

*Reflecting in and on our community of practice: the UPU 0004 tutor team*

By

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For both students and their tutors, personal reflection is an integral part of the humanities unit (UPU0004) of ECU's University Preparation Course. Students undertaking UPU0004 online or on-campus at Joondalup, Mt Lawley and Bunbury in semester 2 of 2011 are required to submit three written reflections for assessment. Our team of tutors engages in reflection on the effectiveness of the course and its assessment processes, the needs and interests of its students and the materials, facilities and support provided to those students.

Until recently, sharing of the tutor team's reflections had taken place through informal conversations and emails, but concerns to ensure our teaching is research informed and aligned has now led to the adoption of more formalised reflection processes, better able to counter the tyranny of time and distance. Like our students, the UPU0004 tutor team now have access to a discussion board to assist their collaborative reflection and will be completing three written reflections.

In the week 9 UPU0004 tutorials on research methods, our tutor team will be discussing the methods for gathering and analysis of both the tutor team's written reflections and discussion board postings as one example of a research process. Analysis of our reflections (perhaps augmented by a survey or interviews) will inform the end-of-semester report intended to facilitate the continuing improvement of UPU0004.