

Master of Learning and Development (MLD1) - MLearning&Dev

This program is offered only to continuing students. No new admissions will be accepted. Students who are interested in this study area should consider the [Master of Education \(Commonwealth Supported Place \(CSP\)\)](#) or [Master of Education \(Full Fee Paying \(FFP\)\)](#)

	Online
Start:	No new admissions
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Standard duration:	1 year full-time up to 4 years part-time
Program articulation:	From: Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Development ; ; Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Linguistics

Notes:

Both modes of study are supported through the USQ Study Desk

This program does not qualify students for teacher registration with relevant teaching authorities. To qualify for teacher registration in Queensland, please refer to the ; [Graduate Diploma of Learning and Teaching](#)

Contact us

Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program aims

The aim of this program is to provide professionals in education, training and development with masters-level coursework and research opportunities that will engage with educational issues that are relevant and meaningful to them and help to sustain their communities and fulfil their lives. For those choosing the Research Pathway, a complementary aim is to provide an opportunity to develop research capabilities as a foundation for independent investigations through a critical approach to educational research. The program therefore aims to:

- facilitate the development and consolidation of knowledge and skills in teaching and learning in community, professional and workplace learning settings that are informed by contemporary learning theory and futures-orientated approaches
- support the application of these knowledge and skills through learner-centred design, flexible delivery and individualised and authentic assessment to enhance quality of services for their learners
- provide opportunities for students to build a program of study to suit their own particular needs, professional and industry requirements and individual career paths

Program objectives

On successful completion of the Master of Learning and Development, students should be able to:

- critically analyse and contextualise knowledge relating to professional practice, and sustainable engagement in educational sectors
- exhibit competence and commitment in pursuing personal lifelong learning goals of advanced scholarship in relation to their areas of specialisation
- articulate the local, provincial, national, regional and global dimensions of the work and identities of contemporary educators, trainers and developers

- demonstrate the capacity to add value to, and help to sustain contemporary learning communities

An additional objective for those following the Research Pathway is to:

- integrate empirical, methodological and theoretical knowledge in ways that engage current educational issues

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- have completed a Bachelor degree from a recognised university.

Alternative admission

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. Applicants are referred to the Australian Qualification Framework's [Recognition of Prior Learning](#) principles to assist such demonstration.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

Program fees

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. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedule](#)

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [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. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedules](#).

Program completion requirements

Students are required to follow the recommended enrolment pattern for their selected specialisation or to tailor a 'student-designed' enrolment pattern following the program structure.

Program structure

The Master of Learning and Development is an 8-unit program. Three guidelines shape the program structure.

- A minimum of 50% of the units studied (at least 4 units) must be level 8 courses
- A minimum of 50% of the units studied (at least 4 units) must be from the [Master of Education](#)
- A maximum of 50% of the units studied (up to 4 units) may be selected from any USQ Faculty – choose via the [USQ programs](#) search facility.

Students may choose to follow a prescribed enrolment pattern for one of the specialisations, or may prefer to tailor their study as outlined in the "Student-Designed Customisation" notes below.

Please refer to for the Early Childhood specialisation.

Student-Designed Customisation

This option is an alternative to following the recommended enrolment pattern for a particular Specialisation. Students may choose to customise their study by following the program structure guidelines above. **Note:** Students must submit a study plan for approval by the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts.

Coursework and Research Pathways

Students may choose to study a suite of eight (8) coursework units, the **Coursework pathway**, or if students intend undertaking doctoral studies at a later date, follow the **Research pathway**.

	Coursework pathway	Research pathway
Education coursework	Minimum of 4 units	Minimum of 4 units
Complementary coursework:	Maximum of 4 units	Maximum of 4 units *

The **Research pathway** requirements and its recommended enrolment pattern can be found in the **Research** section of this Handbook entry.

Education Postgraduate Discipline Courses *		
	Projected Semester Offers	
	On-campus	Online
EDR8000	2,3	1,2,3
EDR8001	3	1,2,3
EDR8005	1	1,2
EDU5010		2
EDU5112		3
EDU5221		2
EDU5321 Educating Students with Special Needs		1,3
EDU5322		3
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention		1,3
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents		2
EDU5601 Designing for Flexible Learning Environments [^]		1
EDU5702 Exploring Learning and Teaching in Higher Education Contexts		2
EDU5703		3
EDU5705		1
EDU5713	3	1,3
EDU5760		1,2
EDU8007		1
EDU8011		2
EDU8111		2
EDU8114 Online Pedagogy in Practice		1
EDU8117		2
EDU8311		1
EDU8312		1
EDU8314		1,3
EDU8317 Individual Assessment and Testing		1

EDU8318		2
EDU8319 Marketing Your Educational Organisation [†]		3
EDU8324 Learning Difficulties: Reading		2
EDU8326 Learning Difficulties: Mathematics		1
EDU8328 Consultation and Communication: Theory and Practice		2,3
EDU8331 Career Development in Educational Settings		2
EDU8332 Introduction to Counselling in Educational Contexts		1
EDU8333 Advanced Counselling in Educational Contexts		2
EDU8338 Autism		3
EDU8406		2
EDU8415		1
EDU8605		1
EDU8606 Lifelong Career Development		1
EDU8701		1
EDU8705 Personal Pedagogy in Context [^]		1
EDU8712		3
EDU8719 Contemporary Issues Conference		2
LAW8710 Australian Law for Educators		2
LIN5000 The Nature of Language	1,2	1,2
LIN8003		2
LIN8001 Principles of Second Language Learning	1	1,2
LIN8002 Methodology in Teaching a Second Language	2	2
LIN8006 Technology-Enhanced Language Teaching	1	1,2
LIN8007 Language and Literacy Assessment		1,3
LIN8015	2	2,3
LIN8019 Teaching Languages to Young Learners		2

Footnotes

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

[^] This course is offered in odd-numbered years.

[†] This course is offered in even-numbered years.

Required time limits

Full-time enrolment normally requires one year of study. Part-time enrolment may be extended to five years of study.

Major studies/Specialisations

Because of the program focus, the default study pattern will be student-designed; a customised pattern following the program structure guidelines. Students who follow the recommended enrolment pattern for the following specialisations will have their specialisation named on their testamur.

Please select one of the following specialisations or refer to the Program Structure section to tailor your own study pattern via the student-designed customisation option.

Refer to for the Early Childhood specialisation.

- Adult Professional and Workplace Learning

- Career Development and Lifelong Learning*
- Learning Design
- Educational Leadership
- Online and Distributed Learning

* USQ is applying for re-endorsement with the Careers Industry Council of Australia.

Research

The **Research Pathway** comprises a minimum of one research coursework unit and an individual, supervised project comprising a minimum of 2-units. Students will:

- work with a project supervisor in the 2 (or 3) unit project
- arrange supervision for their project during the research coursework unit

Project topics will be in one of the fields of education or a related cognate field and are limited by the Faculty's capacity to supervise. See the research recommended enrolment pattern.

Note: The Research Pathway is not available to students undertaking the following specialisations:

- (1) Adult, professional and workplace learning
- (2) Early childhood

Professional experience

Professional experience is required and recommended in the **Adult, Professional and Workplace Learning**. Irrespective of level of academic performance achieved by students in this specialisation, no student will be eligible to graduate from the specialisation without satisfactorily demonstrating current professional competence against the performance criteria identified in the nominated courses. **Eligibility to Undertake professional experience in Queensland Educational Settings** Under the terms of the Commission for Children and Young People Act (Qld. 2000), students undertaking professional experience are considered to be **volunteers** engaged in **inregulated employment**. As such, all students working with children must apply to the Commission to be issued with a notice that they are **suitable to work in child-related employment**. As part of this application, the student must consent to the Commission conducting a criminal history check as the key element of the process of determining suitability. All applications for a suitability notice must be made at the local campus of the university at the commencement of their program. Students who do not make application, or who do apply but are subsequently deemed **unsuitable**, will not be able to undertake the professional experience components of the program.

Students undertaking professional experience outside of Queensland will need to check the requirements for professional experience in their State or Country.

IT requirements

Students must have reliable and ready access to email and the Internet. See [minimum computing standards](#) for more information.

Articulation

The Master of Learning and Development program articulates from the, Postgraduate Certificate in Education, and Postgraduate Certificate in Learning and Development.

Exit points

Students who successfully complete a minimum of four (4) units of the Master of Learning and Development program will be able to transfer 4 units of credit to an appropriate Postgraduate Certificate program (see the programs listed under Articulation above).

Credit

The maximum credit granted will be no more than half of the program units (four units). Within this limit, credit will be granted for relevant studies successfully completed at postgraduate level in the last five years and may be considered for studies successfully completed in the last 10 years. Students who have completed the Postgraduate Certificate programs listed in the Articulation section above, will receive full credit. Within the framework of these guidelines, the following points warrant particular consideration:

- Transfer of credit from other incomplete USQ award programs may be permitted where there is similar or appropriate content.
- Advanced Standing for other formal awards from recognised educational institutions will be assessed using the Australian Qualification Framework's [Recognition of Prior Learning principles](#).
- Other completed and assessed professional development and workplace learning activities will attract credit into the program when assessed as equivalent to a full USQ course.

Students intending to apply for credit should contact the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts for advice before applying for credit, and follow the [guidelines for credit for previous study or work](#).

Enrolment

Students will enrol in the Master of Learning and Development on either a full-time or a part-time basis. International on-campus students must be enrolled full-time.

It is recommended that study commences with the specialisation's Education coursework section.

Note: Minimum enrolment numbers apply to all courses. Should enrolments not meet the minimum number required, students may be transferred to a different mode or offering and advised of the change prior to semester start.

Recommended enrolment pattern - Research pathway

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
Education Coursework: Select a minimum of 4 Master of Education coursework courses as listed in the specialisations' Recommended Enrolment advice.							
Complementary Coursework: Select a maximum of 1 coursework course from any USQ program							
Research:							
Required Coursework							
EDR8000					2	1,2,3	
Optional Coursework - If selected, a maximum of one course from the following:							
EDR8001					2	1,2,3	
EDR8005	1	1				1,2	
Project: Select 2 or 3 units from the following							
EDR8060						1,2,3	
EDR8061 Master of Education Project		1,2				1,2,3	Pre-requisite: EDR8801 and EDR8802

Recommended enrolment pattern - Adult, professional and workplace learning

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

The **Adult, Professional and Workplace Learning** specialisation is designed to meet the needs of professionals and other practitioners with an undergraduate degree or equivalent in a discipline other than education who wish to build a solid foundation of knowledge and skills in teaching and learning to enhance their practice and support their personal, professional and career development. It will also meet the needs of more experienced educators and trainers with an undergraduate degree or equivalent seeking further development of their knowledge and skills in teaching and learning with a focus on adult, professional and workplace learning. Indicative positions include Training and Development Manager, Education Officer, Workplace Trainer and Learning and Development Consultant. The specialisation provides students with the opportunity to develop and demonstrate skills in designing, planning, facilitating, managing, assessing and evaluating teaching and learning processes and to develop their capacity for critical, reflective practice and ongoing professional development and renewal.

Please note that the Research Pathway is not recommended for this specialisation.

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Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
Education Coursework:								
Required courses								
EDU5601 Designing for Flexible Learning Environments						1		This course is offered in odd-numbered years.
EDU8701					1	1		
EDU8406						2		
EDU5713		3				1,3		Students require first-hand knowledge of, and access to, a teaching situation in school, post-compulsory, community education or training context.
EDU8606 Lifelong Career Development						1		
PLUS								
EDU5760 [^]				1,2				Professional Experience is a required component of this course, please refer to the Course Specification regarding sector specific requirements.
Complementary coursework: Select 2 courses from USQ Programs at least one of these must be a level 8 course.								

Footnotes

* Your program of study must include a minimum of 50% level 8 courses

[^] One of the central aims of this specialisation is to allow students to develop teaching skills and strategies, while at the same time linking theory and practice. This is the basis for continual improvement. It is therefore essential that all students complete at least two education coursework

courses (EDU8701, FET5601 or EDU5713 and at least one complimentary course before undertaking any instructional placements associated with this specialisation.

Recommended enrolment pattern - Career development and Lifelong Learning

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

USQ is applying for re-endorsement with the Careers Industry Council of Australia.

This specialisation will meet the growing demand from individuals working in teaching, counselling, training, employment, community development, or information management roles, who support the career planning and development of students, clients, and organisations. The Career Development and Lifelong Learning specialisation has been designed to address core and selected specialist competencies from the Professional Standards for Australian Career Development Practitioners, and it has been officially endorsed by the Careers Industry Council of Australia as a qualification for being accorded the status of professional career development practitioner under the Professional Standards. In addition, the recommended first course in the program [EDU8606 Lifelong Career Development](#) provides an entry pathway for students completing the DEEWR Australian Career Development Studies course, for which USQ is an approved Examiner.

Follow the recommended enrolment table below. Those intending to undertake doctoral studies at a later date are referred to the Research Pathway in preference to 'Complementary Coursework' courses. Coursework Pathway students may select any courses as their 'Complementary Coursework'.

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Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
Education coursework: Select a minimum of 4 Education coursework courses								
Required Courses								
EDU8606 Lifelong Career Development							1	
EDU8331 Career Development in Educational Settings							1, 2	
EDU8332 Introduction to Counselling in Educational Contexts							1	
Select a minimum of 1 of the following Education coursework courses:								
EDU8406							2	
EDU5760				1,2				Professional Experience is a required component of this course, please refer to the Course Specification regarding sector specific requirements.
EDU8605							1	
EDU8328 Consultation and Communication: Theory and Practice							2,3	
Complementary Coursework: Select a maximum of 4 courses from USQ Programs								
OR								
Research pathway: Follow the recommended enrolment of the Research section in this Handbook entry.								

Footnotes

* Your program of study must include a minimum of 50% level 8 courses.

Recommended enrolment pattern - Educational leadership

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

An interpretive analysis of **Educational Leadership** explores the significance, connectedness, and inference of conceptual frameworks, relationships and systems to further our understanding of human-centred transformations. This specialisation is designed for those with leadership responsibilities in a range of organisations, units or communities with a clear educational agenda. Social and sustainable partnerships, contested relations and collaborative work are located within dynamically changing environments. Student contexts will inform these analyses to develop culturally relevant approaches for educational leadership roles.

Follow the recommended enrolment table below. Those intending to undertake doctoral studies at a later date are referred to the Research Pathway in preference to “Complementary Coursework” courses. Coursework Pathway students may select any courses as their “Complementary Coursework”.

Your program of study must include a minimum of 50% level 8 courses

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
Education Coursework: Select a minimum of 4 Education coursework courses							
EDU8312					1	1	
EDU8314					2	1,3	
EDU8318					2	2	
EDU5221					1	2	
EDU8605						1	
Complementary Coursework: Select a maximum of 4 courses from USQ Programs							
OR							
Research pathway: Follow the recommended enrolment of the Research section in this Handbook entry.							

Recommended enrolment pattern - Learning design

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

Effective learning design is at the heart of sound educational practices. To interrogate the potential of various learning environments, contexts and opportunities, educators must adopt a critical approach to the learning design process, and consider the extent to which learning is enhanced through explicit design strategies. This specialisation meets the needs of a wide range of professionals working in educational settings who need to develop their knowledge and skills in learning design. Those wishing to move into the fields of educational design/learning design/instructional design or development will find this specialisation particularly useful.

Follow the recommended enrolment table below. Those intending to undertake doctoral studies at a later date are referred to the Research Pathway in preference to “Complementary Coursework” courses. Coursework Pathway students may select any courses as their “Complementary Coursework”.

Your program of study must include a minimum of 50% level 8 courses.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
Education Coursework: Select a minimum of 4 Education coursework courses								
EDU5601 Designing for Flexible Learning Environments						1		This course is offered in odd-numbered years.
EDU8406						2		
EDU8415						2	1	
EDU5713		3					1,3	Students require first-hand knowledge of, and access to, a teaching situation in school, post-compulsory, community education or training context.
Complementary Coursework: Select a maximum of 4 courses from USQ Programs								
OR								
Research pathway: Follow the recommended enrolment of the Research section in this Handbook entry.								

Recommended enrolment pattern - Online and distributed learning

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

The specialisation is designed to meet the needs of a wide range of professionals in a variety of online education settings. It caters for those in both formal education settings and informal learning contexts – specifically teachers and educational designers moving to a more sophisticated application of online education, as well as professionals working in corporate environments. The main focus of this specialisation is to develop critical thinking, intellectual engagement and the ability to design, develop, facilitate and evaluate programs in online and blended learning environments.

Follow the recommended enrolment table below. Those intending to undertake doctoral studies at a later date are referred to the Research Pathway in preference to “Complementary Coursework” courses. Coursework Pathway students may select any courses as their “Complementary Coursework”.

Your program of study must include a minimum of 50% level 8 courses.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
Education Coursework: Select a minimum of 4 Education coursework courses								
EDU8415						1	1	
EDU5601 Designing for Flexible Learning Environments							1	This course is offered in odd-numbered years.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements	Comments
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
EDU8114 Online Pedagogy in Practice						1		
EDU8605						1		
EDU8111						2		
Complementary Coursework: Select a maximum of 4 courses from USQ Programs								
OR								
Research pathway: Follow the recommended enrolment of the Research section in this Handbook entry.								