

Teaching in the School

Education at Murdoch provides initial teacher education, graduate studies in education leading to professional and higher degrees, and research studies. Its professional development qualifications and short courses are relevant to educators in a range of sectors including schools, technical colleges, universities, industry, health and social services and to those wishing to develop social research and evaluation skills for professional work as research and development, evaluation or policy officers. Many academic staff offer professional development short courses and educational support to organisations outside the University both within Australia and internationally.

UniFocus

In 2002 the School of Education initiated a university preparation course for mature age people in the Peel and Rockingham regions. This extremely successful course was designed to provide a route to university study for people who do not have standard entry qualifications. The program aims to equip students with effective study skills and the confidence to proceed to tertiary level studies.

During 2002, 74 students successfully completed the course. Of these students, 64 subsequently applied for and achieved places at Murdoch University.

Some quotes from student evaluations of the program included:

- Unifocus enabled me to realize my dream of going to university
- Unifocus helped me gain confidence in myself and made me believe in myself
- Unifocus was a good foundation for university study
- Unifocus gave me the support I need to get through. I learnt how to learn!

Unifocus continues to attract a high level of interest from members of the Rockingham, Kwinana, Mandurah and surrounding communities.

Primary and Secondary Initial Teacher Education

Murdoch provides a four-year Bachelor of Education degree, a one-year Graduate Diploma in Education, and a 2-year graduate entry BEd for students wishing to become primary or secondary school teachers. These courses are available full-time and part-time, and through campus-based study or distance education.

The four-year Bachelor of Education degree is the most common choice for students who wish to become primary teachers and a common choice for those wishing to become secondary teachers. Primary Teacher Education students complete a four-year program of study during which approximately three-quarters of their units are directly related to their development as teachers. They have a free choice with the remaining units and can use them to broaden their general education or to develop a specialty teaching area or area of interest. Graduates are qualified to teach at junior, middle and upper primary levels. Secondary Teacher Education students typically study for the B.Ed concurrently with a Bachelor's degree in their main teaching area. They are thus awarded a double degree at the end of their four-year course of study.

The one-year Graduate Diploma in Education is an 'end on' qualification for students who already hold a Bachelor degree in some non-education field (typically a BA or BSc). For Primary Teacher Education students a wide range of undergraduate degrees is appropriate, but for Secondary Teacher Education students the undergraduate degree has to be relevant to one of the learning areas in secondary schools. Murdoch also offers students who are beginning, or are part way through a

Bachelor degree in some non-education field, the opportunity to enroll concurrently in an education program. Typically these students would be primary education students who undertake a four-year program of study leading to the concurrent award of a three-year non-education degree and a Graduate Diploma in Education. Secondary students would, typically, complete two degrees - one in education and one in their major area, as described above.

Graduate Professional Studies

The one-year Bachelor or Graduate Diploma of Education Studies provides teachers with the opportunity to broaden or deepen their teaching repertoire by combining education and non-education studies in an area of specialisation (e.g. Environmental Education, Special Education, Aboriginal and Islander Studies, Early Childhood Education, Media, Mathematics, Languages Other Than English [LOTE] and Teaching English as a Second Language [TESL]). It also provides an avenue for students from other disciplines who wish to gain knowledge and skills in education applicable to a wide range of contexts. This program has also been of interest to other professionals and community members who are interested in educational processes and issues.

Murdoch offers a one-year Graduate Diploma in Adult and Tertiary Education for professionals wanting a qualification in tertiary and adult teaching. Demand for the Tertiary and Adult Education Program continues to increase due to an increasing emphasis on professional educational practice in tertiary institutions and training in government, private and non-government organisations. Pathways for TAFE lecturers to enroll in the Graduate Diploma program have been strengthened by the award of credit for the completion of several professional development programs. For tertiary and adult teaching, enrolment in the course requires that students have or can arrange access to teaching groups; typically students are already in a teaching situation. The School also offers Graduate Certificates in Education Studies in Tertiary and Adult Education and Early Childhood Education, and a Graduate Certificate in Mathematics Education which represent half of the Graduate Diploma Program.

The Postgraduate Certificate and Postgraduate Diploma in Social Research and Evaluation continue to attract able graduates from education, health, social science, and a variety of other backgrounds.

There are four degrees at the Masters level - the Master of Education (Coursework), the Master of Education (Coursework and Dissertation), the Master of Arts (Social Research and Evaluation), and the Master of Philosophy - and two at the Doctoral level - the Doctor of Education (professional doctorate) and Doctor of Philosophy. The Master of Education (Coursework) provides advanced professional development for educators. From 2003 the Master of Education (Coursework and Dissertation) will be re-named Master of Education (Research).

Student Scholarships

Millennium Indigenous Teacher Scholarship Program (Department of Education Services)

Ms Audrey Boyle, a Bachelor of Education (Primary) student in the School of Education, was awarded the scholarship in 2002. The program aims to provide indigenous people with the opportunity to become teachers and thereby contribute significantly to their communities.

Student Awards

Prize Name	Award	Student
<i>Thelma Harley Brown Prize in Education</i>	<i>Best academic performance by a graduate in the Master of Education (Dissertation with Coursework) Program</i>	<i>Ms Jocasta de Reuck</i>
<i>Elizabeth Mary Dodd Prize in Education</i>	<i>Best academic performance by a graduate in the Master of Education Coursework Program</i>	<i>Mrs Jacqueline Anne O'Donnell</i>
<i>Early Childhood Teachers' Association Prize</i>	<i>Awarded for the highest standard of achievement by a graduand in the school experience and academic components of the Early Childhood Education Course</i>	<i>Ms Susan Devereaux</i>
<i>CS and DL Sanders Prize in Education</i>	<i>Best academic performance by a graduate in the Bachelor of Education at the Pass or Honours Level</i>	<i>Ms Breanna Lee Young</i>
<i>School of Education Prize for Excellence in Teaching (Primary)</i>	<i>Awarded for completing an initial teacher education program with the best performance in school experience (primary)</i>	<i>Mrs Jane Ann Blair and Mrs Elizabeth Elaine Robertson</i>
<i>School of Education Prize for Excellence in Teaching (Secondary)</i>	<i>Awarded for completing an initial teacher education program with the best performance in school experience (secondary)</i>	<i>Miss Kristy Oliver and Dr Julie Lorraine Delaney</i>
<i>WA Secondary Executives' Association Prize</i>	<i>Highest standard of achievement by a graduand in the school experience and academic components of the Secondary Teacher Education Program</i>	<i>Mrs Christine Frances Dowd</i>
<i>Western Australian Primary Principals' Association Prize</i>	<i>Awarded for the highest standard of achievement by a graduand in the school experience and academic components of the Primary Teacher Education Program</i>	<i>Mrs Suzanne Kirke</i>

Program Enrolments

Initial Teacher Education (Primary)		2001
BEd 4-year		488
BEd Initial		57
BA/BSc/other degree + Grad Dip Ed		32
BA Primary Teacher Ed/Ed Studies		0
BEd/other degree		8
Grad Dip Ed		213
Sub Total		798
(Secondary)		
BEd 4 year		48
BEd Initial		1
BA/BSc/other degree + Grad Dip Ed		35
BEd/other degree		66
Grad Dip Ed		162
Sub Total		312
Tertiary And Adult		
Grad Dip Ed/Grad Cert		80
Sub Total		80
Further Professional Studies		
BEd Studies		33
Grad Dip Educational Studies		0
Grad Cert Educational Studies		5
Grad Cert Mathematics		6
BProf Studies		15
Grad Dip/Cert Applied Language Education		1
MA Social Research Evaluation + PG Dip		8
MEd (Coursework)		12
Sub Total		80
Research		
Med Research/Coursework & Dissertation		24
MPhil/PhD		30
EdD		18
Sub Total		72
TOTAL		1342
Initial Teacher Education (Primary)		2002
Primary (Bachelor of Education) + Initial		700
Primary (Graduate Diploma)		262
Secondary (Bachelor of Education) + Initial		140
Secondary (Diploma of Education)		210
Tertiary and Adult (Diploma of Education)		68
Sub Total		1380
Further Professional Studies		
Education Studies		32
Education Studies (Certificate + Maths)*		71
Bachelor of Professional Studies		5
LOTE (Graduate Diploma)*Disc 2002		0
Social Research & Evaluation* + Postgraduate Diploma		5
Master of Education (Coursework)*		24
*fee paying places		
Sub Total		137
Research		
Master of Education (Research) + Honours		38
Master of Philosophy/Doctor of Philosophy		28
Doctor of Education		19
Sub Total		85
TOTAL		1602