Digital Assessment Program

Platform Pilot

The platform is designed to improve your experience of doing assessments online. It uses an easy to read and navigate format. It helps your teachers to provide feedback on your answers.

If you do a face to face exam, it will allow you to do your answers on your own laptop.

We have been moving to a blended and online approach to teaching and learning for some years. The 2020 COVID-19 pandemic has highlighted how important this strategy is. There are many advantages to on-line assessments over paper-based and invigilated exams.

The new digital examination platform being trialled by UNSW in 2020 is a leading European platform called Inspera. It will not be used to supervise exams (proctoring). You can find more information about UNSW's position on remote proctoring below.

We take the protection of student personal data very seriously. Any data that passes through Inspera's servers is bound by our own data privacy policies, and both NSW and the European Union's privacy laws.

What are we looking for in a Digital Assessment Platform Program?

The emergency measures we've had to take in 2020 demonstrate how important it is to have a consistent, university-wide assessment system.

We aim to introduce software systems that will:

- Better allow students to demonstrate their learning and achievement.
- Continue to provide the highest protection of students' privacy and data.
- Help reduce unnecessary stress.
- Be intuitive and streamlined.
- Allow teachers to set types of questions that are best suited to the nature of the learning in a course.
- Make it easier for students to get feedback on their work.

UNSW and Remote Proctoring

UNSW believes that remote proctoring* is not the best approach to ensuring integrity in assessment. It is not clear that large scale remote proctoring is an effective integrity measure, and there are a range of concerns about how the techniques' impact on privacy and student stress.

UNSW does not intend to introduce any form of remote proctoring.

However, in a few degrees, external professional authorities currently require proof that key exams are invigilated in order for graduates to be able to join the profession, and in the emergency circumstances of the pandemic remote

* remote proctoring
proctoring was a solution that some disciplines were required to use. UNSW is working with those disciplines to try to avoid the need to continue to use that technology.

In some situations – such as where a student has travelled overseas and wishes to sit a supplementary exam – remote proctoring may continue to be a viable option, but these would be on a case by case basis.

*Remote proctoring is the use of webcams to watch a student completing an exam at home.*

**What is the 2020/2021 pilot?**

We believe that Inspera will provide a better online assessment environment for students. To be certain that the system works as expected we are limiting its use to a small number of courses across most Faculties through a pilot.

In 2021 we will expand the pilot to more courses.

This is a trial of the software, and student feedback is vital. We are inviting feedback from all students at the end of the demo test, through focus groups, and via surveys of students who do assessments on Inspera. Your opinion will have a big influence on whether we continue with the software.

If your course is part of the trial, you will be notified by your course administrator by week 2 or 3 of term.

Students participating in the trial will be supported through the trial in a range of ways.

You can begin to familiarise yourselves with Inspera now by completing the [Inspera test demo](#). This demo test showcases many of the question types available in Inspera. You will also be invited to live webinars and have digital learning resources available to you. Students who may experience barriers completing online assessments due to a health condition may be eligible to apply for educational adjustments with [Equitable Learning Service](#). If issues arise during an assessment Special Consideration is available in the same way as with other online assessments this year.

**Contact us**

If you would like further information on the Digital Assessment Platform Initiative, please email us on:

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