

Melbourne Graduate School of Education Profile

“In the tradition of esteemed graduate schools of Education at institutions such as Virginia, Stanford and Harvard, the Melbourne Graduate School of Education will forge the way in research-led practice and practitioner-led research.”

“We have a proud history of 140 years of preparing teachers at the Parkville site, and this transformation signals the next step in our evolution, to the great benefit of aspiring teachers, their students and the school system.”

Professor Field Rickards
Dean
Melbourne Graduate School of Education



The University of Melbourne

Established in 1853, the University of Melbourne is the second oldest university in Australia and is recognised internationally for its high teaching standards, prestigious international links, and the quality of its academic staff and students. The University of Melbourne continually confirms its position as Australia's leading research university, winning millions in major competitive research funding each year.

The University of Melbourne continues to be the university of choice for Victoria's, and increasingly the nation's, most outstanding students. A national survey conducted by the Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research ranked the University of Melbourne equal first within Australia. The University of Melbourne's teaching and research is complemented by local and international links with industry and with leading education institutions.

The University of Melbourne is a member of the prestigious Group of 8 universities in Australia and the global education partnership Universitas 21. These memberships build strong global links and enable the University to work collaboratively to deliver programs, undertake research and facilitate staff and student exchanges with over 100 leading institutions worldwide.

From 2008, the University will introduce landmark educational reforms known collectively as the Melbourne Model – based on six broad undergraduate programs followed by a professional graduate degree, research higher degree or entry directly into employment. These reforms are designed to create a distinctive Melbourne Experience for all students.

In moving to the new model, the University is responding to the challenges of today's changing environment as well as aligning itself with the best of European and Asian practice and North American traditions.

Melbourne Graduate School of Education

The Faculty of Education has long been regarded as one of the leading schools of education in Australia. From 2008, as part of the University's transition to a graduate school model, the Faculty will be known as the Melbourne Graduate School of Education.

The move to a graduate school structure is part of the University's visionary Melbourne Model, which places an increased emphasis on the training of outstanding research students and the production of world-class research and international research collaborations. With an established reputation for producing internationally significant research, a strong program of graduate research, and a tradition of creating new generations of highly qualified teachers, the Melbourne Graduate School of Education is well placed to grow and develop within this new structure.

New Master of Teaching program

With the move to the Melbourne Model, the Melbourne Graduate School of Education has introduced the innovative new Master of Teaching program.

The new program was developed in close consultation with school principals, education departments and other key sectors of the industry. It offers a professional teaching qualification at a higher academic level than anything else available, and sets a new standard for teacher education in Australia. It is being introduced in 2008 in parallel with the last intake into the two undergraduate programs, Bachelor of Education (Primary) and Bachelor of Early Childhood Education.

Graduate study

The Melbourne Graduate School of Education's graduate study program offers both research and coursework options to enable practising educators to build their knowledge base, tune in to significant changes in their discipline, and meet their individual professional development needs.

All of the Melbourne Graduate School of Education's graduate programs are informed and enriched by the research being undertaken by the School's staff and students. These programs range from graduate certificate and diploma courses in assessment and evaluation, early childhood education, educational technologies, mathematics and mathematics education, and middle years literacy, to specialist masters degrees in education policy, school leadership, and youth health and education management.

The graduate research program offers a depth and range of research opportunities unequalled by any other Australian university and competitive with the best available internationally. Doctoral degrees in the Melbourne Graduate School of Education seek to develop graduates who demonstrate academic leadership, and increasing independence, creativity and innovation in their research work.

Outstanding Research

The Melbourne Graduate School of Education is a key research centre in professional education theory and practice and seeks to contribute to the growth of knowledge about education and training in Australia and internationally. The School enrolls students from a wide variety of professional and educational backgrounds, and conducts research in a wide range of educational, professional and workplace settings.

We continue to outperform other similar schools of teacher education in the areas of research funding, attracting \$5.9 million in research income from National Competitive Grants, the public sector and industry.

Melbourne Education Research Institute

The School's research is supported by the Melbourne Education Research Institute (MERI), one of Australia's leading educational research institutes.

MERI is led by the internationally renowned Professor Barry McGaw, and under his leadership it is playing a major role in fostering research of genuine international significance and strengthening the nexus between teaching and research.

MERI's prime role is to identify and support research of genuine international significance, ensure collaborative planning between research and teaching programs, and provide assistance and support for researchers and research teams.

Under the umbrella of MERI, the School's research activities are structured around four strategic research programs: development of symbolisation capacities in young children; education, equity and social identities in the 21st Century; education needs of Asia-Pacific knowledge economies; and master teachers in the making.

MERI also provides strong infrastructure for the School's 16 well-established research centres and groups, whose research is influential in shaping education policy, systems and practice here and abroad. These are:

- Assessment Research Centre
- Centre for Program Evaluation
- Centre for the Study of Higher Education
- Centre for Postcompulsory Education and Lifelong Learning
- Early Learning, Development and Inclusion
- Education, Equity and Social Change (including the Youth Research Centre, the Centre for Equity and Innovation in Early Childhood and the Student Wellbeing Unit)
- ICT in Education and Research (including the international Centre for Classroom Research)
- Leadership and Organisational Learning (including the Centre for Organisational Learning and Leadership)
- Language and Literacy Education (including TESOL)
- LH Martin Institute for Higher Education Leadership and Management
- Science and Mathematics Education
- Problem Gambling Research and Treatment Centre

Within these centres, strong research areas, for students and staff, include educational systems and policy; curriculum, pedagogy and classroom-based enquiry; equity and gender; early childhood education; language and literacy; mathematics and science education; and youth health and special education.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

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