

Master of Teaching (Secondary)



UNSW Arts & Social Sciences
arts.unsw.edu.au





Master of Teaching (Secondary)

- You will be eligible to teach after only one year of full-time study
- You will gain practical experience through real-world scenarios
- Commonwealth supported places are available for eligible students

What is it?

The Master of Teaching (Secondary) at UNSW is a two-year equivalent accelerated program which allows you to fit 2 years' worth of study in to 1.3 years. It is designed to support students in the transition to their first year of teaching and to nurture future leaders of the profession. Once you have completed your first year of study (taken over 3 full terms) you will be eligible to apply for conditional accreditation and work in NSW secondary schools on a casual/part-time basis.

During the program, you will undertake up to 80 days of supervised teaching in up to three schools, giving you maximum exposure to a wide range of teaching opportunities. With expert supervision from UNSW School of Education staff and site-based teachers, you will be immersed in the classroom five days a week during your professional experience (PE) blocks.

Why study with us?

Our Secondary Teaching courses offer you the opportunity to learn innovative teaching methods that link practice with theory. You will gain advanced skills in effective unit and lesson planning, assessment and reporting. There is an emphasis on enhanced communication skills to ensure effective classroom communication, the practice of reflective teaching and the desire to continually improve professional knowledge and practice.

We are the only university that offers Commonwealth Supported Places (CSPs) to domestic students for this program.

Accredited teaching qualifications

As a graduate, you will gain accreditation with the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) and will be eligible to work in all Australian states as well as internationally.

Entry Requirements

To enrol in the Master of Teaching (Secondary), you must have completed an undergraduate degree which meets the prerequisites for your selected teaching methods or specialisation(s).

Teaching specialisations

You are required to study one extension or two single teaching areas to prepare for your secondary teaching specialisation(s). Subjects highlighted in bold can be taken as an extended teaching specialisation.

The teaching areas are:

- Aboriginal Studies
- Biology
- Business Studies
- Chemistry
- Drama (Theatre and Performance Studies)
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Economics
- **English**
- English as an Additional Language or Dialect (EAL/D)
- Geography
- Graphics and Multimedia Technology
- History – Ancient
- History – ModernHistory
- Investigating Science
- Languages: French, German, Spanish, Chinese, Japanese and /or Korean (A high level of competence in spoken and written language is required. A minor without prior studies or background in the language is usually insufficient to qualify as a teacher of the language.)
- Legal Studies
- **Mathematics**
- **Music**
- Physics
- Society and Culture
- **Visual Arts**

Are you ready to apply?

Before you apply make sure you have completed a self-assessment using the following steps and that you meet all the requirements:

Step 1:

Have you chosen your two subjects or one extension (English, Mathematics, Music or Visual Arts)?

You need to meet certain subject content requirements to be eligible to teach in the specialisation of your choice. [Check the subject content requirements for each specialisation.](#)

Step 2:

Are your subjects compatible?

Due to timetabling, not all teaching methods can be studied together. [Check the list of incompatible methods in 2021.](#)

Step 3:

Have you prepared your [personal statement](#)*?

When submitting your application you will also need to prepare a personal statement outlining why you will be suitable for secondary teaching.

How to apply

Between June and mid-August, you can apply online through UNSW without paying a fee: [Apply now.](#)

After mid August you will need to apply through [UAC.](#)

*Please note that a personal statement is required for all applications, regardless of the application method.

If you have any questions, email the School of Education: education@unsw.edu.au

Additional requirements

By the first week of the program, you will need to have the following:

- [Working with Children Check](#)
- [Anaphylaxis training](#)
- [Child Protection Awareness Training](#)
- [COVID-19 Digital Vaccination Certificate](#)

Get started on compliance early to avoid delays at the start of the program.

Before going on your final 9-week placement you will need to:

- Undertake the [Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education](#) (LANTITE)

One final thing to consider

The Master of Teaching (Secondary) program is unique in that it does not exactly follow the University calendar. To help you plan your year, including when you can take holidays, see the [2022 calendar](#), for an indication of what 2022 could look like.



Step 1: Subject content requirements for each specialisation

First teaching area requirements

Teaching
Specialisation

First Teaching Area Requirement

A sequence of at least six units in a specialist teaching area equivalent to 0.75 EFT (i.e. for UNSW graduates 36 UoC), at AQF Level 7 (undergraduate bachelor level), studied over three levels or years with at least two of these units at Level (Year) 3 or above and no more than two units at Level (Year) 1, or the equivalent at the postgraduate level.

Note: Music and Visual Arts can only be taken as a first teaching area.

Aboriginal Studies

A sequence of six units in Aboriginal studies in areas such as Aboriginal peoples' relationship to country, contact, colonisation and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, government policies affecting Aboriginal peoples, including segregation, assimilation and Aboriginal self-determination, the land rights movement and the recognition of native title, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander literature and oral expression, Aboriginal languages and cultures.

Ancient History

A sequence of six units in history, in areas such as ancient history, archaeology, historiography, including one unit in ancient history or medieval history.

Biology

A sequence of six units in biology, where four of the six units include units in areas such as cell biology, genetics, biological evolution, biological systems and structures, human disease transmission and prevention, bioethics. Scientific methods, theories, laws, technologies, practices, as well as current and ethical issues such as environmental rehabilitation and sustainability must have been covered in the sequence of six units.

Business Studies

A sequence of six units in business related studies, including at least one unit in finance or accounting, one unit of business management, and the remaining units drawn from: business law (Australian/English), economics, human resource management, industrial relations, marketing, finance, accounting or business management.

Chemistry

A sequence of six units in chemistry, where four of the six units include units in areas such as atomic structure and bonds, energy, chemical reactions and equilibrium, carbon chemistry, stoic chemistry and chemical systems. Scientific methods, theories, laws, technologies, practices, as well as current and ethical issues such as environmental rehabilitation and sustainability must have been covered in the sequence of six units.

Engineering units may be considered on review of unit statements for appropriate chemistry content.

Drama (Theatre & Performance Studies)	<p>A sequence of six units in drama including performance, production, theory and preferably Australian drama.</p> <p><i>Drama studies must be developed as a discrete discipline. Vocationally oriented units are not recognised as equivalent.</i></p>
Earth and Environmental Science	<p>A sequence of six units in earth and environmental science, where four of the six units include one unit in biology and three units in areas such as the geosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere, geological systems including plate tectonics, energy transfers, earth systems, structures, hazards, and processes, and earth history/development, scientific methods, theories, laws, technologies, practices, as well as current and ethical issues such as environmental rehabilitation and sustainability must have been covered in the sequence of six units.</p>
Economics	<p>A sequence of six units in economics.</p>
English/English Extension	<p>A sequence of six units in English, with at least three in textual studies/literature. Other units may include studies in linguistics, media studies, communications, creative writing, film studies, textual studies and/or drama/performing arts studies.</p>
English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D)	<p>A sequence of six units in discipline knowledge relevant to EAL/D such as linguistics, and/or language studies that provide a grounding in the English language, how it works, and a very high level of competency in spoken and written English and intercultural communication.</p> <p><i>Note: If you take EAL/D as a first teaching area you must also take one other area as a first teaching area; you cannot be accredited with only EAL/D as a first teaching area.</i></p>
Geography	<p>A sequence of six units in geography, including physical and human geography.</p> <p><i>Units in earth and environmental science may be considered on review of units for appropriate discipline knowledge.</i></p>
Graphics & Multimedia Technology	<p>A sequence of six units in graphics media or media arts studio sequences including technical illustration, industrial design, graphic design or multimedia design including computer aided design (CAD).</p>
Languages (Chinese, Japanese, Korean, French, Spanish, German only)	<p>A sequence of six units in a language other than English, including the spoken and written language, ending beyond the HSC level.</p> <p><i>Note that native speaker status by itself is not given any credit at UNSW; formal study in the language is required.</i></p>
Legal Studies	<p>A sequence of six units in legal studies, including Australian and international law.</p>
Investigating Science	<p>A sequence of six units in Science including two units in general, interdisciplinary or applied science and one unit in each of chemistry, physics, earth or environmental science and biology.</p> <p><i>Engineering units may be considered upon review of unit statements for appropriate physics and/or chemistry content.</i></p>

Mathematics/ Mathematics Extension

A sequence of six units in pure or applied mathematics that must include at least one unit of algebra and one unit of calculus. The other units can be drawn from studies of mathematics such as the history of mathematics, discrete mathematics, geometry, but only one unit in statistics may be counted.

Engineering units may be considered on review of unit statements for appropriate mathematical content.

Modern History

A sequence of six units in history in areas such as Australian history, contact and Aboriginal history, early modern history, historiography, modern history, including one unit in ancient history or medieval history.

Music/Music Extension

A sequence of six units including a minimum of four units of performance studies, including Australian music; musicological study (music history and analysis) in a range of musical styles, periods and genres with a strong component of contemporary and Western art music; compositional techniques.

The study of music and music practice must be developed as a discrete discipline. Vocationally oriented units are not recognised as equivalent.

Physics

A sequence of six units in physics, where four of the six units include units in areas such as electromagnetism, particle physics (e.g. wave motion), energy transfer (e.g. thermodynamics), quantum/classical mechanics, electrodynamics, astrophysics, or solid state physics. Scientific methods, theories, laws, technologies, practices, as well as current and ethical issues such as environmental rehabilitation and sustainability must have been covered in the sequence of six units.

Engineering units may be considered on review of unit statements for appropriate physics content.

Physics (for Mathematics / Physics combined specialisation only)

Four units in physics including units in areas such as electromagnetism, particle physics (e.g., wave motion), energy transfer (e.g., thermodynamics), quantum/classical mechanics, electrodynamics, astrophysics, or solid-state physics. Scientific methods, theories, laws, technologies, practices, as well as current and ethical issues such as environmental rehabilitation and sustainability must have been covered in the sequence of four units.

Engineering units may be considered on review of unit statements for appropriate physics content.

Society and Culture

A sequence of six units in social sciences, including at least one unit in sociology and the remaining units drawn from: Aboriginal studies, anthropology, Asian or Pacific studies, civics, cultural studies, government, history, philosophy, politics, religion studies, social communication and sociology.

Visual Arts/ Visual Arts Extension

A sequence of six units in visual arts and design studio sequences including the study of 2D (drawing, printmaking, photography, visual design, graphics & multimedia), 3D (ceramics, sculpture, installation, site specific works and/ or 4D (animation, filmmaking, web-based art, game design, time-based works, graphics & multimedia) artforms and art theory/history.

The study of visual arts must be developed as a discrete discipline. Vocationally oriented units are not recognised as equivalent.

Additional teaching area requirements

Teaching Specialisation

Additional Teaching Area Requirements

A sequence of at least four units in a specialist teaching area equivalent to 0.50 EFT (i.e. for UNSW graduates 24 UoC), at AQF Level 7 (undergraduate bachelor level), studied over two levels or years with at least two of these units at Level (Year) 2 or above and no more than two units at Level (Year) 1, or the equivalent at the postgraduate level.

Aboriginal Studies

A sequence of four units in Aboriginal studies in areas such as Aboriginal peoples’ relationship to country, contact, colonisation, and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and cultures, government policies affecting Aboriginal peoples, including segregation, assimilation and Aboriginal self-determination, the land rights movement, and the recognition of native title, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander literature and oral expression, Aboriginal languages and cultures.

Ancient History

A sequence of four units in history, in areas such as ancient history, archaeology, historiography, including one unit in ancient history or medieval history.

Business Studies

A sequence of four units in business related studies, including at least one unit in finance or accounting, one unit of business management and the remaining units drawn from: business law (Australian/English), economics, human resource management, industrial relations, marketing, finance, accounting or business management.

Drama

A sequence of four units in drama including performance, production, theory and preferably Australian drama.
Drama studies must be developed as a discrete discipline. Vocationally oriented units are not recognised as equivalent.

Economics

A sequence of four units in economics.

English

A sequence of four units in English, including at least two units in textual studies/literature and another two units in linguistics, media studies, communications, creative writing, film studies, textual studies and/or drama/performing arts studies.

English as an additional language or dialect (EAL/D)

A sequence of four units in discipline knowledge relevant to EAL/D such as linguistics, and/or language studies that provide a grounding in the English language, how it works, and a very high level of competency in spoken and written English and intercultural communication.

Geography

A sequence of four units in geography, including physical and human geography.
Units in earth and environmental science may be considered on review of units for appropriate discipline knowledge.

Graphics & Multimedia Technology

A sequence of four units in graphics media or media arts studio sequences including technical illustration, industrial design, graphic design or multimedia design including computer aided design (CAD).

Languages

(Chinese, Japanese, Korean, French, Spanish, German only)

A sequence of four units in a language other than English, including the spoken and written language, ending beyond the HSC level.
Note that native speaker status by itself is not given any credit at UNSW; formal study in the language is required.

Legal Studies

A sequence of four units in legal studies, including Australian and international law.

Mathematics

Four units in pure or applied mathematics that must include at least one unit of algebra and one unit of calculus. The other two units may be drawn from studies of mathematics such as the history of mathematics, discrete mathematics and geometry, but only one unit in statistics may be counted.
Engineering units may be considered on review of course statements for appropriate mathematical content.

Modern History

A sequence of four units in history, in areas such as Australian history, contact and Aboriginal history, early modern history, historiography, modern history, including one unit in ancient history or medieval history.

Society and Culture

A sequence of four units in social sciences, including at least one unit in sociology and the remaining units drawn from: Aboriginal studies, anthropology, Asian or Pacific studies, civics, cultural studies, government, history, philosophy, politics, religion studies, social communication and sociology.



Step 2: Incompatible teaching specialisation

Due to timetabling, not all teaching methods can be studied together. Please refer to the table to the right to see what teaching areas are not compatible.

Teaching Area

Incompatible 2023

Ancient History	Business, Music
Business Studies	Ancient History, Music
Chinese	Legal, Graphics & Multimedia, Senior Sciences
Drama	French, Japanese, Spanish, Korean, Society & Culture, Geography
Economics	English, Science, Visual Arts
English	Economics, Visual Arts, Science
EAL/D	-
French	Drama, Japanese, Korean, Society & Culture, Geography
Geography	French, Japanese, Spanish, Korean, Society & Culture
Graphics & Multimedia	Chinese, Legal, Senior Sciences
Japanese	Drama, French, Spanish, Society & Culture, Geography
Korean	Drama, French, Spanish, Society & Culture, Geography
Legal Studies	Chinese, Graphics & Multimedia, Senior Sciences
Mathematics	Modern History
Modern History	Maths
Music	Business, Ancient History
Science	English, Economics, Visual Arts
Society & Culture	Drama, Languages (excluding Chinese), Geography
Spanish	Drama, Japanese, Korean, Society & Culture, Geography
Visual Arts	English, Economics, Science
Physics	Chinese, Legal, Graphics & Multimedia
Earth and Environmental Science	Chinese, Legal, Graphics & Multimedia
Chemistry	Chinese, Legal, Graphics & Multimedia
Biology	Chinese, Legal, Graphics & Multimedia
Chemistry/Biology	Chinese, Legal, Graphics & Multimedia
Investigating Science	Chinese, Legal, Graphics & Multimedia

Step 3: Personal Statement

When submitting your application you will also need to prepare a personal statement outlining why you will be suitable for secondary teaching. Your statement should be no more than 150 words and include your reasons for wanting to be a teacher and why you are well suited for that role.

A personal statement is required for all applications, regardless of whether you apply to UNSW directly or via UAC.

FAQS

What does 'accelerated program' mean?

If you complete the program full-time, you will be fitting in 2 years' (6 terms) worth of study into 1.3 years (4 terms). To do this, you will have an overloaded program (complete up to 4 courses per term instead of 3). This makes it an intense program and it is therefore recommended that you do not have any work commitments during this time.

[Check out the full-time program plan on pg1](#) (2023 program plans will be available towards the end of 2021).

If you have large commitments that you cannot get out of, you may want to consider completing the program part-time over 3 years (you will be eligible to apply for a job in NSW Schools after 2 years).

Please note that you can always drop down to part-time if you find the workload too much, but you cannot jump back to full-time due to the structure of the program.

Can I study this program part-time?

Yes, but you need to follow a specific plan of study as outlined by UNSW School of Education.

[Check out the part-time program plan on pg2.](#)

What are the English language proficiency requirements?

A very high level of competence in spoken and written English is required to participate in this program. Find out more about [English language requirements](#).

All applicants (domestic and international students) must meet the above criteria and submit evidence with their Master of Teaching (Secondary) application. If you have undertaken prior study in the English language you still need to submit this evidence.

After you have been accepted into the program and before going on your final 9-week placement you will need to pay for and pass the [Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education \(LANTITE\)](#).

Can I start mid-year?

No. Intake is only in Term 1 each year.

Does my degree from overseas qualify me to study the Master of Teaching (Secondary)?

It can. As long as you have met the [entry requirements](#). Please note that you may be asked for additional information following your application to determine the equivalency of your courses to those of UNSW.

What is the personal statement that I must complete?

In addition to meeting the graduate and background studies requirements, you must submit a personal statement outlining your suitability for secondary teaching. Your statement should be no more than 150 words and include your reasons for wanting to be a teacher and why you are well suited for that role.

Am I eligible for a commonwealth supported place?

[Commonwealth supported places](#) (CSPs) are offered in the Master of Teaching (Secondary).

To get a CSP, you must be:

- an Australian citizen, who will live and study in Australia for some of the course; or
- a New Zealand citizen, who will live and study in Australia for the whole course; or
- a permanent visa holder, who will live and study in Australia for the whole course

What subjects do I choose?

Look at the Master of Teaching (Secondary) [program plan](#) and [Program Overview via the UNSW Handbook](#) for the courses you will need to choose each term.

Contact us

UNSW Future Students Office

Degree and admission advice

Ask a question unsw.edu.au/ask

1300 UNI NSW (1300 864 679)

futurestudents.unsw.edu.au