success and confidence of diverse learners
5. Engages learners in regular feedback to support their learning
6. Applies learning to real world contexts, environments, expectations
7. Considers the full range of learner needs, partnering with other support services where appropriate to ensure all aspects of learning support is provided

Goal 3: Arotake[iv] – We engage in ongoing reflection and evaluation seeking ever greater success in our learning & teaching, and learner outcomes

Alignment to Te Tīpare: Aro

Objectives:
1. Continue to review and enhance our academic quality systems and practices
2. Continue to develop and implement robust evaluative practices at programme and course levels, leading to informed change and improved outcomes
3. Continue to support our kaiako (teachers) to be reflective practitioners who use a range of evidence to reflect and evaluate their own teaching practice, making adjustments where appropriate

Goal 4: Kaiako - Our Kaiako (teachers) continue to be engaged and inspired; they are supported to design and facilitate great learning/teaching

Alignment to Te Tīpare: Pūkenga

Objectives:
1. Continuously improve our Teacher Capability Development systems to meet teachers', learners' and institutional needs
2. Support our kaiako to continuously develop capability in all aspects of our teaching competency and Te Tīpare frameworks
3. Encourage and support our Kaiako to engage with industry and community, and to continue to develop discipline/industry expertise
4. Provide opportunities for our kaiako to share good practice, and support them to gain acknowledgement through promotion and through teaching awards

[i] **Multiple literacies include**-:
- foundational literacies (being able to read, write and use numeracy skills)
- information literacy (knowing how to find/evaluate/organise information)
- digital literacy (able to access and make use of different technologies to communicate)
- academic literacies (able to apply critical thinking/analysis in academic contexts)

[ii] **Kura Ako –** School of Learning

[iii] **Ako** – actively promotes the reciprocal relationship between the learner and teacher. It is premised in the sharing of knowledge, experiences and skills. Ako recognises a joint responsibility and obligation to teaching and learning

[iv] **Arotake** - a continuous and ongoing process of reflection and evaluation, seeking ever greater success in the way we design, facilitate, assess learning, and provide support for our learners