

What is curriculum alignment?

“Constructive alignment ... is one of the most influential ideas in higher education.” (Warren Houghton, 2004)

Macquarie University's Learning and Teaching Plan (2008-2012) refers in several places to curricular alignment. For example, Goal 2 lists “alignment” as one of several essential criteria for periodic curriculum reviews.

What is “curricular alignment”? This presentation explores the meaning of “alignment” in this context by briefly outlining its theoretical foundation (constructive alignment), looking at some examples of unaligned and aligned curricula and considering how curricular alignment might be achieved.