

WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING (WIL) POLICY

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1. POLICY PURPOSE

iQ Academy is committed to providing quality education through innovative learning modalities that enhance our students' employability and practical skills. We understand the importance of integrating Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) into our curriculum and integrate Work-Integrated Learning through curriculum-embedded problem-based and project-based learning approaches that simulate workplace contexts and practices to achieve this.

This policy outlines the framework for implementing Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) at iQ Academy. It clarifies that while our qualifications do not require practicum (placements in the workplace), they fully integrate WIL through problem- and project-based learning approaches.

2. POLICY SCOPE

This policy applies to all higher education academic programmes offered at iQ Academy that incorporate Work-Integrated Learning (WIL) into their curriculum.

3. TERMINOLOGY

The following terminology is defined:

- **Work-integrated learning:** A teaching and learning approach that integrates theoretical knowledge with practical application through, curriculum-embedded structured activities which may include simulated, problem-based, and project-based learning aligned to workplace contexts.
- **Problem-Based Learning:** This methodology involves students collaboratively engaging with complex, real problems to develop critical thinking, problem-solving, and independent learning skills.
- **Project-Based Learning:** A learning approach in which students undertake extended projects focusing on applying knowledge and skills to create tangible outcomes, encouraging collaboration, communication and project management competencies.

4. WORK INTEGRATED LEARNING MODALITIES

4.1 Problem-Based Learning (BPL)

This approach encourages students to learn by systematically exploring complex, real-world problems reflective of workplace scenarios and industry practices. Students develop critical thinking and problem-solving skills as they tackle challenges that mirror those found in the workplace.

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4.2 Project-Based Learning (PJBL)

Through this method, students engage in extended projects that require them to apply knowledge and skills to produce tangible outcomes. This methodology simulates real-life industry projects, promoting teamwork, communication and project management skills.

5. INTEGRATION ACROSS THE CURRICULUM

WIL is woven throughout the curriculum by embedding problem-based and project-based tasks into various modules. These tasks are strategically placed to align with the learning outcomes of each module, ensuring that students apply theoretical knowledge in practical contexts.

The assessment of WIL components is incorporated into the programme's standard assessment process. Projects and problems tied to WIL objectives contribute to the overall module grades, ensuring that experiential learning is valued alongside theoretical knowledge.

The credits earned through WIL are included in the total credit allocation for each programme. This integration ensures that the workload associated with WIL activities is recognised and contributes to fulfilling qualification requirements. Work-Integrated Learning at iQ Academy does not require external workplace placements and is achieved through curriculum-embedded learning activities that meet WIL objectives within the distance education context.