

Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary)

The Graduate Diploma in Education (Secondary) is available at Melbourne (Bundoora) and Bendigo campuses. The course enables graduates to be accredited for secondary teaching with the Victorian Institute of Teaching and therefore eligible for employment in government and private schools in Victoria, as well as educational institutions interstate and overseas.

Graduates from the course are highly respected in the Australian and international education communities for their detailed knowledge of curriculum and their highly developed practical teaching skills. Applicants should enjoy working with people and have a strong commitment to academic excellence. A widely acclaimed feature of the course is the strong practical experience component, which is closely linked to the theoretical studies. The course is intellectually rigorous and equips graduates to face the contemporary challenges of teaching.

Entry Requirements

Applicants must have a three-year bachelor degree, with major or sub-major sequences of studies in at least two areas of the secondary school curriculum.

Students who do not have distinct sub-majors in two Teaching Method areas within their degree are encouraged to have their academic transcripts assessed by the Selection Officer or Course Coordinator.

English Language Requirement

International students and local students who have not completed Year 12 English in Australia and for whom English is not their first language must provide evidence of their English proficiency in one of the following ways:

- IELTS – Minimum overall band score of 7.0 with no individual band score less than 6.5
- TOEFL – Paper-based test: a minimum score of 600 with a score of 6 or better in the Test of Written English. Computer-based test – a minimum score of 250 with a score of 6 in essay writing. Internet-based test (iBT): a minimum score of 96 with no individual score less than 24.
- Completion of English for Further Studies Stage PG2A (75%) certificate program available from the La Trobe University International College English Language Centre: www.latrobe.edu.au/language
- Satisfactory completion of approved tertiary studies where the language of instruction is English. (This study must have been completed in the last 2 years and at an academic level acceptable to La Trobe University).

Oral Interview

To ensure that candidates meet the high levels of spoken English required for teaching in an English speaking classroom, applicants who have not completed Year 12 English in Australia and for whom English is not their first language must also successfully pass an oral interview arranged by the university.

Special Requirements

All applicants accepted into this course are required to complete a 'Working With Children Check' form prior to commencing the course. The form is available from Australia Post Offices. Students must provide a certified copy of their valid Working With Children card prior to undertaking teaching placements.

Professional Recognition

The course is accredited with the Victorian Institute of Teaching.

Career Prospects

Graduates will find employment in:

- Secondary schools in Australia and overseas.
- The adult sector including industry and TAFE
- Community organisations
- Private tutoring and consultancies

The course also provides suitable preparation for any career that involves interaction with others, and many graduates are successfully working in non-teaching positions. Opportunities for employment exist in general industry where teachers are making use of their high level of communication and interpersonal skills in positions such as personnel training, administration and public relations.

Course Structure

The course is designed around three major areas:

- Issues in Education
- Teaching Methods and Curriculum
- Teaching Practice

Issues in Education

This includes the following units of study:

- The Context of Learning
- Issues in Secondary Education

Within these units of study, the following topics are explored:

- Models of teaching and learning
- Curriculum content and process
- Assessment and evaluation
- Educational philosophy, sociology and comparative education
- Language and literacy
- Gender issues
- The social, political and economic contexts of education
- Multiple intelligences

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- Teacher/student relationships
- Teachers as change agents
- Cultural diversity in the classroom
- Access and equity in schooling
- Classroom management and discipline
- Attention deficit disorder
- Gifted children
- Teaching the mixed level class
- Cognitive and emotional development in adolescence
- Programs and curriculum as they affect specific groups and individuals
- Teaching in the middle school
- Technology and computer studies
- Teachers and the law

Teaching Methods and Curriculum

Students undertake studies in two teaching methods. Methods available at the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus and Bendigo campus include:

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Drama
- English
- History
- Humanities
- Information Technology/Computing
- Mathematics
- Media Studies
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE)
- Physics
- Psychology
- Science (General)
- Technology
- Vocational Education and Training (VET)

Additional methods at Melbourne (Bundoora):

- Student Welfare
- TESOL

Additional methods at Bendigo:

- Business Studies
- Geography
- Health
- Outdoor Education
- Physical Education
- Visual Arts (double method)

Practical Studies

Students undertake 45 days of supervised teaching practice in a wide variety of schools including government, catholic and independent schools in both rural and metropolitan areas.

Duration

The course is a one-year full-time program or may be completed part-time over two years. There are two 14-week semesters, including the practical studies (school experience). There is no mid-year intake.

Tuition Fees

Australian and New Zealand students

Both 'Commonwealth Supported' and 'Fee-paying' places are available. Australian citizens are eligible to defer tuition fees by using the HECS-Help or FEE-Help loan schemes. Further information on HECS-Help and FEE-Help can be found at website: www.goingtouni.gov.au

For further information on course fees, please refer to the Faculty of Education website: www.latrobe.edu.au/education/fees

Commencement

Course commences in February of each year.

Orientation

There is a compulsory orientation day prior to course commencement for all students studying at the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus. Orientation for Bendigo students is held on the first day of the program. Details are available from the Education Office on the relevant campus.

Information Session

An information session is conducted in September each year.

For Melbourne (Bundoora) details contact (03) 9479 2546.

For information about the Open Day information session at Bendigo, phone (03) 5444 7907

How to Apply

Local students

Local students should apply through VTAC.

Details on line at: www.vtac.edu.au or phone: 1300 364 133

Applications open end July.

Note: Additional forms are required for those applying for LOTE and VET Method. These are available directly from the Faculty of Education at the Melbourne (Bundoora) campus or Bendigo Campus.

International students:

International students should refer to the www.latrobe.edu.au/international website for details.

Further Information

Melbourne (Bundoora):

Phone: (03) 9479 2546

Fax: (03) 9479 3070

Email: education@latrobe.edu.au

Bendigo:

Phone: (03) 5444 7907

Fax: (03) 5444 7800

Email: bendigoeducation@latrobe.edu.au

Web: www.latrobe.edu.au/education