



Postgraduate programs in Special Education



Schools are now required to be responsive to the diverse needs of all learners as more students with disabilities and learning difficulties are being educated in the regular classroom. Teachers now need a comprehensive understanding of difference, disability, and inclusive education so they can maximise learning outcomes for all students.

Special Education programs at the Bendigo campus of La Trobe University provide graduates with an understanding of the diverse needs of all learners.

Studies in the area of special education are most appropriate for

- Teachers who want a comprehensive understanding of students with learning difficulties and disabilities in the regular classroom.
- Specialist teachers who want a career in Learning Support or in Special Education.
- School administrators who want to develop an understanding of school responsiveness to diversity
- Educators who would like to complete research in the field.

Flexibility

Units of study offered in the special education programs are delivered in a variety of ways including:

- On-line;
- Block mode intensive classes at weekends and during vacation periods; and
- On campus.

On-line units are particularly convenient for distance and International students.

Master of Special Education

The Masters program is a major initiative in promoting an inclusive approach to special education. In particular, students will develop skills and understandings in the areas of:

- Disability, special education needs and human rights;
- Societal attitudes, government policies and special education;
- Communications and reporting in special education;
- Students with high support needs;
- Modified curriculum and assessment;
- Literacy and Diversity;
- Understanding students with Autism
- Augmentative communications and emerging technologies
- The effective management of students with challenging behaviours.

Entry requirements

Candidates must have a four year undergraduate degree in Education or its equivalent.

Program structure

The Master of Special Education is a 120 credit point program. This equates to one year full time study or an equivalent of two to three years part time.

Advanced Standing

Students who have completed an undergraduate degree and who have also completed a Graduate Certificate or a Graduate Diploma may be eligible for up to 60 credit points of advanced standing.



Education

Program structure

Candidates may complete the Master of Special Education by coursework or by research.

A full coursework program includes 6 units of 20 credit points each. Issues in Special Education is a core unit for this program. A minor thesis of 15,000 words (60 credit points) may be included in the coursework. Candidates selecting a minor thesis must also include a research methodology unit in their selection.

Candidates interested in conducting research in the areas of special education, inclusion or students with special needs may enrol in the Master of Education by Research.

Tuition Fees

The Master of Special Education by Coursework units are 'fee-paying' places. Australian citizens are able to defer tuition fees by using the FEE-Help loan scheme. Further information can be found at the website: www.goingtouni.gov.au.

Pathway to Doctoral Studies

The Master of Special Education provides a direct pathway to doctoral studies (EdD and PhD). Candidates who complete the Master of Special Education by coursework must achieve a B average in the coursework component to be eligible to proceed to the doctoral thesis. For further information on research degrees, please refer to the separate leaflet on Higher Degrees by research.

Graduate Diploma in Special Education and Human Services

Candidates who do not have an undergraduate Education degree but who would like to study units in special education are advised to consider the Graduate Diploma in Special Education



Master of Special Education by Coursework

Unit	Sem	C.P's	Mode
EDU5SEI Issues in Special Education	1,2, summer	20	B.I. &/or Online
EDU5MDC Multiple Disabilities and Communication	1 & summer	20	B.I. &/or Online
EDU5CBD Challenging Behaviours and Difference	summer	20	B.I.
EDU5EIE Early Intervention and Evaluation	2	20	2010
EDU5LAD Literacy and Diversity	2	20	ONC
EDU5TSA Teaching Students with Autism	2	20	B.I. &/or Online
EDU5RAR Relationships and Reporting in Special Education	summer	20	B.I.
EDU5IP Integrated Practicum			TBN
EDU4SSP Special setting practicum			TBN
EDU5RME Research Methods in Education	1 & summer	20	B.I. &/or Online
EDU5MTH Minor Thesis	1,2, summer	60	TBN

C.P's Credit Points; B.I. Block mode intensive; ONC On Campus; TBN To be negotiated.

and Human Services. This program is particularly suitable for doctors, social workers, disability workers, carers or parents.

Prospective students should access the web site and follow the links to: Postgraduate, Faculty of Education, Master of Special Education or Graduate Diploma in Special Education and Human Services.

General Enquiries

For more information please contact the Faculty of Education, Post Graduate Course Administrator:

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