

Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCE) - PGCertEd

	Distance education*	Online*
Semester intake:	Semester 1 (March) Semester 2 (July) Semester 3 (November)	Semester 1 (March) Semester 2 (July) Semester 3 (November)
Fees:	Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place	Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Standard duration:	1 year full-time, up to 2 years part-time	
Program articulation:	To: Master of Education (8 Units) ; Master of Learning and Development ; Master of Applied Linguistics	

Notes:

Full articulation is only available when there are no undergraduate courses completed as part of the Postgraduate Certificate.

Articulation to the Master of Applied Linguistics is subject to the completion of courses forming part of that program.

Footnotes

* Not all courses are available in every mode in every semester or year. Students are advised to check the course and mode offer listings for each semester/year.

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 640 678 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: studyledu@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usqassist@usq.edu.au

Program focus

This program gives educators/trainers the opportunity to enhance their professional competence through postgraduate coursework. The program is set in the context of societies becoming increasingly reliant on the efforts of “knowledge workers”. Educators at all levels have important roles to play in developing the capacity of citizens to work effectively with knowledge. New approaches to education focussing on relevant contemporary issues, emphasising knowledge-building rather than transmission can contribute to preparing citizens to participate more fully in the “knowledge economy” and “information society”. The Postgraduate Certificate in Education program aims to develop in its graduates the capabilities and dispositions to work as engaged professional educators in knowledge-building communities.

Career opportunities

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education program is designed to develop in its graduates the capabilities and dispositions to work as engaged professional educators in knowledge building communities. Graduates from the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program will demonstrate key knowledge and understanding, important for success in a variety of roles across the broad field of education.

Program objectives

Students who successfully complete the Postgraduate Certificate in Education should have made significant progress in the process of acquiring advanced knowledge and understanding of key issues and trends within

contemporary education and/or of a specialised area of education. Graduates should be able to demonstrate capabilities and dispositions for:

- locating and accessing knowledge of relevant theory and practice;
- critically evaluating and building knowledge;
- interpreting and applying knowledge to the solution of significant problems;
- effectively communicating knowledge; and
- identifying and participating in relevant communities of practice.

Program aims

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education program aims to develop in its graduates the capabilities and dispositions to work as engaged professional educators in knowledge-building communities.

Traditional approaches to education have sometimes resulted in educators having limited opportunities for professional interaction with colleagues. In such circumstances, where educators work alone with a group of learners, they may develop a form of “privatised practice” which isolates them from the wider professional community. There is mounting evidence that educators can be more effective when they view their work as a collaborative effort in which they interact with other educators within and beyond their workplace and adopt stances that may be described as “engaged professionalism”.

New Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) offer enhanced opportunities for professional engagement and will be an important tool for educators in the twenty-first century. The Master of Education program will model the use of ICTs to support professional interaction and learning.

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education program thus aims to develop in its graduates the capabilities and dispositions to work as engaged professional educators in contemporary knowledge building communities.

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Admission requirements

The requirements described in this section are generic requirements for entry to the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program.

The majority of courses in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program are offered entirely through the World Wide Web and have specific requirements for frequent and ongoing Internet access. Most courses include Internet access as an important, or essential, component. Intending applicants should ensure that they have the necessary computer and Internet access before applying. Further information is provided in the IT requirements section below and in specifications of individual courses.

Normal Entry

The normal requirement for entry to the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program is a three year bachelor degree (or equivalent) from a recognised University.

All applicants must have a good command of the English language. Applicants for whom English is not their first language must meet the specific USQ requirements for English proficiency, particularly an IELTS score of 6.5 with no component below 6.0.

Alternative Entry

Applicants who do not meet the requirements for normal entry may apply for alternative entry if they believe that they can demonstrate that they have qualifications and/or experience that might be considered equivalent to those required for normal entry.

How to apply

Domestic students

[Application for postgraduate programs](#) may be made directly to USQ. You should ensure you submit your application by the [closing dates](#).

International students

This program is offered to international students. An international student is a person who is not an Australian or New Zealand citizen and not an Australian permanent resident. Please refer to [USQ International](#) for information about entry requirements, visa arrangements and how to apply.

Program fees

Commonwealth supported place

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of your higher education and you as a student pay a [student contribution amount](#), which varies depending on the courses undertaken. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#). Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [HECS-HELP](#).

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#).

International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Program structure

The program consists of 4 units of postgraduate study, with all 4 courses being at Level 5 or above. These courses may be selected from any courses available to postgraduate coursework students in the Faculty of Education – see [Elective courses](#). :

Program completion requirements

To be awarded a Postgraduate Certificate in Education in the Faculty of Education, a student must have completed four approved education-related units at postgraduate level.

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 2 years to complete this program.

Elective courses

Faculty of Education Postgraduate Elective Courses*	
	Projected Semester Offers

	ONC	EXT	WEB
EDR8000 Foundations of Contemporary Educational Research Methods			1,2,3
EDR8005 Discourse Analysis	1		1,2
EDU5010 Politics and Pedagogy in Early Childhood			2
EDU5112 Transforming Learning with ICT			1,3
EDU5221 Professional Learning			2
EDU5321 Educating Students with Special Needs			1,3
EDU5322 Behaviour Management and Support			1
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention			1
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents			2
EDU5702 Exploring Learning and Teaching in Higher Education Contexts			1,2,3
EDU5703 Engaging Curriculum and Pedagogy			1,3
EDU5704 Popular Culture as Curriculum and Pedagogy			2,3
EDU5705 Curriculum Design and Evaluation			1
EDU5713 Assessment, Evaluation and Learning			1,3
EDU5760 Professional Study			1,2,3
EDU8007 Developing Matters in Early Childhood Education			1
EDU8011 *			2
EDU8111 Emerging Environments for Learning			3
EDU8114 Online Pedagogy in Practice			1
EDU8117 Networked and Global Learning			2
EDU8311 Concepts and Theories in Educational Management			1
EDU8312 Educators as Leaders: Emerging Perspectives			1
EDU8314 Human Resource Strategies for Innovation			1,3
EDU8317 Individual Assessment and Testing		1	
EDU8318 Organisational Transformation Through Learning			2
EDU8324 Learning Difficulties: Reading		2	
EDU8326 Learning Difficulties: Mathematics		1	
EDU8328 Consultation and Communication: Theory and Practice			2
EDU8331 Career Development in Educational Settings			1,2
EDU8332 Introduction to Educational Counselling		1	
EDU8333 Advanced Educational Counselling		2	
EDU8415 Multi-Modal Texts and New Literacies			1,3
EDU8701 Teaching and Learning in Contemporary Contexts: Theory and Practice			3
EDU8702 Scholarship in Higher Education: Reflection and Evaluation			3
EDU8704 New Pedagogies			2
EDU8705 Personal Pedagogy in Context			1

EDU8712 Contemporary Approaches to Alternative Education			1,3
FET5601 Learning Design for Flexible Contexts			1
FET5621 Introduction to Web Publishing			3
FET8605 Building Communities of Practice			3
FET8606 Lifelong Career Development			1,2
LIN5000 The Nature of Language	1		1,2,3
LIN5003 Syllabus Design and Materials Writing		1,2	
LIN8001 Principles of Second Language Learning	1	1,2	
LIN8002 Methodology in Teaching a Second Language	1,2	1,2	
LIN8006 Computer-Assisted Language Learning	2	1,2	
LIN8007 Language Testing		1,3	
LIN8015 Introduction to Sociolinguistics	2	1,2	

Footnotes

* Students should note that not all elective courses are necessarily available every year. When planning their enrolment patterns, students should refer to that year's schedule of course offers.

Coursework

Courses will normally be selected from postgraduate courses in education listed previously in the table of Faculty of Education Postgraduate Elective Courses.

Opportunities for Workplace Learning: Supervised Independent Study

Many of the courses in the Postgraduate Certificate of Education provide opportunities for students to address issues of particular personal interest, by undertaking approved independent work, which may include approved workplace professional development activity. Such projects, approved in advance at the discretion of the program coordinator are covered by enrolment in [EDU5760 Professional Study](#).

Research

There is no research pathway available to students in this program.

IT requirements

Some courses in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program are offered entirely on-line. Courses use email and discussion forums for communication among students and/or staff. All courses expect that work submitted for assessment will be word processed and submitted electronically. Further, a small number of courses require access to specific software. As new courses are introduced and existing courses are revised, it is anticipated that they will make more extensive use of the Internet for communication and for access to course materials and other resources. This will apply to courses offered on-campus as well as in other modes.

Although there are no specific computer hardware or software requirements for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program in general, it is a clear expectation that students will have ready access to a computer with common productivity software and Internet access. Some courses may require additional software and/or a more capable computer. Information about such requirements is included in the relevant course specifications.

Courses offered online (WEB) do not provide for delivery of printed materials. Students enrolling in such courses must have ongoing convenient and reliable access to the Internet in order to access course materials and participate in activities that will affect participation, learning and assessment. See <http://www.usq.edu.au/ict/students/standards/hardware.htm>

Other program requirements

[Residential schools](#) may be offered for selected courses. In such cases, the residential schools may be compulsory. Where residential schools are required students may elect to attend the on-campus version or to

participate in the equivalent online activities. Students enrolling in courses with compulsory residential schools should ensure that they are able to meet the residential school requirement before completing their enrolment. Students should refer to the course specification for details of any such requirement.

Articulation

A student who has completed the requirements of the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (4 units) may articulate directly into the Master of Education, Master of Learning and Development, or Master of Applied Linguistics (subject to the completion of particular courses that may be required in those programs).

Related programs

The Postgraduate Certificate in Education is nested within the Master of Education program.

Exemptions

Exemptions for courses in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program may be granted where applicants can demonstrate that they have successfully completed an equivalent postgraduate course or have otherwise achieved the objectives of the relevant course. Exemptions may be granted on the basis of documented professional development activities or extensive work experience only where it can be demonstrated that through those activities the student has achieved learning outcomes equivalent to those of a relevant postgraduate course. Where a student's program of study includes electives, exemption may be granted for one or more electives where the student can demonstrate and document clearly successful completion of work of a type and standard equivalent to an elective study.

Students intending to apply for exemptions should consult Section 3.5 of the [Enrolment Policy](#). Applications for exemption will be expected to comply with the relevant USQ and Faculty regulations and should demonstrate that the objectives of the course for which exemption is sought have been achieved. Within the framework of those regulations, the following points should be given particular consideration:

- the maximum number of units which may be exempted in the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program is two
- students may NOT claim exemption for work on which they relied for admission to the Postgraduate Certificate in Education.
- exemptions will NOT normally be granted for study completed more than five years prior to submission of the application for exemption;
- applications for exemption on the basis of study completed prior to entering the Postgraduate Certificate in Education program will NOT normally be accepted beyond the end of the first semester of enrolment; and
- exemption will NOT normally be granted for work undertaken concurrently with the Postgraduate Certificate in Education unless the application is submitted and approved before the work is undertaken, with credit subject to the documentation of satisfactory completion of the approved work.

Students should seek advice from the Administration Coordinator – Student Support before applying for exemptions. Detailed information about requirements for exemptions may be available for specific courses.

Recommended enrolment pattern for TESOL specialisation

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (WEB)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
Graduates will be competent in key areas for second language teaching in a range of contexts. This specialisation provides an opportunity for in-depth study in the area of second language learning and teaching, and enhances each student's capacity for open, critical reflective thinking about second language teaching practice.							

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (WEB)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
It is recommended that the program of study commences with LIN5000 The Nature of Language and LIN8001 Principles of Second Language Learning is studied prior to LIN8002 Methodology in Teaching a Second Language . Please note on-campus offers are contingent upon sufficient enrolments. Subject to International students' visa requirements, alternative modes of EXT or WEB may be substituted for the elective course.							
LIN5000 The Nature of Language	1	1			1	1, 2, 3	
LIN8001 Principles of Second Language Learning	1	1	1	1, 2			
LIN8002 Methodology in Teaching a Second Language	1	1, 2	1	1, 2			OE
Select one elective unit from the table of Elective courses							

Footnotes

OE Before enrolling in this course students must check that they have satisfied the 'Recommended prior study' or 'Other enrolment' requirements set out in the Other requisites section of the course specification.