

Overview

The Leadership in Aboriginal Education is a designated area in the Sydney School of Education and Social Work Master of Education program. This designation prepares Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal educators for leadership roles in schools and education systems, specifically in the national priority area of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education.

This designation is underpinned by a lifelong commitment to social justice, equity, and culturally responsive approaches to curriculum, pedagogy, leadership and research. Improving the educational outcomes for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students is paramount, as is disrupting deficit discourses about Aboriginal peoples, cultures and histories in the project of creating deep and real-world cultural understandings in all students. Candidates will apply their research and learning to real-life contexts in their workplace in order to influence significant and sustainable changes.

The objective of this designation is to provide candidates with a solid foundation in the theoretical underpinnings, research acumen and practical application of the knowledge, understandings and skills necessary to become impactful leaders in Aboriginal Education. This will include a focus on Aboriginal community collaboration, and issues and applications in curriculum, pedagogy, policy, institutional structures and professional learning required to influence change in their educational context as culturally competent, collaborative and responsive leaders.

Testimonials

This course helped me develop my skills and explore my passions with like-minded people, in a positive and supportive learning environment. My students have already felt the impact through my greater understanding of Aboriginal Education by deepening their knowledge about Aboriginal histories and cultures. The Assessment tasks are practical, and I have developed useful strategies that can be applied within my school context. This is a course that all teachers should consider as Aboriginal Education is a shared responsibility, critical for a socially just future for our nation.

History teacher

This course is incredibly stimulating which makes me as an educator acutely aware of how much I don't know and how we need to be better equipped to offer academic rigour within our pedagogical approach to embedding Aboriginal content into our curriculum.

Japanese teacher

With my new understanding, I'm personally challenged and excited with possibilities of my knowledge being the first steps toward re-examining my role as a professional to work alongside Aboriginal ways of knowing and learning and how I can make a difference in my school community.

Primary teacher

Units of Study

Each unit of study is worth 6 credit points and is equivalent to 26 hours of learning. This table is based on part-time enrolment – 2 subjects per semester over 2 years. Full-time enrolment requires 4 subjects per semester over 1 year. This is the standard pattern of study, but you can elect up to 2 subjects from another Master of Education program, and a dissertation (research-based project) for one or two semesters. This would be relevant for students interested in pursuing a PhD. Please contact the coordinator for further information.

2023	YEAR 1
Semester 1	EDPL6002 Aboriginal Community Collaboration AND EDPL6007 Racism & Well-being
Semester 2	EDPL6004 Leadership in Aboriginal Contexts AND EDPL6005 Aboriginal Education: Policy & Practice
2024	YEAR 2
Semester 1	EDPL6003 Aboriginal Curriculum & Pedagogy AND EDPL6006 Culturally Responsive Methodologies
Semester 2	EDPL6008 Professional Learning: Aboriginal Context AND <u>Capstone unit</u> EDPZ6730 Special Project

Structure of the course

Master of Education (Leadership in Aboriginal Education)

To qualify for the award of Master of Education (Leadership in Aboriginal Education) candidates must complete 48 credit points, including:

- a minimum of 30 credit points from this specialisation, comprising;
 - a minimum of 24 credit points of core units of study;
 - a minimum of 12 credit points of elective units of study; plus
- a maximum of 6 credit points of capstone units of study; and
- a maximum of 12 credit points of postgraduate Education units of study which can be chosen from any Master of Education program

Graduate Diploma in Educational Studies (Leadership in Aboriginal Education)

To qualify for the award of Graduate Diploma in Educational Studies ((Leadership in Aboriginal Education) candidates must complete 36 credit points, including

- a minimum of 24 credit points of core units of study;
- a minimum of 12 credit points of elective units of study; and
- a maximum of 6 credit points of postgraduate Education units of study chosen from any Master of Education program.

Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (Leadership in Aboriginal Education)

To qualify for the award of Graduate Certificate in Educational Studies (Leadership in Aboriginal Education) candidates must complete 24 credit points, including

- a minimum of 18 credit points of core units of study; and
- a maximum of 6 credit points of elective units of study

Assessment

A variety of assessment tasks will provide candidates with opportunities to apply the knowledges, understandings and skills acquired in each unit of study directly to their workplace contexts. The Capstone units are covered as per current Master of Education rules.

Course Delivery

Due to COVID19, delivery is currently remote. This pattern will continue until further notice. However, the course is intended to be a mix of face-to-face seminars (50% or 13 hours) and remote delivery (50% or 13 hours). We are committed to providing study options for students in all areas across Australia – urban, regional, rural and remote.

Candidates who attend the University of Sydney-Aboriginal Studies Association Leadership Conference and Masterclass in Leadership in Aboriginal Education can negotiate recognition of prior learning for the number of hours attended.

Further information

Full course fees, Commonwealth Supported Places (student contribution amount) and other details regarding application and enrolment can be found via the following link: <https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/pc/master-of-education.html>. <https://sydney.edu.au/courses/courses/pc/master-of-education-leadership-in-aboriginal-education.html>. For information regarding help to pay fees, please go to. <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/fee-help>

There are 5 annual designated scholarships for this program of study. Please follow this link for scholarship information <https://sydney.edu.au/scholarships/b/marion-macaulay-bequest-master-of-education.html>

Please contact the convenor, cathie.burgess@sydney.edu.au for further information