

TEACHER EDUCATION

Teaching is a rewarding career. Teachers inspire and teach future generations.

The first step towards becoming a teacher is to complete an undergraduate degree. These pages outline the important things you need to consider when choosing what to study in your undergraduate degree so that you will be set up to apply for a teacher training programme once you have completed your degree.

Teacher training programmes build on your Bachelor's degree to give you the skills and knowledge to teach the New Zealand curriculum, create positive, inclusive learning

environments, and become a confident and effective educator. Successful graduates will be able to teach in schools throughout New Zealand and be eligible for provisional teacher certification with the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand.

If you want to know more about Early Childhood Education teaching pathways, see page 86.



FIND OUT MORE



info@vuw.ac.nz



www.wgtn.ac.nz/education/teacher-education



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PATHWAYS

To equip yourself to be the best teacher you can be, it is a good idea to think carefully about your choice of courses in your undergraduate degree.

Think of your tertiary education as a complete journey towards preparing yourself to teach. You can explore your options for undergraduate degrees from page 42.

You may need to include different subjects in your undergraduate degree, depending on whether you aim to teach at primary or secondary level. There are some courses that are useful no matter which level you wish to teach—you can include some of these if you have space for elective courses within your undergraduate degree.

Subject	Course code
Education	EDUC 101, EDUC 141, EDUC 117, EDUC 136
Pacific Studies	PASI 101, SAMO 101
Science	SCIE 101
Statistics	STAT 193
Te Reo Māori	MAOR 101, MAOR 102
Writing	WRIT 101

We recommend that you seek advice on planning your undergraduate pathway to a teacher education qualification.

Primary teaching

Any undergraduate degree can be used as the basis for admission to primary teaching programmes. If you are planning your undergraduate degree with the intention of undertaking a teacher education programme in the future, you should embrace the opportunity to study a broad base of curriculum areas, including mathematics, science, social science, and te reo Māori.

Useful subjects to prepare yourself for a primary teaching programme include those related to areas of the New Zealand school curriculum, and those that develop your knowledge on the broader context of education and society. Suggestions of subjects offered at the University include:

- ▶ Biology
- ▶ Chemistry
- ▶ Computer Science
- ▶ Cultural Anthropology
- ▶ Design
- ▶ Early Childhood Education
- ▶ Education
- ▶ English Literature
- ▶ Film
- ▶ Geography
- ▶ History
- ▶ Languages
- ▶ Linguistics
- ▶ Mathematics

- ▶ Media Studies
- ▶ Music
- ▶ New Zealand Sign Language
- ▶ Physics
- ▶ Psychological Science*
- ▶ Public Policy
- ▶ Sāmoan / Matā'upu tau Sāmoa
- ▶ Sociology
- ▶ Statistics
- ▶ Te Reo Māori
- ▶ Theatre

Subjects such as Early Childhood Education, Education, Mathematics, New Zealand Sign Language, Pacific languages, Psychological Science*, Statistics, and Te Reo Māori will be particularly useful for those wishing to undertake a primary teacher education programme.

*Subject to regulatory approval.

Secondary teaching

If you want to teach at secondary level, you should include the subjects you wish to teach in your undergraduate degree. You should choose teaching subjects that relate to the New Zealand school curriculum areas. We recommend that you take one teaching subject as a major, and another to at least 200 level.

Curriculum area	Teaching subjects offered at the University
English	English Literature
Learning Languages	Chinese, French, German, Japanese, Māori Studies [†] , Sāmoan Studies / Matā'upu tau Sāmoa, Spanish, Te Reo Māori
Mathematics and Statistics	Econometrics [‡] , Mathematics, Statistics
The Arts (Drama, Visual Art, Music)	Theatre, Design Innovation, Music
Science (Biology, Physics, Chemistry)	Biology, Biotechnology, Cell and Molecular Bioscience, Chemistry, Ecology and Biodiversity, Environmental Science, Environmental Studies, Marine Biology, Physics
Social Sciences (Accounting, Economics, Geography, History, Media Studies, and Social Studies)	Accounting, Development Studies, Economics, Environmental Studies, Geography, History, Media Studies, Physical Geography
Technology	Computer Science, Electronic and Computer Systems, Design Innovation

[†]Must include Te Reo Māori courses to at least 200 level.

[‡]Courses only, not a major.

SCHOOL SUBJECTS

Subjects to study at school are those relevant to the subjects you are planning to teach.

POSTGRADUATE STUDY

Completion of a teaching programme can lead to further study for the Postgraduate Certificate in Education (PGCertEd) and the Postgraduate Diploma in Education (PGDipEd). Te Whānau o Ako Pai—the Wellington Faculty of Education also offers a Master of Education (MEd), a Master of Secondary School Leadership (MSSL), a Doctor of Education (EdD), and a Doctor of Philosophy in Education (PhD).

Our graduate and postgraduate teaching programmes are currently under review for 2024. See the website for more details.

www.wgtn.ac.nz/education/postgraduate

Entry requirements

For entry into any teaching programme, you will need to be assessed and accepted by the Wellington Faculty of Education as suitable for the teaching profession. This involves meeting set criteria, having supportive referees and a satisfactory police check, making declarations about any

health or disability issues, and taking part successfully in a selection meeting that will include an interview and literacy and numeracy testing.

All students must meet English language competency requirements set by the Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand. If you have completed your secondary and tertiary education in New Zealand, you would meet the requirements already.

TeachNext

TeachNext is a group for students who are completing an undergraduate degree at the University and planning to complete a teacher education programme. It meets regularly for information sessions, talks from education-sector speakers, education- and teaching-focused events, and specific support for the selection process. You can also connect with staff from the Wellington Faculty of Education, who will answer questions about a teaching career.

✉ teachnext@vuw.ac.nz





“I have always been passionate about giving back to the community. I decided that becoming a teacher would be a great way to be a role model for Māori and Pasifika students and help inspire them in everything they do.

“Teaching is such a rewarding career. I was scared at first and I had doubts that I should be the one to teach ngā rangatira mō āpōpō—the leaders of tomorrow.

“My advice for anyone thinking about becoming a teacher would be to just give it a go—you will love it. I am stoked that I took up the opportunity. Karawhiua e hika mā!”

TYSON RATAI

Graduate, Graduate Diploma of Teaching (Secondary)