



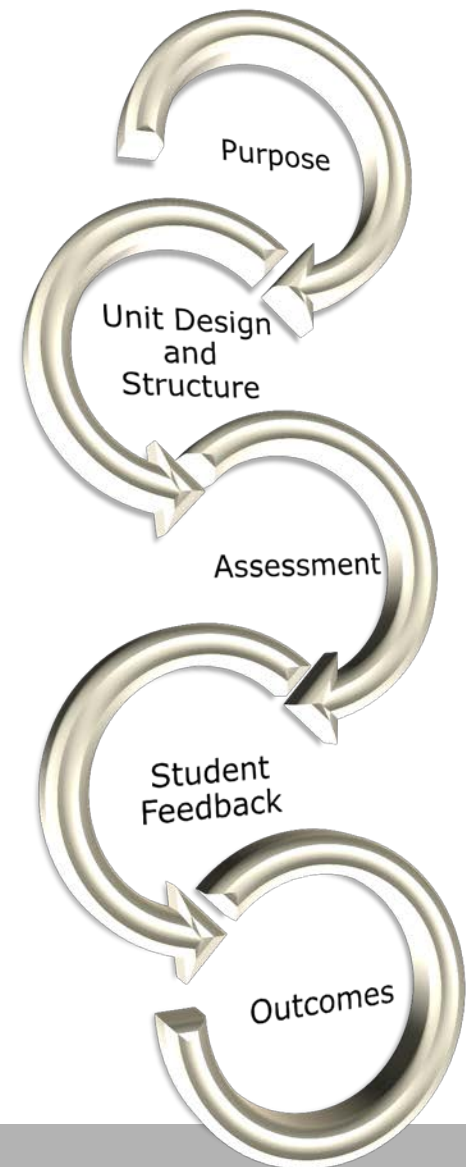
Real World Learning: A Case Study in Property Education

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What is Real World Learning? (and why do we care?)

The aim is "... to demonstrate the knowledge and skill within a real setting and allow the learner to make connections between the university setting and the real world"

(Mantei and Kervin, 2009)

Who Cares about Real World Learning?

- Queensland University of Technology
- University of Southern Queensland
- Macquarie University
- University of Sydney
- Victoria University, Swinburne University
- Murdoch University
- University of Derby (UK)
- University of Winchester (Centre for Real World Learning, UK),
- Southampton Solent University (UK)
- University of the West Scotland
- Clarkson University (USA)
- Alvernia University (USA)
- Cornell University (USA)
- George Washington University (USA) and
- Stenden University (Netherlands)

Unit Design – Property Software



Students:
Greater
diversity in
unit delivery

Industry:
Job ready
graduates

- 96% advanced Excel
- 50% EstateMaster
- 13% Argus
- 8% Cougar, MRI and project management software

Unit Structure

	Topic
Week 1	Introduction to the Unit
Week 2	Excel training (via Lynda.com)
Week 3	" "
Week 4	" "
Week 5	" "
Week 6	" "
Week 7	EstateMaster DF Certification Training (Full Day)
Week 8	Assignment Studio
Week 9	Cougar Software Certification Training
Week 10	Phone Apps
Week 11	Argus Feasibility Training
Week 12	Assignment Studio
Week 13	Assignment Studio

6 Weeks – Excel

6 Weeks – Property
Software packages

Assessment : Via workbook

Excel Exercises	20%
EstateMaster	20%
Reflective Journal	20%
Assignment	<u>40%</u>
	100%

Example of Weekly Task

You have two tasks to complete this week which demonstrate your competency in the use of excel's charting and pivot table features:

Charts - Creation of a chart using data from the Australian Bureau of Statistics ("ABS"). The ABS collects a wide range of macro and micro economic data. Regular releases of such data are reported in the media and publications are available free online. However, the available publications might not present the data in the format you are after. For example, each month statistics are released on building approvals, the change from the previous month, and the change from the previous year (See ABS catalogue number 8731.0). Data is available for decades in many instances, and may be in monthly or quarterly increments.

Your task is to select an ABS dataset from the list below and create a graph in annual increments, similar to the one below, including a brief description of what the graph is demonstrating. Pick one that is of interest to you and be sure to include the ABS Category number and series ID or Table number in your referencing.

HINT: you may need to use your cell formatting and subtotaling skills to create annual increments.

- Housing Finance
- Australian Population
- Building Approvals
- Household Income

What information can you infer from your chart?

Student Feedback (4.8/5)

"I thoroughly enjoyed being exposed to many software packages used throughout the property industry, and being able to experience them in a completely relaxed environment... With aspirations to work in the property development industry, I think this has been an invaluable experience. " Student 2

"Overall my experience in learning all the different uses and benefits of implementing property software into my daily work life has been extremely worthwhile... I feel as if I have grasped a general appreciation and understanding for the main functions of each software program... Implementing all the software programs which have been studied in this course has certainly changed my behaviour and knowledge within the workplace. " Student 1

"I changed some of my spreadsheets at work enabling multiple colleagues to edit it at any one time to insure we all know who's been called and what new listings have come up in our area ... Perhaps the main benefit of skills acquired...was the ability to utilise excel to save significant amounts of time in the work place making me more time efficient as an employee. " Student 3

"The greatest thing about this subject was it's application to the real world. Actually being taught programs by professionals and getting certificates made the subject so relevant and useful." Student 5

"The skills I developed through this training have transferred into producing superior work in other subjects and at work. I have been able to clearly and directly convey information which has helped immensely. This has given me a great advantage at work as I have been able to display my excel skills. Having these new skills has earned me extra responsibilities at work, which I may have not encountered if I did not undertake this training. " Student 4



Outcomes

- Real world learning is more than a passing phase.
- The analysis of student feedback provides insight into the way real world learning approaches influence the student experience and engagement.
- The introduction of such real world learning units into property education gives practitioners confidence that graduates are employment-ready and have the skills required by the industry.
- This research is important as it provides evidence of enhanced student preparedness for the industry upon graduation.

