Australian National University

SUBJECT	**College of Science and College of Health & Medicine** **Principles on mid-semester assessments in standard session courses**
DATE	31 October 2022
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Background:

ANU Coursework Assessment policy (Item 37) states that mid-semester exams are held in a common period agreed by all Colleges. This has been determined to be weeks 6 and 7, and excludes the teaching break. However the policy is silent on whether other assessable tasks can or should be due during this period. Where other assessment tasks are due for submission during the teaching break, there is potential for this to cause problems for students who use this time to catch up on material from the first 6 weeks of semester, return home, or undertake other activities.

Considerations:

The teaching break should be considered a rest from teaching and learning activities, unless there are specific events scheduled during the break, such as field trips, that have an assessable component due during the field trip.

These principles only apply to standard, semester-long courses and does not preclude intensive courses being scheduled during teaching breaks and assessment tasks for such courses also being due in that period. In these circumstances, a student will have made an enrolment choice to participate in the course.

Principles:

Formal and compulsory assessment tasks for standard semester-long courses cannot be scheduled during the mid-semester teaching break except in exceptional circumstances such as assessment directly associated with field trips, or other activities that are occurring within the teaching break. Any exceptions are approved by the Associate Dean Education as part of the class summary approval process.