Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education)

About this degree

Do you want to help children develop essential learning skills that can shape their lives? The Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) will deliver the online university degree to meet your goals. Teacher education and childcare studies can lead to a meaningful and enduring career for people with a natural affinity and interest in young children's development and education. This online degree gives you the ability to make informed decisions about teaching and learning, managing learning environments and implementing a range of educational practices.

Snapshot

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Level</th>
<th>Undergraduate</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Qualification</td>
<td>Bachelor Degree</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Subjects</td>
<td>29 subjects</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Provider</td>
<td>Curtin University</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Overview

This degree prepares pre-service teachers to teach children aged birth to eight years in early learning centres and in junior primary classes. The teaching profession and quality teacher training programs in particular have become a universal focus for the sustainability of our society. Teaching continues to be a valued and sought after profession in all countries. In accordance with this philosophy, Curtin provides a high quality undergraduate course for beginning early childhood teaching that is acclaimed both nationally and internationally. Curtin is proud of its highly qualified and experienced Education staff who provide a vibrant and contemporary learning environment.

Graduates of this course are sought after by employers seeking highly skilled teachers. The program is sequential and developmental in nature and consists of 29 units, equivalent to four full-time years of study. This course includes core studies, professional studies and elective units. Units cater for the different needs of early childhood education pre-service teachers. Pre-service teachers are able to undertake electives to specialise in an area of interest.

Learning Outcomes
On completion of the course students will be able to:

1. make informed decisions regarding teaching and learning based on a comprehensive understanding of the learner and curriculum
2. reflect, create and manage learning environments and be self-motivated and critical in the approach to teaching and learning
3. access, evaluate and synthesise relevant information and evidence from a range of sources applicable to teaching and learning
4. communicate effectively and work collaboratively in educational and community contexts
5. design and incorporate information and communication technologies effectively into educational contexts
6. regularly reflect critically on their professional knowledge and teaching and learning practice to enhance student learning outcomes
7. recognise and apply appropriate international perspectives in educational contexts
8. demonstrate respect for cultural diversity in educational contexts
9. plan, implement, analyse and evaluate a range of teaching, learning and assessment practises, demonstrate leadership in education.

Career Outcomes

Graduates of this course will have the skills, knowledge and experience required to teach in early childhood education and care settings. Upon graduating with this degree you will be qualified to teach children from birth to eight years of age. Additional careers include Child Care Coordinator, education administrator or policy development officer.

Professional Recognition

This course is recognised nationally as an initial pre-service teaching qualification. Initial Teacher Education courses in Australia are accredited by the relevant authority in the state or territory in which the institution providing the qualification is based.

Accordingly, the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) courses provided by Curtin University are fully accredited by the Teachers Registration Board of WA (TRBWA). This applies to the WA campus-based delivery of the courses and to the online delivery provided through Curtin’s partnership with Open Universities Australia.

Graduates of these accredited courses are thus able to register as practising teachers with the registration body in their home state or territory, based on the course accreditation provided by the TRBWA.

Below is link to the list of state-based teacher registration bodies for reference.

State-based Teacher Registration Bodies (PDF, 30Kb)
Degree subjects

Transition Arrangements

The new course will be rolled out one year at a time, beginning with first year units in 2014. In 2014, first year units will be the new course units, while all other units for second, third and fourth year remain the same. In 2016, first, second and third year units will be new course units, and so on until the entire course will be replaced in 2018. This means that most students who began the course prior to 2014 will experience no changes to their course or units – they will simply progress through the existing course as expected. In the event that students need to access units from both the old and new courses (for example, due to study disruptions or crediting from other institutions) then an Individual Study Plan will be created for those students by Curtin University Academic Support Staff.

No student will ever be required to complete more than 28 units plus the final internship, as all previous units completed will always be credited to the student’s course.

Recommended Study Pattern

This course is an OUA Pathways course, which means there is a recommended series of units that, once successfully completed, can be credited towards this course. To commence the Pathway for this course, simply select units from the Pathway stream below.

If you do not choose the OUA Pathways, Students can instead follow the study pattern below:

Students are required to complete all the units in each year of the course before progressing to the units of the subsequent year. For example, all first year units should be completed prior to enrolling in a second year unit. Students must complete any prerequisite units required. The standard full-time study load is two units per study period.

Students must complete all first, second and third year core units prior to enrolling in any fourth year units.

All core and elective units must be completed before enrolling in the Internship and all students will need specific clearance from Curtin University’s School of Education prior to enrolment in this unit.

Degree structure

Electives

Students can select the three elective units in this course from any unit offered through Open Universities Australia. We advise students to contact their course coordinator for advice regarding enrolling in other education courses offered by Curtin as electives units.
## Education Pathway

**Total number of subjects to complete: 4 units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDC151 Child Development for Educators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC101 Teaching and Learning in a Digital World</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDC155 Learning Theory for Educators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDC111 Exploring and Contesting Curriculum</td>
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<td>CUR</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## Open Units - Level 1

**Total number of subjects to complete: 8 units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDC151 Child Development for Educators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC101 Teaching and Learning in a Digital World</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
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<tr>
<td>EDC131 Language and Literacy for Teachers</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC161 Performing Arts for Educators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC155 Learning Theory for Educators</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC111 Exploring and Contesting Curriculum</td>
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<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC141 The Numerate Educator</td>
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<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC171 Teachers Inquiring About the World</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. All students must complete EDC131 as a first year unit. If students are seeking credit for similar units completed elsewhere, credit can be given for an Elective unit in the programs instead.

## Restricted Units - Level 2

**Total number of subjects to complete: 8 units**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDC231 Teaching Language and Literacy in Junior Primary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE222 Professional Studies in Teaching and Assessment in Junior Primary</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE292 Early Learning Through the Humanities</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
- EDE242 Mathematics for the Early Years
- EDE262 Visual and Media Arts for Early Childhood
- EDE272 Engaging Children in Science
- EDC251 Inclusive Education
- EDE282 Health and Physical Education in Early Childhood

1 EDE222 has a practicum placement requirement.

Students are required to complete all Level 1 units before progressing to Level 2.

### Restricted Units - Level 3

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of subjects to complete: 6 units</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDE3221 Professional Studies in Supporting Learning Environments with Three to Five Year Olds</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE342 Mathematics during the First Five Years of Life</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDC370 Indigenous Australian Education</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE3251 Professional Studies with Early Learning Quality Frameworks in the First Five Years of Life</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE332 Early Childhood Literacies</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE392 Pedagogical Contexts for Play</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 This unit has a practicum placement requirement.

Students are required to complete all Level 2 units before progressing to Level 3.

### Restricted Units - Level 4

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of subjects to complete: 3 units</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDC4151 Curriculum Integration and Differentiation</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE411 Social Justice and Diversity in Early Childhood</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EDE492 Leadership in Early Childhood Education</td>
<td>Required</td>
<td>Elective</td>
<td>Optional</td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1 Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood Education) students must have completed both EDE322 and EDE325 prior to enrolling in EDC415.

Students are required to complete all Level 3 units before progressing to Level 4.

### Restricted Units - Level 4 Internship

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Total number of subjects to complete: 1 unit</th>
<th>Required</th>
<th>Elective</th>
<th>Optional</th>
<th>Provided by</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>EDC421&lt;sup&gt;1&lt;/sup&gt; Transition to the Teaching Profession</td>
<td>✔️</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>CUR</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>1</sup> EDC421 has a practicum placement requirement.

All core and elective units must be completed before enrolling in the EDC421 Transition to the Profession.
Requirements

Course Admission Eligibility Criteria

To be eligible for a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) in this degree, you must be:

- An Australian citizen residing in Australia for all or part of your studies; **OR**
- A New Zealand citizen who will be residing in Australia for the duration of your study; **OR**
- The holder of a permanent visa who will be residing in Australia for the duration of your study; **OR**
- The holder of a permanent humanitarian visa will be residing in Australia for the duration of your study;
- Able to meet the university admission criteria requirements.

**Please note:** You can still enrol and pay for your units via FEE-HELP or an upfront payment if you are not eligible for CSP.

Students must satisfy the following requirements in order to be eligible for entry into the degree:

- Admission criteria
- English Language Proficiency (**Please refer to Special Requirements section**)
- Working with Children (WWC) and other relevant State requirements
- Availability for Practicum Placements as required

**Admission criteria**

**A. Applicants with higher education study**

Applicants need to meet one of the following:

- Successful study through OUA – either:
  - Successful completion of two of the eight OUA open enrolment units: EDC151, EDC161, EDC131, EDC101, EDC155, EDC141, EDC171, and EDC111 and separate evidence of English proficiency is required **OR**
  - Successful completion of four OUA degree level units at pass level. (This satisfies English language proficiency requirement.)

- Successful completion of one full time semester (four standard units) towards an Undergraduate or higher level of study at an Australian University (separate evidence of English proficiency is not required)

**Completed bridging or enabling course**

Enabling courses completed through other Australian Universities which meet minimum entry requirements for that institution will be accepted as minimum entry requirements for this course

**B. Applicants with vocational education and training (VET) study**

- Completion of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma, Advanced Diploma or
Associate Diploma. You may also be eligible for credit toward your university study

- Completion of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Certificate IV and evidence of English proficiency

C. Applicants with recent secondary education (within the past two years) Australian Year 12 students

- Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) 70 or equivalent. English ATAR, Literature ATAR or English as an Additional Language/Dialect ATAR. Desirable WACE course: At least Mathematics Applications ATAR. To determine your eligibility for entry please refer to Interstate Year 12 and IB Students, TISC Tertiary Institutions Service Centre link http://www.tisc.edu.au/static/guide/prerequisites-comparsion.tisc

D. Applicants with work and life experience

- Successful completion of the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT). (Please note this test is valid for two years.)
- Finished secondary education more than two years ago
- Bridging and enabling course entry

Additional information

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: Centre for Aboriginal Studies - http://karda.curtin.edu.au/
- Domestic applicants with overseas qualifications - https://courses.curtin.edu.au/course_overview/admission-requirements/
- English language proficiency (Please refer to Special Requirements section)

To learn more about Commonwealth supported places, including eligibility please see Commonwealth supported places.

Special Requirements

**English Language Proficiency**

Applicants need to meet Curtin's English Language proficiency requirements. You normally need ONE of the following:

- Must have a 50% minimum in English ATAR (or equivalent)
- Completion of at least one full time semester (or equivalent) of Undergraduate level studies at an Australian university
- Completion of an Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) Diploma, Advanced Diploma or Associate Diploma
- Successful completion of two degree level units via Open Universities Australia (OUA) and English proficiency
- Successful completion of two degree level units at an Australian university and English proficiency
- Successful completion of the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)*
- International English Language Testing System (Academic)*

*Please note these tests are only valid for two years.


**Working with Children Check**

A Working with Children Check (as required in the state or country of residence) is compulsory. Due to the specialist nature of the teaching profession, and the practicum placement component of this course, all successful applicants will be required to have a current Working with Children Check and any other relevant State requirements before engaging in any observation or practicum placement. If students have any doubt about their eligibility to acquire these clearances they should contact the local Teacher Registration Authority.

**Practicum Placements**

**Professional Experience Placements**

Students are required to complete units containing professional experience in an early learning centre or school. Applicants must obtain a Working with Children Check (WWC) and other relevant State requirements prior to undertaking any units which require placement in a school or early learning centre on a volunteer or scheduled basis. Students will be required to complete 105 days of placements during the course.

All students are required to complete compulsory professional experience placements as part of designated units in the second, third and fourth year of the course. Placements are undertaken on a full-time basis for the number of days shown in a continuous block and students need to plan carefully to ensure they are able to meet this commitment. There is a total of 105 days of professional experience in the course, which satisfies all states’ requirements for teacher registration.

Students being admitted to the course after 1 January 2017, can complete no more than 25% of professional experience days in schools outside Australia. Therefore, students will only be able to complete one 3 week placement outside Australia and will be required to complete all other placements within Australia.

**Note:** The third year of the course includes two professional experience units that require a placement in a school of 15 consecutive days and 25 days in an accredited Early Learning Centre with infants, toddlers and young children (Birth-5 years of age) The Early Learning Centre placement will comprise of a 1 day visit for 10 weeks immediately followed by a block of 15 consecutive days. The language of instruction must be English.

Students require access to one accredited Early Learning Centre with infants and toddlers (Birth-2 years of age) and three schools in which to undertake the professional experience placements (and be able to travel to these educational settings). The language of instruction must be English.
None of the four professional experience placements can be broken or split into shorter periods.

In those circumstances where the student is having difficulty securing a placement, Curtin University staff will assist and will seek input from the student to identify possibilities before making direct contact with the school or centre. Students having difficulty should contact Curtin in sufficient time to ensure that they are not disadvantaged due to their personal inability to identify a site for professional experience.

Further information about the professional experience placement requirements will be provided to students who have been admitted to the degree. Students who may seek to vary any of the stated conditions and requirements in the various professional experience unit handbooks must contact hum-ed-ouaprac@curtin.edu.au prior to enrolling in the unit.

The final placement of 5 pre-visits and one full school term is the final unit in the degree and cannot be undertaken until all other units have been successfully completed. Clearance will be given to enrol in the internship unit pending results of final units.
Qualifications

Award Requirements

Students must complete all units. There are 29 units in the Bachelor of Education (ECE). These are comprised of:

- coursework units
- units requiring professional experience block placements in a variety of settings, including a final Internship placement of at least 50 consecutive days (1 full term) in a school context
- elective units

Students must successfully complete all required units in the degree prior to undertaking the Internship.

Please note that students can be terminated from this course if they fail to make satisfactory progress.

LANTITE Completion Requirement

Students are also required to provide evidence of successful completion of the Literacy and Numeracy Test for Initial Teacher Education students (LANTITE) prior to enrolment in the Internship unit. The test is managed by ACER and details of the test (for example, sample questions, the Test Window dates, and registration) can be found at: https://teacheredtest.acer.edu.au/. Students are responsible for meeting the costs associated with taking these tests, which are a national requirement applicable to all teaching graduates.

Students must successfully complete all required units in the degree and the LANTITE prior to enrolling in the final professional experience unit.

Recognition of Prior Learning / Credit

Applications for Credit for Recognised Learning (CRL) are assessed on a case by case basis according to Curtin University policies which is available at http://policies.curtin.edu.au/local/docs/policy/Credit_for_Recognised_Learning_Manual.pdf.

Students must be admitted in an award course of study before lodging their completed CRL application, along with all necessary documentation for a formal assessment.

To officially apply for CRL, students need to submit the CRL application form available from http://students.curtin.edu.au/administration/documents/Application_for_CRL.pdf to opencurtin@curtin.edu.au along with supporting documents. Accepted documentation includes scans of the original Transcripts and/or Award Certificate; front and back; in colour; and original size. For detailed scanned documents requirements and guidelines, please visit http://courses.curtin.edu.au/course_overview/admission-requirements/scanned-documents.cfm.

For further information, please contact opencurtin@curtin.edu.au.