



The Teaching-Research Nexus

A guide for academics and policy-makers
in higher education

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Examples from Australian universities

Recreating *Midsommer Murders* as an Assessment Task

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Broad discipline area:

Engineering and Related Technologies

- Forensic Computing

Year level:

- Fourth year undergraduate (Honours and non-honours)

TRN strategy:

- Design learning activities around contemporary research issues
- Infuse teaching with the values of researchers

Teaching and learning context:

- Assignment (Assessment)
- Research activity
- Real world learning/work integrated learning

Brief description of the initiative:

The initiative occurs in *Forensic Computing: Tools, Techniques and Investigations*, which is taken in the fourth year of the Bachelor of Computer and Information Science (Honours)/Bachelor of Information Technology (Honours) (Advanced Computer and Information Science), with typical enrolment numbers of 90. The academic helps students to develop their research skills by creating two different cases that are aimed at allowing students to learn how to use forensic computing tools. The case studies were developed in collaboration with an industry professional in the police force, who is also a PhD student she supervises. Students are either required to solve a murder, or an alleged abduction case. Students are provided with the evidence that they use to solve the case. The students' reports on the case are also sent to another individual who is at a senior level in their industry. This industry contact provides feedback about whether these reports are adequately addressing the way research is conducted in the field of forensic computing. By doing this students are aware that they are learning research skills, which are valued by the industry that they intend to seek employment with.

For further details:

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