

Reconnect...Move forward...Lead



LEAD

LEARN

Postgraduate Programs
2009

EDUCATION

Postgraduate Coursework and Research

The Faculty of Education has a long reputation as a leading provider of quality teacher education, firstly through its predecessor colleges and more recently as part of ACU National. The Faculty offers a range of advanced coursework and research programs for specialist and experienced teachers and educational leaders at five of the University's six campuses. In 2006, we provided courses for over 6,000 students, making us the second largest provider of teacher education programs in Australia.

The School of Education in New South Wales offers postgraduate qualifications in Education that support specialist and experienced teachers to broaden their skills, knowledge and understanding of specific curriculum areas. Units are designed to support teachers as leaders of learning and their development as exemplary professionals. Courses address the requirements of Professional Competence and support teachers with voluntary levels of Professional Accomplishment and Professional Leadership of the New South Wales Institute of Teachers.

Postgraduate Certificate in Education

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education offers a variety of opportunities to broaden students' understanding of education in a range of curriculum areas and issues affecting educational outcomes.

This course provides studies in academic areas with the option to choose areas of specialisation. Specialisations include arts education, career development, early childhood, education and training in professional contexts, ICT, literacy education, mathematics education, pastoral care leadership, religious education, science and technology, TESOL and wellbeing in inclusive schooling. Students are encouraged to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of recent research, and/or professional developments related to their program of study and are offered opportunities to engage and interact with other students from diverse professional backgrounds.

COURSE STRUCTURE

A postgraduate certificate may be obtained after completion of 40 credit points of study from the Master of Education program.

These 40 credit points may be within a specialisation strand leading to the award of a Postgraduate Certificate in the area of specialisation. Alternatively, students who choose not to specialise and complete 40 credit points from across the range of units offered at Masters Level may exit with the award of Postgraduate Certificate in Education. Students must choose one core unit within the program.

Students may enrol directly in a Postgraduate Certificate or may enrol in a Master of Education and exit after completing 40 credit points.

Students may complete all four units in one year or may choose to complete the course over a two-year period by completing one unit per semester.

ADVANTAGES OF A POSTGRADUATE CERTIFICATE

- Short course that offers an excellent introduction to further study.
- Recognition is given in the specific area of specialisation.
- The 40 credit points completed as part of a Postgraduate Certificate may be credited towards the Master of Education and would constitute one half of a Master of Education.

Master of Education (Coursework)

COURSE OVERVIEW

The Master of Education (MEd) is a coursework postgraduate degree. It allows professional educators to extend their scholarship and develop their expertise in the general field of education or in an area of specialisation. The course enables experienced educators to carry out advanced academic and professional study directly relevant to their professional responsibilities and concerns.

Students are encouraged to demonstrate knowledge and understanding of recent

research, and/or professional developments related to their program of study. They are offered opportunities to engage and interact with other students from diverse professional backgrounds.

COURSE STRUCTURE

The Master of Education requires 80cp and has two core units. There are a number of pathways available. For a specialisation within a Master of Education, a minimum of 40cp must be for units that specifically focus on the specialisation (See Postgraduate Certificate).

Students who wish to focus on developing their skills in conducting educational research may choose additional research units including a 20cp Research Project.

If no specialisation is required then the core units must still be completed but the remaining units can be chosen from all available units.

Note: Unit offerings may vary subject to student demand and lecturer availability. Elective units may vary from year to year.

Credit for Prior Learning

Students in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education or Master of Education course may be able to apply for credit for professional development programs offered by employing authorities, professional associations and tertiary institutions within a Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) process. Units from other appropriate postgraduate courses including Master of Educational Leadership and Master of Religious Education may also gain credit.

Specialisation Areas in the Postgraduate Certificate and Master Courses

ARTS EDUCATION

This program is designed for Primary teachers seeking to professionally develop their skills, knowledge and understanding of curriculum and teaching in the Creative Arts. This specialisation also provides a pathway for Secondary specialist teachers of Visual Arts, Music, Dance and Drama to extend their professional development in Arts curriculum and teaching.

In 2009, specialisation units will be offered as professional development sessions that, upon successful completion, will gain credit for specified units in the Postgraduate Certificate or Master courses.

CAREER DEVELOPMENT

The Faculty of Education's program in Career Development is designed for teachers in Secondary schools or individuals working in the wider community who have responsibility for providing information, guidance and counselling about careers and work-related issues. It focuses on the needs that individuals in schools and other educational settings have in responding creatively and with enterprise to the pressures and opportunities presented by the current and future worlds of work. The Faculty has been running this DET approved course for approximately 7 years in NSW.

The course will enable students to:

- Apply their knowledge of the role and contribution of community agencies in providing information and guidance in the areas of career and job choice to support students, parents and their families in investigating options for work and further personal and professional learning
- Understand and use a variety of counselling skills, techniques and methods for the purpose of providing counselling in career development.
- Use their understanding of the nature and role of work to inform the relevance and effectiveness of their teaching.

EARLY CHILDHOOD

The Faculty of Education's program in Early Childhood is designed for teachers who are interested in teaching 4/5 year olds or teaching classes in the first three years of Primary schooling.

It focuses on specialised studies of children's development from birth to eight years. This course will present useful and informative insights into various aspects of Early Childhood education. It is designed to accommodate a range of professional, academic and research interests within the specially designed units.

EDUCATION AND TRAINING IN PROFESSIONAL CONTEXTS

This course enables professional educators to develop the specialisation knowledge, understanding and skills required to become an effective leader of curriculum within a classroom context. It draws upon a well established body of theory, practice and research and publication in the field of teaching and learning.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT)

This course aims to provide continuing professional development for educators who are being challenged to incorporate information and communication technologies (ICT) into their teaching and learning. The emphasis is on practicality and relevance across learning situations. Students will learn about the various roles of ICT by using ICT. Some will use their new knowledge and skills to become ICT leaders within their own organisations. All will be empowered to take ICT into their classroom.

LITERACY EDUCATION

This course is designed for Primary and Secondary teachers who wish to extend their expertise in implementing literacy and language teaching within the curriculum. Participants will examine current research in areas that impact on literacy learning such as emergent literacy, home and community literacies, critical literacy, visual literacy and multimodal literacy in the light of rapid changes in digital communication. The pedagogical implications of recent research in these areas will all be considered within the context of current curriculum developments. Participants will have the opportunity to conduct research within their own teaching situations.

MATHEMATICS EDUCATION

Students will examine current research and practice in mathematics education in the first nine years of schooling to explore pedagogical approaches to a variety of areas of mathematics curricula, investigate effective teaching and undertake reflective projects relevant to their own professional situation.

PASTORAL CARE LEADERSHIP

The major aims of the course are to facilitate, within a Christian tradition, the development of reflective educated, culturally aware and responsive individuals, able to function effectively as pastoral care leaders in a variety of educational settings and committed to their continuing professional and ethical development. Participants will analyse the challenges and changing demands of education in the context of justice and equity informed by a Christian ethos. The course will

enable participants to become informed professionals who have read and analysed research and considered the implications and application.

RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

This course is directed to the needs of students interested in pursuing positions of responsibility in the increasingly diverse field of religious education. The course will encourage religious educators to become thinkers, researchers, evaluators and leaders in their field.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY EDUCATION

This course is designed to extend and develop the teaching and learning repertoire of teachers in Primary and/or Secondary Science and technology settings based on current research and practice. Participants will explore how learners develop their ideas and how teachers should respond. The course will examine curriculum contexts that engage students and bring relevance to learning in science and technology.

In 2009, specialisation units will be offered as professional development sessions that, upon successful completion, will gain credit for specified units in the Postgraduate Certificate or Master courses.

TEACHING ENGLISH TO SPEAKERS OF OTHER LANGUAGES (TESOL)

This course enables professional educators to teach English to students for whom English is a second or additional language, to understand and to respond to their language and learning needs.

The course explores theories of second language acquisition and various language teaching methods. Students will critically examine current research and practice in the area of TESOL/TEFL in both national and international contexts and then apply these theoretical perspectives to particular classroom contexts.

WELLBEING IN INCLUSIVE SCHOOLING

Student wellbeing is integral to student learning. A focus on student wellbeing offers educators, schools and systems a clearer focus and an overarching concept to draw together different Australian Government initiatives such as Values Education, Safe Schools, Drug Education, Child Protection and Mental Health initiatives. Student wellbeing is also profoundly influenced by teacher wellbeing. This specialisation explores evidence-based practices on ways to enhance both student and teacher wellbeing and to develop schools as supportive, respectful and inclusive school communities. It draws on new directions in Government policy and new research in the social sciences that inform learner wellbeing and engagement in learning including Positive Psychology/Positive Education.

How to apply

Apply for admission to the course online via ACU National Website www.acu.edu.au "Applying for a course" or alternatively you can submit an admissions application form available from the same link.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Normal entry will be by a:

- i. Bachelor Degree in Education;
- ii. Bachelor Degree in an area other than Education and a postgraduate qualification in Education; or
- iii. Bachelor degree in an area other than Education and a Graduate Certificate in Clinical Education or equivalent.

(Candidates who do not meet normal entry requirements may be considered

for admission via special entry. For further information please contact the Course Coordinator.)

LOCATION

Sydney, NSW (Strathfield Campus)

MODE

A combination of evening, weekend sessions and online components.

CREDIT

Students are able to apply for credit on the basis of previous study. Contact the Course Coordinator for details.

FEES

In 2009 the fees will be \$1250.00 per 10 credit points.

FOR APPLICATION ENQUIRIES OR ASSISTANCE:

Tel: 1300 ASK ACU (1300 275 228)
Email: futurestudents@acu.edu.au

ON-TIME CLOSING DATES FOR 2009

| | |
|--|--------------------|
| Summer Term B Final closing date | 5 December 2008 |
| 1st Semester | 5 December 2008 |
| Winter Term | 3 April 2009 |
| 2nd Semester | 5 June 2009 |
| (Late applications for Semester 1 will be accepted until 25 January 2009.) | |

Are you interested in pursuing broad academic study in education?

You are invited to attend a
Postgraduate Information Evening
to be held at
ACU National Strathfield Campus
Gleeson Auditorium
25a Barker Road, Strathfield
on **Wednesday 15 October, 2008**
4:30 - 6:00 pm.

Academics from the School of Education NSW lecturing to the different specialisation areas will be on hand to respond to your queries and provide you with insight and advice about pursuing a Postgraduate qualification at ACU. If you are interested in attending, please e-mail your **RSVP to: kerry.oglesby@acu.edu.au by 10 October, 2008.**

More information

For course enquiries and requirements, please contact:

Mr Mick Ryan
Course Coordinator
Ph: (02) 9701 4134
Fax: (02) 9701 4034
Email: mick.ryan@acu.edu.au

Associate Professor Maureen Walsh
Asst Head of School, Postgraduate & Research
Ph: (02) 9701 4203
Fax: (02) 9701 4034
Email: maureen.walsh@acu.edu.au

Ms Kerry Oglesby
Administration Officer
Ph: (02) 97014304
Fax: (02) 9701 4034
Email: kerry.oglesby@acu.edu.au