



QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS FOR STUDENTS

18 April 2018

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The following Questions and Answers have been prepared to respond to questions students may have about the Change Proposal for The Academy (incorporating the Divisions of Tropical Environments and Societies, Tropical Health and Medicine, Academic and Student Life, and the Indigenous Education and Research Centre) which is currently being consulted on with staff.

Details of proposed changes

What courses are affected by the proposed changes?

No courses are affected at the current time. JCU has released a proposal to staff for consultation that, if approved, will mean that no new students will be accepted into specific courses.

JCU is proposing that **no further student intakes** be taken into the following course offerings:

- Bachelor of Creative Arts and Media (Townsville and Cairns)
- Bachelor of Psychological Science (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Psychological Science (Honours) (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Arts majoring in Psychology Studies (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Business – Bachelor of Psychological Science (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science IHCAP (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science – Bachelor of Psychological Science (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science – Bachelor of Education (Secondary) (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Sport and Exercise Science – Bachelor of Business (Cairns)
- Bachelor of Exercise Physiology (Clinical) (Cairns)
- Master of Business Administration (on campus in Cairns)
- Master of Economics (Townsville)

This means that JCU will not be accepting new students into these degrees but **will continue to teach those students currently enrolled so they can complete their course at JCU in accordance with course rules.**

Why are these areas targeted for change?

JCU continuously reviews and modifies its course profile to ensure that the programs being offered are responding to the needs of the community. JCU considered factors such as commencing student numbers, continuing student numbers and the costs of delivery when identifying areas for potential change.

Are the courses being replaced with something else?

For new students, JCU is proposing to offer these discipline areas in the following ways:

- Creative Arts offered through majors in the Bachelor of Arts at both the Townsville and Cairns campuses.
- Psychology to be offered at the Townsville and Singapore Campuses only.
- Sports and Exercise Science and Exercise Physiology (Clinical) courses to be consolidated at the Townsville Campus only. It is intended that the exercise/biomechanics/ physiology equipment and related staffing will be retained on the Cairns Campus to ensure current arrangements with local sporting associations are maintained and JCU continues a crucial role in sports conditioning in Cairns.

- Master of Business Administration to be replaced with the new MBA (Global) offered entirely online. The 2 year MBA to be delivered on campus in Townsville.
- Economics to be taught as part of the MBA and undergraduate Business programs.

When will a decision be made?

Staff consultation will occur over a 2 week period, up until Wednesday 2 May 2018. This feedback will then be considered and a decision made. It is anticipated that a decision will be made on or around 11 May 2018. Students in discipline areas which are impacted by the decision will be notified following this date.

Impact on students

What should I do if I am studying one of these courses?

There is no need for you to do anything. No decisions have been made and staff are currently being consulted with about the proposed changes. You will be notified if a decision is made that requires you to take action.

Can I finish my degree at JCU?

Yes, we are committed to ensuring that you can complete the program which you commenced at JCU.

Will the proposed changes impact or restrict my options for subject selection?

No decisions have been made in relation to the proposal and we are committed to minimising disruption to your Study Plan. It is possible that the range of subjects available for electives may be affected in some areas if the changes are approved, however your Academic Advisor will work with you to determine a Study Plan that meets the requirements of your course.

Will I have to study subjects online or cross institutionally to complete my course?

You will be provided with a Study Plan that allows you to complete your course within the course rules. If you fall behind with your Study Plan your Academic Advisor will be able to discuss alternative options which may include online or cross-institutional enrolment.

Do the proposed changes restrict my ability to repeat a subject, study part time or take a Leave of Absence?

We are committed to enabling you to complete your course at JCU in accordance with course rules. If you are changing your mode of study or planning to take a Leave of Absence you should discuss this with your Academic Advisor to ensure that your Study Plan can be amended to accommodate your situation. Your Academic Advisor will be able to provide advice around available options if you need to repeat a subject.

Can I transfer into one of the course that may be affected?

If you are considering transferring from another course into one of the course offerings listed above you should discuss this with your Academic Advisor. Your Academic Advisor will consider your Study Plan and advise on whether it is possible for you to complete the course if you transfer.

Should I transfer into one of the new (replacement) courses or transfer to Townsville?

There is no need to do anything as you can complete your current course at your current campus. If you wish to transfer to another course or move campuses this should be discussed with your Academic Advisor who can explain the options.

Will the proposed changes impact the quality of my course?

We will continue to offer you a high quality course, delivered by academics with extensive subject matter expertise.

Assistance Available to Students

Who can I speak to about potential impacts on my course and my options?

No decisions have been made so it is premature to discuss potential impacts. If a decision is made that impacts on your course you will be advised and provided an opportunity to discuss this with your Academic Advisor. Academic Advisors will not be able to discuss options with you until after a decision is made.

However if you are anxious about the proposed changes, the following senior staff are available to respond to your concerns or queries during the consultation period.

Bachelor of Creative Arts and Media

Professor Richard Nile,
Head, Humanities
Email: Richard.nile@jcu.edu.au

Psychology, Psychological Science and Sport and Exercise Science and Exercise Physiology (Clinical) courses

Professor Lee Stewart,
Dean, College of Healthcare Sciences
Email: deanchs@jcu.edu.au

Business Administration and Economics

Dr Josephine Pryce,
Head, Governance and Management
Email: Josephine.pryce@jcu.edu.au

I feel unsettled by the proposed changes, where can I seek support?

If you feel that you need personal support during this time, please take advantage of services available through the Student Equity and Wellbeing area. Details of the services are available at <https://www.jcu.edu.au/student-equity-and-wellbeing> and include free access to personal counselling and a chaplaincy service.