



Postgraduate Programs in Outdoor and Environmental Education

Available full-time, part-time or by external study



From 2009, successful applicants will be able to enrol in one of numerous postgraduate courses offered by the Centre for Excellence in Outdoor and Environmental Education without all of the hassles of full-time, on-campus study. No need to quit your job, relocate, or leave family and friends behind.

Through a mixture of on-line and blocked, face-to-face program delivery these opportunities are now available to practitioners interested in advancing their professional development and status in the field.

The courses which will now be available for part-time, external study include:

- **Graduate Certificate in Outdoor and Environmental Education**
- **Graduate Diploma in Outdoor and Environmental Education**
- **Master of Outdoor and Environmental Education**

Who can enrol?

Current practitioners with a recognised 3-year undergraduate degree will be able to complete the Graduate Certificate in one year of part-time study, or the Graduate Diploma in two years part-time study. Current practitioners with a fourth year of university study (eg, Graduate Diploma in Education) may be able to go straight to the masters degree and complete this qualification in 2 years part-time study. Of course, both courses will continue to be offered in full-time, on-campus mode. Contact the Post-Graduate Course Co-ordinator to discuss your best option.

Tuition Fees

Australian and New Zealand students:

Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs have replaced the old HECS) will be available for eligible applicants which makes it the perfect time to take the next step in your career as an outdoor educator.

International students:

Please refer to the La Trobe University website: <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/international/apply/fees>

Centre for Excellence in Outdoor and Environmental Education

The staff at the Centre for Excellence in Outdoor and Environmental Education are internationally renowned as leaders for their research and publications in the outdoor education field. Expert supervision is available for candidates interested in undertaking Doctor of Philosophy (Outdoor and Environmental Education) or Master of Outdoor and Environmental Education degrees by research.

Come and learn with some of the world's best.

Pathways and Career Opportunities

- Land management and community services
- Outdoor and environmental education centres in Australia and overseas
- Teachers in schools when combined with a recognised Graduate Diploma in Education
- Practitioners in the commercial sector

Postgraduate Programs in Outdoor and Environmental Education

Graduate Diploma in Outdoor and Environmental Education

The Graduate Diploma in Outdoor and Environmental Education is intended for graduates from any discipline who seek a one-year outdoor and environmental education qualification, or for three-year graduates seeking a fourth year of study. The course is made up of specialised post-graduate study units and the extensive offerings of units from the undergraduate courses offered by the *Centre for Excellence in Outdoor and Environmental Education*. The course has a substantial practical component, including field trips and expeditions; most students complete more than **40 days in the field**.

The course commences mid-February. During each semester there will be core classes and practical work undertaken by a combination of block mode and on-line delivery.

The following units will be offered externally and on campus from 2009:

Outdoor Education Concepts (core)

In this unit, students will gain an overview of outdoor education theory and practice (predominantly in Australia). Students will be introduced to a range of philosophies and objectives, notions of competence, processes of learning, values and ethics, and contemporary issues in outdoor education. It introduces socially critical environmental perspectives that underpin teaching and learning and incorporates a practical component that explores these perspectives in the outdoor context. The assessment involves assignments related to the theory and the practical experience.

Outdoor Education Experience (core)

In this unit students will be provided with a review and development of outdoor education skills and knowledge. It involves participation in 10-days of outdoor education field trips which may

include activities such as: bushwalking and navigation, lightweight camping, rockclimbing, paddling and environmental interpretation. It addresses safe practice for personal involvement and for working with groups in the outdoors. Assessment is via participation in field trips and written assignments involving reflection on and planning for outdoor education experiences.

Education in the Outdoors (core)

Students examine the social and cultural context of education and implications for outdoor education. Components include discourses on the outdoors and 'the bush', curriculum enquiry and implications for teaching in the outdoors. Students plan, implement and evaluate a 3-day outdoor education or nature tourism experience.

Bush environments (core)

This unit includes content of natural history, land management, and ecology directly relevant to selected bush environments of south eastern Australia. Students will develop technical expertise of bushwalking to enable safe exploration and promote experiential and interpretative knowledge of bush environments.

Examples of elective units:

- Leading Groups in Outdoor Environments
- River Environments
- Australian Culture and Land
- Environmental Literacy for Sustainable Futures

Graduate Certificate Exit Option

Students who complete four units may choose to exit the Graduate Diploma program with a Graduate Certificate in Outdoor and Environmental Education.

Master of Outdoor and Environmental Education

Available by coursework, coursework and minor thesis or research

The Master of Outdoor and Environmental Education is an advanced program intended for professionals in outdoor and environmental education and related fields. An optional minor thesis provides an opportunity to investigate an area of interest in depth, and to permit entry to a higher degree by research. The course takes an international perspective, and considers outdoor and environmental education in regional contexts. Offered for the first time in 2005, the course has attracted students from Australia, the United States, Czech Republic, Japan and Singapore.

Entry requirements

Successful applicants will have completed four years of study and be able to demonstrate extensive experience in outdoor and/or environmental education.

The Masters program also will be available by external study from 2009. This is a logical follow on for Outdoor Environmental Education graduates and those who have completed a Graduate Diploma in Education.

Units of study include:

- Advanced Outdoor and Environmental Education
- Outdoor and Environmental Education Issues
- Research Methods
- Research Project/Thesis
- A range of elective study units

Further information

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