

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN SECONDARY TEACHING (1914)

Approved Abbreviation: GradCertSecTeach

Western Sydney University Program Code: 1914

AQF Level: 8

This program applies to students who commenced in 2022 or later.

Students should follow the program structure for the session start date relevant to the year they commenced.

For Commencement Year 2019 - 2021 - please refer to: 1846.2
Graduate Certificate in Education (Curriculum Specialisation) (<http://handbook.westernsydney.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=1846.2>)

Handbook Summary 2025

The Graduate Certificate in Secondary Teaching enables qualified teachers to expand the subjects they are eligible to teach. It also provides a flexible pathway for former Western Sydney University students who exited from a Master of Teaching (Secondary) degree to complete an accredited teaching qualification in a curriculum area. This program comprises curriculum subjects that cover NSW requirements for Years 7-12, school-based professional experience in schools, and postgraduate studies in education to deepen professional knowledge and skills. Program advice should be sought before applying.

Handbook Summary 2024

The Graduate Certificate in Secondary Teaching provides a pathway for qualified secondary teachers to expand the number of teaching areas for which they are eligible to teach. Applicants to this program can be either currently working in secondary schools or seeking employment in secondary schools. This program comprises two curriculum subjects that cover NSW syllabus requirements for Years 7-10 and Years 11-12. In addition, students will undertake one in-school professional experience block and one subject in either student wellbeing, curriculum and assessment design or leadership. Applicants must have a minimum of four undergraduate pre-requisite subjects as required by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) (<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home/>) for the area of study the applicant is intending to teach. Academic program advice should be sought.

Study Mode

One year part-time.

Program Advice

secondaryenquiries@westernsydney.edu.au

Prospective students should visit the following websites for general enquiries about this program.

Enquire about this program (<https://enquiry.westernsydney.edu.au/courseenquiry/>) | Local Admission (<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/future/>) | International Admission (<https://www.westernsydney.edu.au/international/home/apply/admissions/>) |

Location

Campus	Attendance	Mode	Advice
Penrith campus	Part Time	Internal	See above

Work Integrated Learning

Western Sydney University seeks to enhance student learning experiences by enabling students to engage in the culture, expectations and practices of their profession or discipline. This program includes a placement or other community-based unpaid practical experience.

There is a mandatory work component required for completion of this program. Please contact the Program Advisor listed above for information.

Admission

To be eligible to enrol in this program, students must have a secondary teaching qualification and a minimum of 4 undergraduate subjects as required by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) (<https://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/home/>) for the area of study the applicant is intending to teach. Students are advised to seek academic project advice as to this.

If applicants require additional undergraduate subjects to meet the area of study, these may be completed as non-award study at Western Sydney University or any other University.

Applications from Australian and New Zealand citizens and holders of permanent resident visas must be made via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC). Use the links below to apply via UAC or Western Sydney University. Applications made directly to Western Sydney do not have an application fee.

Applicants who have undertaken studies overseas may have to provide proof of proficiency in English. Local and International applicants who are applying through the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) will find details of minimum English proficiency requirements and acceptable proof on the UAC website. Local applicants applying directly to the University should also use the information provided on the UAC website.

<http://www.uac.edu.au/>
<https://westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws/>

Overseas qualifications must be deemed by the Australian Education International - National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) to be equivalent to Australian qualifications in order to be considered by UAC and Western Sydney University.

Special Requirements Prerequisites

An Australian university qualification in Secondary Teaching recognised by NESA, a Working with Children Check, Child Protection Awareness Training, and ASCIA anaphylaxis e-training.

Program Structure Current

This structure applies to students who commenced in 2025 or later. If you commenced prior to 2025, please refer to the relevant Structure tab for details.

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 40 credit points, comprising a 10 credit point core professional practice subject, 20 credit points of functionally equivalent core curriculum subjects plus a 10 credit point alternate subject.

Core Subjects

All students are required to complete the core subject listed below.

Subject	Title	Credit Points
TEAC 7155	Professional Experience 2	10
Total Credit Points		10

Curriculum Subjects

All students are required to complete two of the following functionally equivalent subject combinations based on NESA undergraduate subject content requirements.

Subject	Title	Credit Points
Curriculum Subjects		20
TEAC 5005	English Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5006	English Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5001	Aboriginal Studies Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5002	Aboriginal and Society Studies Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5013	History Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5014	History Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5009	Geography Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5010	Geography Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5003	Business Studies/Commerce Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5004	Business Studies/Legal Studies/Economics Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5024	Music Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5025	Music Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5036	Technology Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5037	Technology Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5028	PDHPE Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5029	PDHPE Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5015	Languages Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5016	Languages Curriculum 2	
Total Credit Points		20
Alternate Subjects		
All students are required to complete one alternate subject listed below.		
Subject	Title	Credit Points
Alternate Subject		10
TEAC 7063	Leadership, Mentoring and Professional Growth	
TEAC 5023	Mental Health in Educational Contexts	
TEAC 7100	Principles and Practices of Evaluation	
TEAC 7026	Designing Curriculum Futures	
Total Credit Points		10

Recommended Sequence Current

This sequence applies to students who commenced in 2025 or later. If you commenced prior to 2025, please refer to the relevant Sequence tab for details.

Course	Title	Credit Points
Year 1		
Autumn session		
	Select one alternate subject from the following:	10
TEAC 7063	Leadership, Mentoring and Professional Growth	
TEAC 5023	Mental Health in Educational Contexts	
TEAC 7100	Principles and Practices of Evaluation	
TEAC 7026	Designing Curriculum Futures	
	Select one of the following functionally equivalent core subjects based on NESA undergraduate subject content requirements:	10
TEAC 5005	English Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5001	Aboriginal Studies Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5013	History Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5009	Geography Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5003	Business Studies/Commerce Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5024	Music Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5036	Technology Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5028	PDHPE Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5015	Languages Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5019	Mathematics Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5032	Science Curriculum 1	
	Credit Points	20
Spring session		
TEAC 7155	Professional Experience 2	10
	Select one of the following functional equivalent core subjects based on NESA undergraduate subject content requirements:	10
TEAC 5006	English Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5002	Aboriginal and Society Studies Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5014	History Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5010	Geography Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5004	Business Studies/Legal Studies/Economics Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5025	Music Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5037	Technology Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5029	PDHPE Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5016	Languages Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5020	Mathematics Curriculum 2	
TEAC 5033	Science Curriculum 2	
	Credit Points	20
Total Credit Points		

Program Structure 2022-2024

This structure applies to students who commenced in 2022 - 2024. If you commenced in 2025 or later, please refer to the relevant Structure tab for details.

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 40 credit points, comprising a 10 credit point core professional practice subject, 20 credit points of functionally equivalent core curriculum subjects plus a 10 credit point alternate subject.

Core Subjects

All students are required to complete the core subject listed below.

Subject	Title	Credit Points
TEAC 7154	Professional Experience 1 and Pedagogy	10
Total Credit Points		10

Curriculum Subjects

All students are required to complete two of the following functionally equivalent subject combinations based on NESA undergraduate subject content requirements.

Subject	Title	Credit Points
Curriculum Subjects		20
TEAC 5005	English Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5006	English Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5001	Aboriginal Studies Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5002	Aboriginal and Society Studies Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5013	History Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5014	History Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5009	Geography Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5010	Geography Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5003	Business Studies/Commerce Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5004	Business Studies/Legal Studies/Economics Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5024	Music Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5025	Music Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5036	Technology Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5037	Technology Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5028	PDHPE Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5029	PDHPE Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5015	Languages Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5016	Languages Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5019	Mathematics Curriculum 1	
TEAC 5020	Mathematics Curriculum 2	
Or		
TEAC 5032	Science Curriculum 1	

TEAC 5033	Science Curriculum 2
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Total Credit Points	20
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Alternate Subjects

All students are required to complete one alternate subject listed below.

Subject	Title	Credit Points
Alternate Subject		10
TEAC 7063	Leadership, Mentoring and Professional Growth	
TEAC 5023	Mental Health in Educational Contexts	
TEAC 7100	Principles and Practices of Evaluation	
TEAC 7026	Designing Curriculum Futures	

Total Credit Points	10
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Replaced Subjects

The subjects listed below count towards completion of this program for students who passed these subjects in 2024 or earlier.

TEAC 7020 Contemporary Teacher Leadership

Recommended Sequence 2022-2024

This sequence applies to students who commenced in 2022 - 2024. If you commenced in 2025 or later, please refer to the relevant Sequence tab for details.

Qualification for this award requires the successful completion of 40 credit points, comprising a 10 credit point core professional practice subject, 20 credit points of functionally equivalent core curriculum subjects plus a 10 credit point alternate subject, as per the recommended sequence below.

Course	Title	Credit Points
Year 1		
Autumn session		
Select one alternate subject from the following:		
TEAC 7063 Leadership, Mentoring and Professional Growth		
TEAC 5023 Mental Health in Educational Contexts		
TEAC 7100 Principles and Practices of Evaluation		
TEAC 7026 Designing Curriculum Futures		
Select one of the following functionally equivalent core subjects based on NESA undergraduate subject content requirements:		
TEAC 5005 English Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5001 Aboriginal Studies Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5013 History Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5009 Geography Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5003 Business Studies/Commerce Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5024 Music Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5036 Technology Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5028 PDHPE Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5015 Languages Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5019 Mathematics Curriculum 1		
TEAC 5032 Science Curriculum 1		
Credit Points		
20		
Spring session		
TEAC 7154 Professional Experience 1 and Pedagogy		
Select one of the following functional equivalent core subjects based on NESA undergraduate subject content requirements:		
TEAC 5006 English Curriculum 2		

TEAC 5002	Aboriginal and Society Studies Curriculum 2
TEAC 5014	History Curriculum 2
TEAC 5010	Geography Curriculum 2
TEAC 5004	Business Studies/Legal Studies/ Economics Curriculum 2
TEAC 5025	Music Curriculum 2
TEAC 5037	Technology Curriculum 2
TEAC 5029	PDHPE Curriculum 2
TEAC 5016	Languages Curriculum 2
TEAC 5020	Mathematics Curriculum 2
TEAC 5033	Science Curriculum 2
Credit Points	20
Total Credit Points	40

Replaced Subjects

The subjects listed below count towards completion of this program for students who passed these subjects in 2024 or earlier.

TEAC 7020 Contemporary Teacher Leadership