



AFAANZ Insight Series | 29 April 2021
A clear path to the future. The new CA Program.



**DIFFERENCE
MAKERS™**

The new CA Program is here

“Accountancy is regarded as a safe profession that withstands economic cycles. But with the wave of automation and digitalisation sweeping across every facet of business today, how do we future-proof ourselves and be ready for the transformation of our profession?”

– Participant industry focus group, 2018-19.

Designed with tomorrow's Difference Maker in mind, the new Chartered Accountants Program (CA Program) helps give candidates the skills and training they need for success, while ensuring we provide the best trained and brightest talent now and in the future.



To remain future focused, Chartered Accountants Australia and New Zealand undertook comprehensive research into the future of the profession and the skills required to succeed within it.

**A clear path to the future.
The new CA Program.**

More choice. More flexibility. More support.

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Developing job ready graduates

There are growing expectations that graduating Chartered Accountants are job-ready and adequately equipped for our digital world, as they quickly apply integrated technical and professional capabilities to solve complex challenges.



The program is about developing future ready graduates while providing flexibility and choice.

It will remain as rigorous, relevant and valuable as it's always been – ensuring that candidates acquire the skills, experiences, competencies and mindsets that are in high demand by employers.

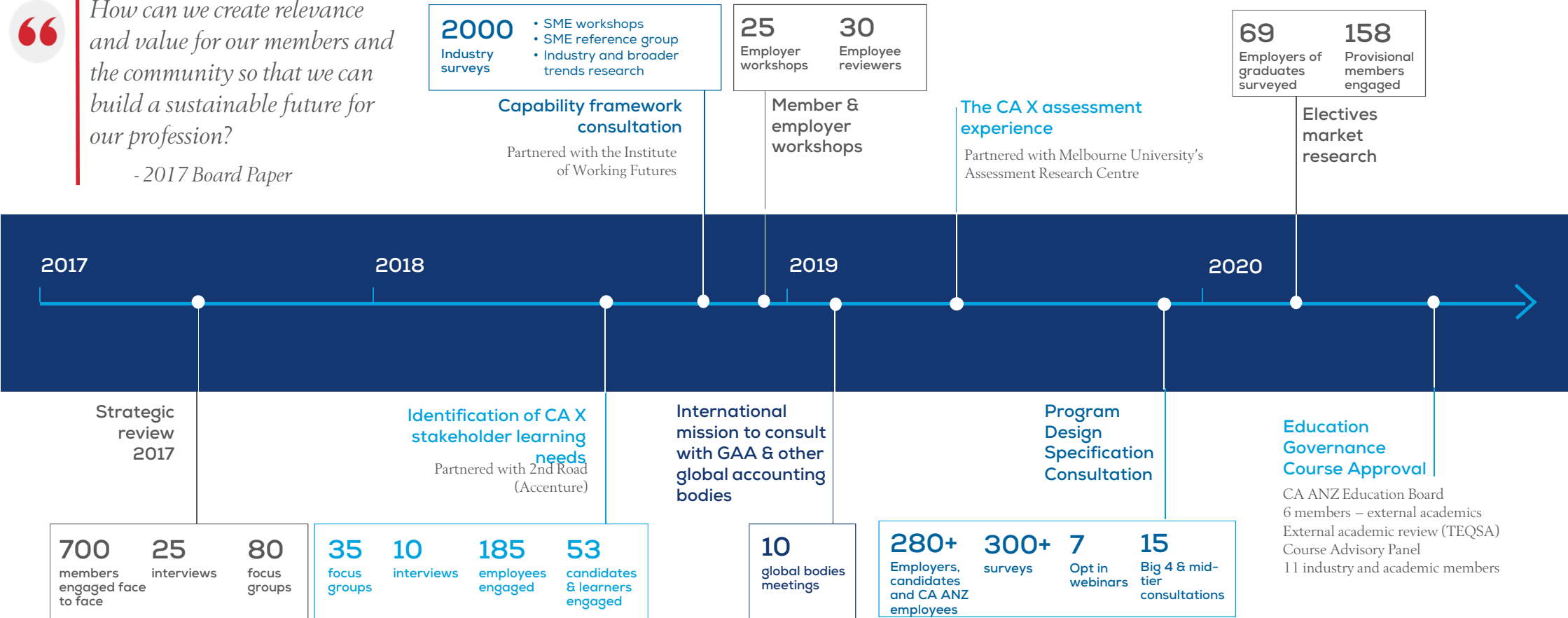


The new CA Program co-design process

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How can we create relevance and value for our members and the community so that we can build a sustainable future for our profession?

- 2017 Board Paper





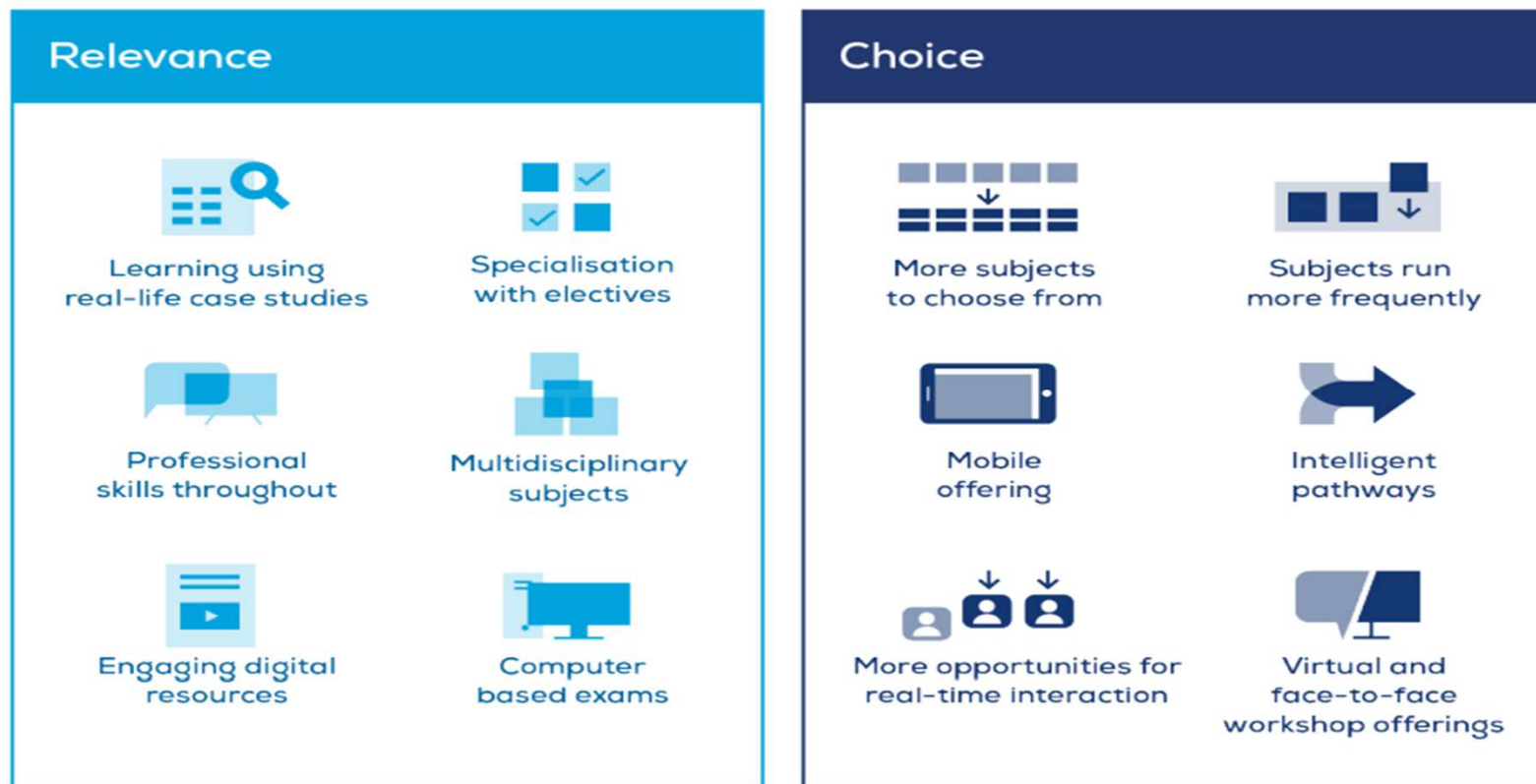
Program Design Overview

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Providing Relevance and Choice



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CA Program Graduate Attributes

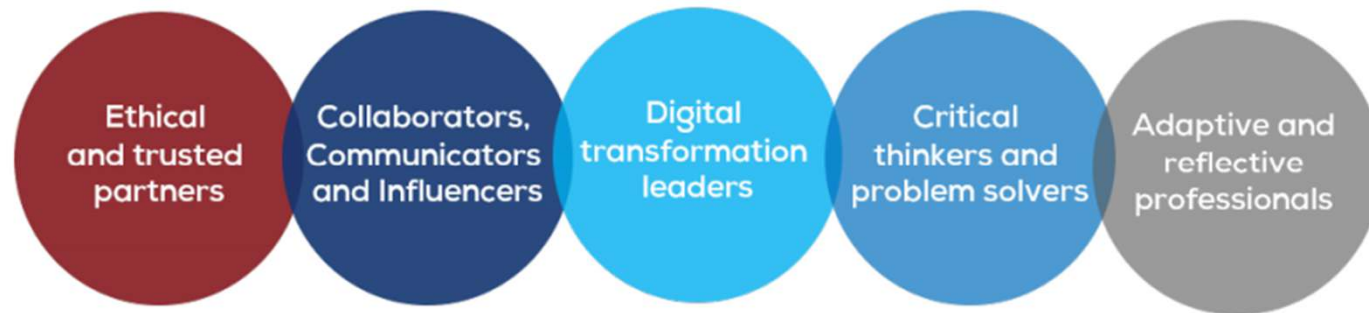


These Graduate Attributes incorporate six of the top ten skills identified by the Capability Framework research, with two additional attributes:

- **Accounting technical expertise.**
- **Digital and data acumen.**

Amplifying Professional Capabilities

The new CA Program encourages the growth of our candidates' professional capabilities to ensure that they develop into:



Integrating professional capabilities in CA X

Real world engagement

- Work relevant learning
- Real world examples and activities
- Authentic activities to mimic the workplace
- Engaging industry and thought leaders
- Links to current events

Authentic simulations and challenges

- Rich authentic case studies and activities
- Using and creating real world documents
- Ethical dilemmas are 'hidden' in challenges
- Case studies often have multiple 'answers'

Embedded professional skills

- Integrating professional and technical skills
- Teaching professional skills within the context of the technical knowledge (not an add on)
- Professional skills amplify throughout subjects

Key Curriculum Changes

- **Relevant content to meet industry needs:** Subjects will focus on topics such as Risk, Ethics, Governance and Technology.
- **Embedded Professional Skills across the entire program:** Focussing on the capabilities required for future success, the new CA Program will offer real world engagement, authentic simulations and challenges taught in context.
- **Electives created to improve learning relevance and choice:** Providing increased candidate choice, the program will include Specialty Assurance, Taxation and Financial Reporting content as electives. Additional content has also been added for data analytics and insights, strategy and performance and financial modelling.
- **Content covered at university treated as assumed knowledge:** Allowing a focus on content to improve upon candidates existing knowledge, freeing up space to develop high value technical and professional skills.



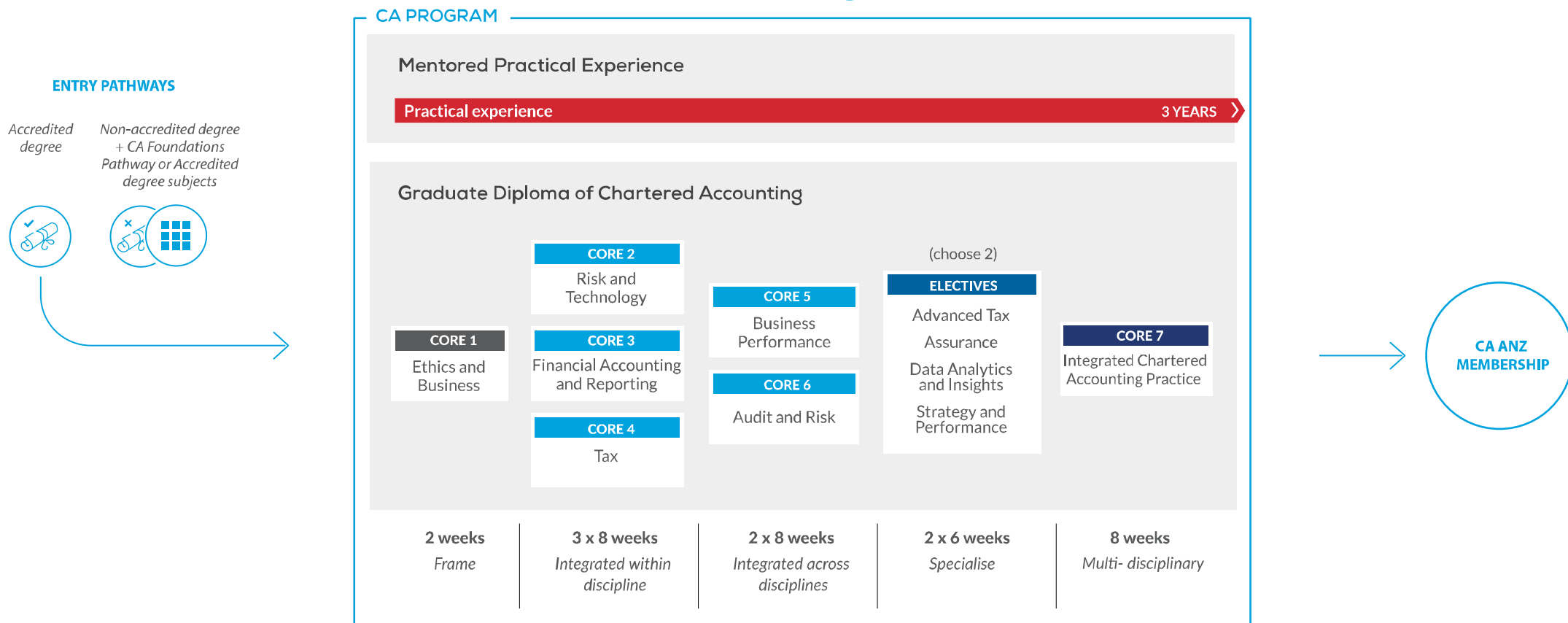
The New CA Program

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What does the New CA Program look like?



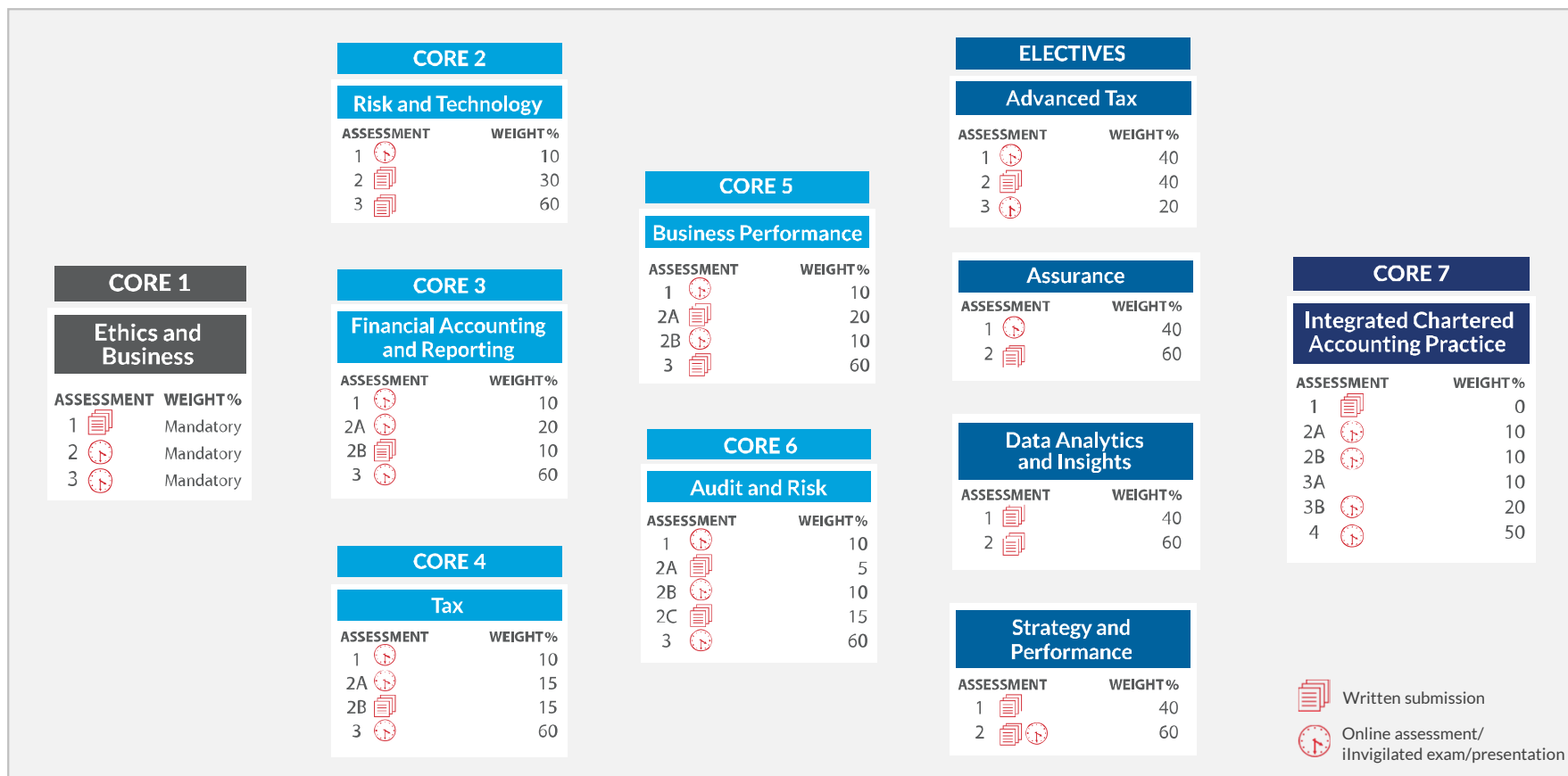
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The Subject Timetable

The CA subject timetable includes four study terms per year, with subjects slightly staggered to vary the assessment periods.

- **Core 1: Ethics and Business** is offered at the beginning of each term, with an additional offering in term 4 (five times per year).
- **Core 7: ICAP** is offered every term.
- **Core subjects 2–6** are offered two–four times per year.
- **Tax and Advanced Tax** has two versions running concurrently, one for candidates sitting in Australia and one for those in New Zealand.
- **Electives** are offered based on demand.

Assessment structure



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Assessing Professional Skills in CA X

Example: Real work simulation



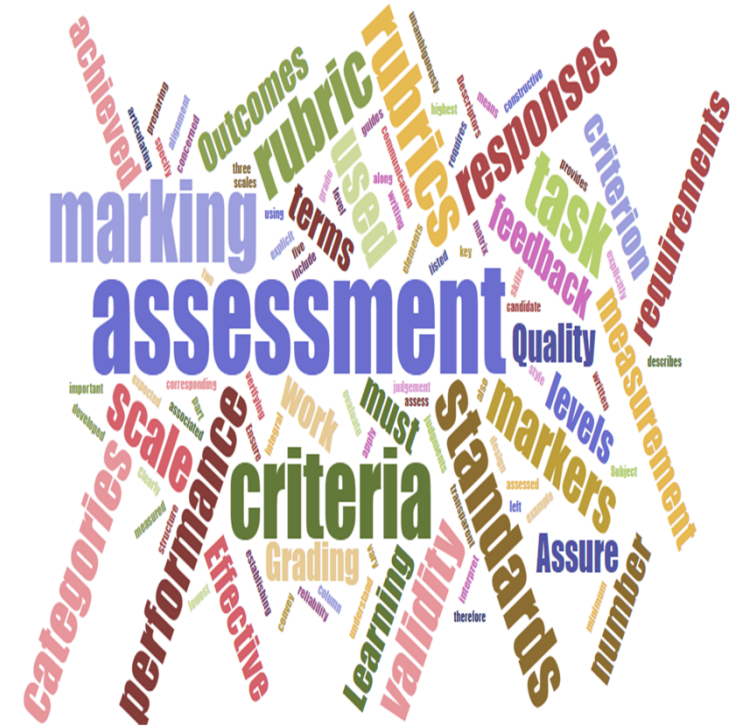
Rubrics

Allocating marks and grades to professional skills requires markers to make judgement about the quality of the work.

Rubrics make explicit the criteria to be used and the standards associated with different levels of performance

Advantages of effective rubrics

- Assure constructive alignment of the assessment task with the Subject Learning Outcomes
- Clearly and unambiguously convey assessment requirements
- Ensure markers award marks and grades consistently / reliably
- Provide clear and unambiguous feedback



Updated CA Foundations

Partnered with Deakin University to offer a refreshed CA Foundations entry pathway:

- 13 online learning units mapped against pre-requisite knowledge for the core CA Program subjects
- Enrolment on demand – any unit at any time
- Six exam periods per year
- Dedicated CA Foundations units in both New Zealand and Australian Taxation and Business Law
- Studies completed 100% online with engaging learning materials supported by activities and diagnostic self-assessment tools which help to assess topic understanding

All new CA Program candidates have access to the CA Foundations content as an assumed knowledge refresher.

Questions

