

Course Overview

This is the **single degree program**. The alternative **double degree program is preferred in most cases**. The first year of both programs is nearly identical; a decision to transfer to the double degree can be made during the first year, with an application for course transfer to take effect ahead of the second year.

Advantages of the double degrees include: (1) more units in each teaching area [enabling two 8-unit full major studies], which may be more desirable to employers; (2) in NSW, combining Health and Physical Education with a second teaching area; (3) in NSW, a longer and more flexible Technology sequence. A double degree program is 4.5 years in length, but can be studied in 4 years through an accelerated study plan.

The single degree (this program) is a shorter program completed over 4 years. Compared with the double degrees which are associated specifically with another degree (Arts, Exercise Science), the single degree allows for a richer array of studies to be drawn from units across the university. In particular, **Science** (Biology &/or Chemistry) can be combined with other teaching areas, in ways not supported in double degree programs. Some studies in allied areas such as Speech Pathology are also possible.

Course Structure

As defined by the [course rules](#), the program construction related to teaching areas is

A 6-unit study: First teaching area
A 4-unit study: Second teaching area
Up to 5 electives. These are used to: (i) 'upgrade' the 'first teaching area' to a full major (8 units), or (ii) 'upgrade' the 'second teaching area' to a second first teaching area (6 units), or (iii) add a third area EDES300 is usually studied as one of the electives, and in NSW EDFD454 must be included as an elective.

Choice of Models

It is helpful to think in terms of two typical ways that a program could be constructed:

- **Model 1: The "8 + 6" model: 8 units** of disciplinary study in one teaching area, and **6 units** in the second teaching area (refer to Table 1 on pp. 3-6 for a list of teaching areas)
- **Model 2: The "6 + 4 + 4" model: 6 units** of disciplinary study in one teaching area, **4 units** of study in a second teaching area, and **4 units** of 'adjunct study' in a third field which may or may not be a teaching area (refer to Table 2 on p. 8 for a list of possible adjunct studies).

Separate course maps are provided for each model. The first year is identical in all cases – indeed, the first year is the same across all the single degree and double degree variants, to make course transfers straightforward as students consider exactly the best program for them, during first year. The critical decision point comes when selecting units for year 2.

Variations on these 'typical' program models may be necessary for students who have credit for prior studies, have changed their teaching areas, or have some other special circumstance. *Students who would like to explore variations rather than one of the typical models should consult their Course Coordinator or Course Advisor* to ensure that they will meet the requirements for course completion and teacher registration.

Some necessary variations on a theme

Aside from needing at least 6 units of study in one teaching area and at least 4 units in a second teaching area, there are few restrictions in this program, because the 'electives' may be drawn from any School.

Some teaching areas require a particular arrangement of units, and *separate course maps* are provided in each case:

- Technology (NSW only)
- Physical Education (Victoria and Queensland)

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- Health and Physical Education (NSW) – 13 units of study are in Exercise Science
- Health (Victoria) – when combined with Physical Education – only requires 2 units (i.e., two electives)
- Visual Arts (NSW) – the minimum of a 6-unit sequence is required

Working in Catholic Schools, and Religious Education

Detailed information about Religious Education Accreditation is provided in a separate document, but it is important to know that *accreditation to teach Religious Education (RE) in Catholic Schools* is a different thing to being regarded by the teacher registration body as eligible to teach the senior secondary “Study of Religions” [NSW, Qld] or “Religious Education” [Vic, ACT] subject. Students who wish to teach RE-related studies through the whole of secondary school should study the particular sequence for the senior secondary study as one of their teaching areas.

Students seeking to **teach Religious Education in Catholic Schools** may *either*

1. complete the sequence for the senior secondary study as one of the teaching areas, and within it include the units for accreditation. *NSW students seeking RE accreditation are advised to adopt this option.*
2. include the units for accreditation as an adjunct study [that is, you study the units required for accreditation as a third area, noting that this is a more minimal set not design to fulfill all the requirements of teaching through to senior secondary levels]. *NSW students are advised that it is not possible to include all the necessary units without studying an ‘overload’.*

Victorian students not seeking to teach RE per se but are seeking *accreditation to work in Catholic schools* may study the elective unit: [EDRE429](#)¹. Students in other jurisdictions (as well as Victoria) may find that [EDCE200](#) is well-regarded by the diocese to support accreditation to work in Catholic schools, but they should check the particular requirements of the diocese where they anticipate working.

Available Teaching Areas

The teaching areas available within this program are shown on Table 1 (pp. 3-7). **One** teaching area must be studied from one of the **Major** sequences. The other may be chosen from either the Major or minor sequences. Click on the link in the first columns of this table to see further information about completing this sequence, including available units. You will notice that the teaching area does not necessarily have the same ‘name’ as the ACU major/minor (e.g., studies in Sociology lead to a teaching area of ‘Society and Culture’).

Table 1 also indicates the school subjects you might reasonably be expected to focus on in your teaching placements. For instance, Biology teachers may reasonably expect to teach any science in junior secondary, and indeed there may only be limited opportunities to teach senior Biology classes during your course. Some further information about this is provided on page 8.

Disclaimer: There are various lists which describe the various majors and minor available at ACU campuses. That does not mean that that any/all are available in this course. This course is defined by teaching areas, which vary from state to state. Table 1, as a re-presentation of the [course rules](#), is the accurate and complete description of what is available in this course.

Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment (CPA) units for each teaching area are also presented in Table 1. These are explained further on page 8.

¹ In the “8+6” model, selecting EDRE429 shortens the teaching areas to 7 or 5 units; in the “6+4+4” model, it reduces the adjunct studies to 3 units.

Table 1: Available Teaching Areas

Click on the Discipline to see further information about completing this sequence, including available units. *First year students who are “scanning” the list to investigate which teaching areas are available do not need to be concerned with the “CPA Units”.*

Information about the CPA units is found on Page 8. In brief, the CPA units that correspond to each teaching area are: EDXX299 which will be available in semester 2, and EDXX399 which will be available in Professional Term 2 (i.e., first half of the year) of the following year. You are recommended to study:

- The CPA units for your **main** teaching area in Semester 2 of Year 2, and the first half of year 3
- The CPA units for your **other** teaching area in Semester 2 of Year 3, and the first half of year 4.

If a major/minor is on offer on a particular campus, the relevant CPA may be available *either* on-campus or wholly online, as indicated in the Table 1. O = Online; B = Brisbane; M = Melbourne; S = Strathfield

Discipline	Blacktown	Brisbane	Canberra	Melbourne	Strathfield	CPA Units	Teaching placement might reasonably include areas such as
Archaeology ²	Major/minor ⁵	Major/minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/minor	Major/minor ⁵	Sem2: EDHI299 (B, M,S) PT2: EDHI399 (O,B,M,S) ³	Any History 7-12; any Humanities/HSIE subject 7-9 (NSW: Ancient History)
Biology ^x	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown	Major/minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/minor	Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield	Sem2: EDSI299 (O) PT2: EDBI399 (O,M,S)	Biology 10-12; any Science 7-10
Business Studies	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.	Major/minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/minor	Major/minor	Sem2: EDCB299 (O) PT2: EDBU399 (O,B,M) ³	Business Studies 11-12; any Commerce 7-10; any Humanities 7-9
Chemistry ^x	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown	Minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Minor	Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield	Sem2: EDSI299 (O) PT2: EDCH399 (O)	Chemistry 10-12; any Science 7-10

^x The strongest Science program would be a “first teaching area” of Biology (6 units), “second teaching area” of Chemistry (4 units), PHYS109 and 3 further units in the Biological Sciences. Another example would be Mathematics as a “first teaching area”, Chemistry as a “second teaching area”, PHYS109 and 3 further units in the Biological Sciences

² A study in Archaeology, within the [Ancient Israel program](#), will lead to a teaching area of History (in NSW, ‘Ancient History’)

³ EDSS299 should be studied as an elective if there is space in the program to do so; this is less important if the two teaching areas are both Humanities/Business (e.g., History & Geography, History & Business Studies)

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Discipline	Blacktown	Brisbane	Canberra	Melbourne	Strathfield	CPA Units	Teaching placement might reasonably include areas such as
Digital Technologies	minor	Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Not available as a teaching area at Melbourne	minor	Sem2: EDIT299 (S) PT2: EDIT399 (S)	Any ICT, DT or multimedia class but not Media Studies or Visual Art
Drama	Major	Major/minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/minor	Major/minor	Sem2: EDDR299 (O) PT2: EDDR399 (O,M)	Any Drama or Theatre Studies
Economics	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.	minor ⁴	minor ⁴	minor ⁴	minor ⁴	Sem2: EDCB299 (O) PT2: EDEO399 (O) ³	Economics 11-12; any Commerce 7-10; any Humanities 7-9
English	Major	Major/minor	Major	Major/minor	Major/minor	Sem2: EDEN299 (O,B,M,S) PT2: EDEN399 (O,B,M,S)	Any English, Literature or ESL/TESOL/EAL
Geography, Environment and Society	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.	Major/minor ²	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/minor ²	Major/minor ²	Sem2: EDSS299 (O) PT2: EDGE399 (O) ³	Any Geography 7-12; any Humanities subject 7-9
Health ⁸	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown	Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	minor [§]	Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield	Sem2: EDHE299 (B,M,S) PT2: EDHE399 (O,M)	Any Health (but not PE)
History	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown	Major/ minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/ minor	Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield	Sem2: EDHI299 (B,M,S) PT2: EDHI399 (O,B,M,S) ³	Any History 7-12; any Humanities subject 7-9

⁴ Possibly only available online.

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Discipline	Blacktown	Brisbane	Canberra	Melbourne	Strathfield	CPA Units	Teaching placement might reasonably include areas such as
Ancient History	Major/minor ⁵	Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Not available as a teaching area at Melbourne	Major/minor ⁵	Sem2: EDHI299 (B,M,S) PT2: EDHI397 (O,M,B,S) ³	Any History 7-10; any Humanities subject 7-9 senior secondary Ancient History
Modern History	Major/minor ⁵	Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Not available as a teaching area at Melbourne	Major/minor ⁵	Sem2: EDHI299 (B,M,S) PT2: EDHI398 (O,M,B,S) ³	Any History 7-10; any Humanities subject 7-9 senior secondary Modern History
Mathematics ⁶	Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.	Major/minor ⁴	Major/minor ⁴	Major/minor	Major/minor	Sem2: EDMA299 (O) PT2: EDMA399 (O,M,S)	Any Mathematics
Music	minor	Major/minor	Not available as a teaching area at Canberra	Major/Major	Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield	Sem1: EDMU299 (O) PT2: EDMU399 (O)	Any classroom music
Outdoor Education	This teaching area is formally available within this program in Melbourne and Brisbane, but students should seek course advice because the full suite of units may not be available through to 2024 or beyond.						

⁵ Ancient History (NSW teaching area only) requires 1 unit of Modern History; Modern History (NSW teaching area only) requires 1 unit of Ancient History. Refer to the details in the [Arts Unit Listing](#) and the [Information for History Students in NSW](#)

⁶ **Students wishing to study Maths as a teaching should have completed specialist maths in Year 12 or relevant bridging course.** It is not a formal pre-requisite or admission requirement, but students without an adequate mathematics background will find themselves disadvantaged when it comes to studying this subject in the complexity and pace required at university level.

⁵ Please see note on page 9

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Discipline	Blacktown	Brisbane	Canberra	Melbourne	Strathfield	CPA Units	Teaching placement might reasonably include areas such as
Physical Education ^{7,8}	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.</i>	Major	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	Major	Major	Sem2: EDPE299 (B,M,S) Sem2: EDHE299 (B,M,S) PT2: EDPE399 (O, B,M,S)	Any PE, Personal Development, Outdoor Education or Health
Politics and International Relations	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	minor [§]	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield</i>	Sem2: EDSS299 (O) PT2: EDPI399 (O)	Politics 11-12; any Humanities subject 7-9
Psychology	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown</i>	minor [§]	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	minor [§]	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield</i>	Sem2: EDSS299 (O) PT2: EDPS399 (O,M)	Any 10-12 Psychology class
Sociology	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Melbourne</i>	minor [§]	Sem2: EDSS299 (O) PT2: EDSO399 (O)	Society & Culture 11-12; any HSIE subject 7-9

⁷ In NSW, PDHPE cannot be combined with any other teaching area in this program; students who wish to combine PDHPE with a second teaching area or accreditation to teach RE in Catholic Schools must undertake the double degree program.

In ACT, Queensland and Victoria, a major in PE in requires the use of 4 elective units. A Teaching Area in Physical Education cannot be combined with other teaching areas minors which require 'extensions' beyond a 4 units minor to meet the requirements of the teaching area. Students should consult with their Course Coordinator to ensure a suitable program of study. PE also cannot be combined with Healthy Development (see footnote 8).

⁸ In this single degree (the arrangements are different in some of the double degrees) the requirements for the Victorian teaching area of Health are met by including NUTR101, EXSC187, PUBH102 and PUBH312 in your program, plus the two Health CPA units. Two of these units are already included in the 10-unit PE sequence, which then gives space for two electives. NOTE: The teaching area of Health is available in this degree, but the 'Healthy Development' sequence is incompatible (c.f. footnote 7).

[§] Please see note on page 9

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Discipline	Blacktown	Brisbane	Canberra	Melbourne	Strathfield	CPA Units	Teaching placement might reasonably include areas such as
Study of Religions 9,10,11	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.</i>	Major/minor	Major	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Melbourne</i>	Major/minor	Sem2: EDRE299 (O) PT2: EDRE399 (O) Sem2: EDHI299 (NSW) (S)	Any Studies of Religion or Religious Education class or any HSIE class 7-10
Technology ¹²	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Brisbane</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Melbourne</i>	Major	Sem2: EDTE299 (S) PT2: EDTE399 (S)	Any D&T class in the area of specialisation
Theological Studies ¹¹	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown</i>	Major/minor	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	Major/minor	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Strathfield</i>	Sem2: EDRE299 (O) PT2: EDRE399 (O)	Any Religious Education or Studies of Religion class
Visual Arts	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Blacktown. Students would need to travel to Strathfield.</i>	Major/minor	<i>Not available as a teaching area at Canberra</i>	Major/minor	Major/minor	Sem2: EDAR299 (O) PT1: EDAR399 (O,M,S)	Any Visual Arts in junior secondary years (e.g., painting, drawing, textiles, graphics, photography, media arts, etc). Arts in your particular field of specialisation in senior secondary years.

⁹ The ACU major/minor is called “Study of Religions” whereas the Queensland QCE study is “Study of Religion” and the NSW HSC study is “Studies of Religion”.

¹⁰ To meet the requirements for teaching Studies of Religion in NSW schools, **students must study the unit** EDHI299 (History CPA) in addition to EDRE299 and EDRE399, with EDFD454 a required elective in NSW (and so such students would *not study* EDES300 Comparative Education).

¹¹ Referring to footnote 13 below, for accreditation to teach Religious Education in Catholic schools, the units THBS100, THCT100 and THCT202 must be included in either the Studies of Religion or Theology sequence. The units EDRE299 and EDRE399 are the CPA units corresponding to either the first or second sequence. Victorian students who meet those accreditation requirements do not also need to study EDRE429.

¹² Technology is always combined with Digital Technologies. No further teaching area or adjunct study is possible. Please refer to the separate Technology course map.

[§] Please see note on page 9

Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment (CPA) Units

Curriculum, Pedagogy and Assessment (CPA) units are the “method of teaching” units in the terminology of an earlier era in teaching. They help build an understanding of the curriculum (‘the what’), the pedagogy (‘the how’) and assessment in the approved teaching areas. There are two CPA units for every teaching area: one CPA unit focusses predominantly on the junior levels of secondary school, and the other focusses on the corresponding subject’s senior levels. In some cases, a third unit is also advised. Table 1 lists which CPA units correspond to each teaching area. You will notice that the teaching area does not necessarily have the same ‘name’ as the ACU major/minor (e.g., studies in Sociology lead to a teaching area of ‘Society and Culture’).

For instance, if you study a teaching area of mathematics, then your CPA studies would be mathematics for junior secondary and mathematics for senior secondary. If Politics is studied, then your CPA studies would be Humanities for junior secondary and Politics for senior secondary, as Politics per se is not taught at junior secondary levels. Furthermore, Politics is an example of a teaching area which is not recognised in all states.

The coding structure for the units is intended to be helpful. The junior secondary unit will always be coded EDXX299, where the XX is the subject – EN for English, MA for maths, GE for Geography, etc. The senior secondary units are coded EDXX399. The EDXX299 will be available in semester 2, and the EDXX399 units in Professional Term 2 (i.e., first half of the year).

Teaching placement is included in the ‘Effective Teaching’ units (with the unit code ‘EDET’), throughout your course, and the CPA units need to be sequenced to work in conjunction with these. The usual sequence is:

1. Effective Teaching 1 (incl first placement)
2. Effective Teaching 2 (incl second placement) at the same time as junior secondary CPA (EDXX299) for your main teaching area (major)
3. Senior secondary CPA for your major (EDXX399)
4. Effective Teaching 3 (incl third placement)
5. Junior secondary CPA for your other teaching area (EDXY299)
6. Senior secondary CPA for your other teaching area (EDXX399)
7. Effective Teaching 5 & 6 (incl final placement, which is split across these two units)

It follows that it is **not vital** for your **first** teaching placement to be in your **exact teaching area**, because this deliberately occurs prior to your CPA study. The Placement Office will work on arranging the best possible placement for you. On any of the early placements you will *not* have encountered *everything* that your course will provide about your teaching areas: it is quite deliberately an incremental progression, not a front-loading.

Table 2: Adjunct Studies

This terminology has no formal meaning for teacher registration! What we mean at ACU is the ‘four units of other studies’ that you undertake in addition to the basic requirements. This would be one of:

- The units required for accreditation to teach Religious Education in Catholic Schools.¹³ The arrangements are provided in detail in a separate document.
- Units to extend your knowledge in one or both of your teaching areas.
- Another of the teaching areas listed in Table 1.
- One of the areas from Table 2 (below), which are not directly teaching areas, but would be a valuable complement to two other teaching areas.

Discipline	Blacktown	Brisbane	Canberra	Melbourne	Strathfield
Accounting	Relevant units not taught at Blacktown	∞	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	∞	✓
General Science	Relevant units not taught at Blacktown	✓	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	✓	Relevant units not taught at Strathfield
Graphic Design	✓	Relevant units not taught at Brisbane	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	✓	✓
Legal Studies (units in law) ¹⁴	Relevant units not taught at Blacktown	∞	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	∞	∞
Philosophy	Relevant units not taught at Blacktown	✓	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	∞	✓
Politics & Int. Rels	✓	✓	✓	#	✓
Psychology	✓	#	✓	#	✓
Speech Pathology ¹⁵	Relevant units not taught at Blacktown	✓	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	✓	Relevant units not taught at Strathfield
Sociology	✓	✓	✓	∞	#
Youth Work	Relevant units not taught at Blacktown	Relevant units not taught at Brisbane	Relevant units not taught at Canberra	✓	Relevant units not taught at Strathfield

§ From pages 3-7, main/first teaching areas are NOT available for Economics, Psychology, Politics, Sociology and Health. This is because of the limited employment opportunities for students who have a 6 (or more) units in this field but only 4 units of study in another. When these five teaching areas are involved, the main/first teaching area must be in a different discipline, but students can still complete up to a total of 8 units in these areas by using the adjunct studies.

Specifically in the case of Psychology, it is (for instance) possible to complete an 8-unit study in English and a 6-unit study in Psychology (the 8+6 model). It would also be possible to complete a 6-unit study in English, a 4-unit study in Psychology and RE accreditation (the 6+4+4 model). In this example, what is not possible is a 6-unit sequence in Psychology, a 4-unit study in English and RE accreditation.

These are teaching areas in some states, not others; refer to pages 3-7.

∞ These are teaching areas in these states, but ACU does not offer the corresponding CPA units. As such, they are not available as ‘teaching areas’ and need to be studied as an add-on (not one of the main two areas).

¹³ The units required for accreditation to teach Religious Education in Catholic schools are THBS100, THCT100, THCT202, EDRE299, EDRE399. (EDRE270 and EDRE471 are former codes for EDRE299 and EDRE399.)

As detailed elsewhere, students seeking RE accreditation as a third area (adjunct study) would *not study EDES300* (Comparative Education) in order to have space in their program for the essential five units. Because of the need to study EDFD454 in NSW, it is not possible for NSW to complete all five units as an adjunct study. Therefore, **NSW students seeking RE accreditation should include SoR as either a first or second teaching area.**

¹⁴ Relevant units for Legal Studies as an adjunct study are LAWS104 and three other units, ensuring that pre-requisites are met.

¹⁵ Relevant units for Speech Pathology as an adjunct study would be SPHY103, SPHY100, SPHY204 and one other, ensuring that the pre-requisites are met.