POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Senior Lecturer		
Organisational Unit	Faculty of Education and Arts		
Functional Unit	School of Education Vic - Melbourne		
Nominated Supervisor	State Head of Education VIC		
Career Pathway	Teaching and Research		
Classification	Academic Level C		
CDF Level	CDF1	**Position Number**	10606661
Attendance Type	Full Time	**Date reviewed**	18-SEP-2025

ABOUT AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement: *Within the Catholic intellectual tradition and acting in Truth and Love, Australian Catholic University is committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.*

An ACU education builds on the Catholic understanding of faith and reason working together in pursuit of knowledge and promotion of human dignity and the common good.

An ACU education seeks to transform lives and communities. Students are challenged to look beyond the classroom, solve real-world problems, develop their own search for meaning and cultivate strong professional ethics. They are invited to stand up for people in need and causes that matter.

ACU is open to all. As is common with great Catholic institutions the world over, the university is inclusive and supportive of everyone, every day – regardless of their faith or tradition.

ACU is a young university making a serious impact. Ranked in the top two per cent of universities worldwide and in the top 10 Catholic universities, we're also a leader in employability with 94 per cent of our graduates employed. The university has seven campuses around Australia, a campus in Rome, Italy, and an online campus – ACU Online.

ACU has four faculties, and several research institutes and directorates. We believe our number one asset is our people. It's the character, enthusiasm and dedication of our staff that make this a university like no other. All our staff contribute to the achievement of our goals set out in ACU's Vision 2033 and aim to provide high-quality services with a strong focus on service excellence.

To be agents of change in the world, we all need to see life through the eyes of others. We believe that our role as a university is to inspire and equip people to make a difference – and that means cultivating their ability to act and think empathetically.

The structure to support this complex and national university consists of:

- Vice-Chancellor and President
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor - Catholic Mission
- Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF EDUCATION AND ARTS

The Faculty of Education and Arts encompasses two nationally recognised schools – the National School of Education and the National School of Arts and Humanities – and four leading research institutes: the Institute for Positive Psychology and Education, the Institute for Learning Sciences and Teacher Education, the Institute for Child Protection Studies, and the Institute for Humanities and Social Sciences. The Faculty also hosts several specialised programs and centres, including the Australian Centre for the Advancement of Literacy, the Clinic for the Advancement of Literacy, the Ancient Israel Program, and the Western Civilisation Program. The Faculty is widely regarded for its excellence in teacher education and its impact in the humanities and social sciences, especially in history, politics and sociology.

Operating across our campuses in Ballarat, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, North Sydney, Strathfield, Blacktown and internationally in Rome (Italy), the Faculty supports a vibrant and inclusive community of more than 11,000 students. It offers a dynamic program of teaching and research for both students and staff. Through strategic research partnerships, global exchange opportunities, and community engagement, the Faculty builds enduring relationships with universities and organisations across the public, private and community sectors.

ABOUT NATIONAL SCHOOL OF EDUCATION

The National School of Education is a leading provider of initial teacher education in Australia, recognised for its high-quality, work-ready graduates. Adding to its traditional strengths in early childhood, primary and secondary initial teacher education, the National School of Education's disciplines reflect key strengths in the areas of early childhood, mathematics, literacy education, the arts, science and technology, educational studies, teacher professional practice, assessment, educational leadership, Indigenous education, and wellbeing and inclusive education. These disciplines are evidenced both in the undergraduate programs and through its extensive postgraduate coursework programs with strong enrolments. The School also has a large number of students undertaking higher degree study through its PhD programs.

LEARNING AND TEACHING

The Faculty of Education and Arts offers highly flexible national, online and multimodal programs where students can discuss, debate and analyse in virtual classrooms. Students have opportunities to address real situations through professional and community experiences. It is recognised not only for its supportive and nurturing learning environment, but also for its ability to prepare graduates who think critically, who are guided by social justice principles and are highly valued by the professions. Adding to its traditional strengths

in primary and secondary teacher education, the education disciplines reflect key strengths in all curriculum areas. The Arts disciplines prepare graduates to be critical thinkers and global citizens. The disciplines include Creative Arts, Humanities, International Development and Global Studies and the Social Sciences.

RESEARCH
Research at FEA's National School of Education is defined by a collaborative, supportive culture focused on real-world engagement and meaningful impact. Our research is internationally recognised for its quality, consistently ranked among the world's best in Education. Key areas of research expertise include, but not limited to, educational psychology, curriculum and pedagogy, literacy education, STEM education, early childhood education, learning sciences, and teacher education, reflecting our commitment to advancing knowledge and practice across a broad educational spectrum. Embedded HDR programs, close links to the Faculty's research institutes, and established research training initiatives form a vibrant environment for developing sustained research programs, securing external funding and publishing in leading outlets. Strong ties with Catholic Education, schools, government departments and community organisations create opportunities to translate research projects into practice and policy, ensuring they influence classroom practice, system improvement and community outcomes.

POSITION PURPOSE

The position of Senior Lecturer is a key academic and leadership role in the National School of Education. The Senior Lecturer provides input into teaching innovations and curriculum development contributing to the activities of the National School of Education and effective coordination, supervision and/or mentoring of staff. Key responsibilities involve the ongoing development, delivery, coordination and assessment of units at undergraduate and postgraduate levels within the discipline of Early Childhood Education in line with the School's national curricula. The Senior Lecturer will participate and contribute to the academic governance of the School in a range of administrative and advisory roles and actively contribute to the accreditation and review of existing programs.

The successful applicant will contribute to research excellence at ACU, through embedding current research in the development of units, publishing in high-quality outlets, applying for research grants and/or industry consultancies as well as the supervision of higher degree research students. The engagement in the scholarship of teaching and learning in line with the Faculty and University is central to the role. The Senior Lecturer will lead the development and maintenance of productive and effective collaborations that are local and national which contribute to the development of interdisciplinary connections across industry and/or the wider community.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Introduction

A number of frameworks and standards express the University's expectations of the conduct, capability, participation and contribution of staff. These are listed below:

- ACU's Vision 2033
- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Code of Conduct for all staff
- ACU Capability Development Framework
- Higher Education Standards Framework
- ACU Staff Enterprise Agreement 2022-2025
- ACU Staff Reconciliation Action Plan

The following two frameworks are important in understanding the expectations of an academic position and the required qualifications and capability of a position holder:

- The Academic Performance Matrices and Evidence Framework which describes the performance standards in areas of academic activity.
- The Capability Development Framework which describes the core competencies needed in all ACU staff to achieve the University's strategy and supports its mission.

All academic staff are allocated workload comprising a range of academic duties/activities that fall within the following three broad areas of academic activity in line with the relevant Academic Career Pathway and Academic Level.

- Teaching
- Curriculum Development and Scholarship of Teaching
- Research
- Academic Leadership/Service

Responsibility	**Broad Area of Academic Activity**
Provide academic administration and leadership in teaching and learning through roles such as National Lecturer in Charge, Course Coordinator, Course Advisor and Discipline for relevant study areas in undergraduate and/or postgraduate programs as needed.	Academic Leadership and Service
Convene national teams to develop and maintain multi- modal delivery of curriculum, assessment, governance and risk management including contributing evidence- based innovations that improve student and graduate outcomes.	Academic Leadership and Service
Contribute to knowledge sharing with staff and/or students to facilitate the achievement of the University's strategic goals.	Academic Leadership and Service
Participate in School, Faculty and University committees and related activities as appropriate and be actively involved in professional proceedings within the Faculty and the University.	Academic Leadership and Service

Responsibility	Broad Area of Academic Activity
Build relationships within the professional community through engagement with relevant internal and external stakeholders, engendering commitment to the Catholic intellectual tradition, focusing on social justice and the common good to foster strong local, national and international relations.	Academic Leadership and Service
Moderate and maintain academic standards, including achievement and maintenance of course accreditation (if relevant), review of courses and quality assurance in collaboration with the Head of Discipline and other senior staff within the National School.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Contribute to, and support colleagues in, developing high quality innovative and engaging evidence-based teaching practices and learning environments informed by research including the use of eLearning/digital technologies and various delivery methods.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Teach and supervise honours, masters and/or PhD students including management and timely completions.	Research
Contribute to independent and/or team research collaborations, publishing in leading outlets/journals, ensuring research is aligned with ACU research strategy and quality standards to continue developing a strong national research profile which builds the research culture of the institution.	Research
Make a significant contribution towards obtaining funding to support individual and/or team scholarship of teaching projects and achievement in delivering project outcomes in line with ACU research strategy and quality standards with appropriate involvement in the commercialisation of outcomes.	Research

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications, skills, knowledge and experience:	• Qualification - A postgraduate degree (PhD essential) in early childhood education or related discipline. • Knowledge - Evidence of significant contributions to a range of educational and administrative processes such as the design, delivery and quality improvement of curriculum and innovative learning environments, preferably with multi-modal delivery incorporating contemporary digital technologies, for the discipline of early childhood education. • Knowledge - Demonstrated experience of academic leadership roles such as Lecturer-in-Charge and/or Course Coordination duties, including experience in the effective coordination, supervision and/or mentoring of staff in one or more units and/or courses. • Skill - Demonstrated ability to lead teams and projects by working collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders, effectively utilizing available expertise and pursuing excellent outcomes. • Experience - Demonstrated contribution of scholarly activities which facilitate student engagement and develop understanding of early childhood education. • Knowledge - Demonstrated understanding of the nexus between teaching, research and scholarship in approaches to teaching and learning. • Experience - Demonstrated experience in the effective teaching and supervision of Honours, Masters or PhD students with timely completions (desirable). • Experience - A strong research profile within the discipline area of early childhood education with a high-quality publication record both nationally and (desirably) internationally.
Core Competencies:	• Demonstrate confidence and courage in achieving ACU's Mission, Vision and Values by connecting the purpose of one's work to ACU's Mission, Vision and Values. • Display openness and resilience, inspire others to change and act to make change happen with ACU's strategic goals and Mission at the heart of all outcomes. • Work collaboratively internally and externally to ACU to capitalise on all available expertise in pursuit of excellence. • Coach and develop self and others through setting clear expectations, managing performance and developing required capabilities to establish a culture of learning and improvement. • Take personal accountability for achieving the highest quality outcomes through understanding the ACU context, self-reflection, and

	aspiring to and striving for excellence.
Essential Attributes:	Demonstrated commitment to cultural diversity and ethical practice principles and demonstrated knowledge of equal employment opportunity and workplace health and safety, appropriate to the level of the appointment.
Working with children and vulnerable adults check	Evidence of the ability to work with children and/or vulnerable adults, and contribute to and protect their safety and wellbeing. The successful applicant of this position will be required to hold a valid working with children clearance for the State or Territory in which the position is located.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

For further information about the structure of the University, refer to the Organisation Chart https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/leadership-and-governance/leadership/organisational-structure

