



Diploma of Adult Education

HE20608

Course description:

The Diploma of Adult Education has been developed to provide both new teachers and those with teaching experience with the knowledge, skills and values required to effectively teach adults, and to develop their career in adult education.

The course is designed to prepare you for excellence in education, training, and assessment across various settings, providing you with a strong foundation in both theory and practical skills. You'll learn about adult learning principles, best practice teaching methods, teamwork, problem solving, and using technology, while also doing a deep dive into adult learning theories and how they apply to the learning environment.

A unique aspect of this course is the focus on practical tasks that lead to enhanced teaching skills and knowledge, as well as social constructivism. This approach highlights the value of learning through social interaction and collaboration, offering you insights not just from the learning resources but also from your peers.

Academic Leadership (New Fast Track Model)

Provides teachers who hold a Certificate IV TAE and have at least two years' experience teaching adults (within the last 5 years) with the required skills and knowledge to effectively lead and develop academic teams.

Course structure:

Eight subjects:
Six core + two electives.

Fast-Track Model:

- Four subjects completed via coursework over one year (two semesters).
- Four subjects credited through RPL.

Specialisation:

Academic Leadership Grounded in Social Constructivist theory with interactive workshops, peer learning, and workplace application.

Start date: July 2026

Study Commitment

- Part time evening
- 2 subjects per semester (2 semesters per year)
- 6 hours MS Teams Workshops
- 2 hours MS Teams Drop-in sessions
- Additional 6-10 hours researching, reading, preparing assessment tasks

Study mode

- Fully online via MS Teams and Course Moodle
- Engaging online workshops underpinned by the Social Constructivist theory

Career Pathways

- Teacher
- Lead Teacher of a Discipline
- Head Teacher
- Academic Lead
- Team Leader

Credit Transfer and Articulation

Candidates who have a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment plus evidence of 2 years of experience teaching adults may apply for credit for the following subjects:

- Working in Adult Education
- Teaching Adults
- Assessment Fundamentals
- Work Placement

Course Learning Outcomes

A graduate will be able to:

- Apply their knowledge of theories and principles of learning to plan and facilitate effective and engaging training for adults
- Apply their knowledge of the personal factors that influence learning to support all students
- Apply an understanding of the fundamentals of leading effective teams in an adult education environment
- Apply an understanding of operational management and planning to achieve team goals
- Apply their knowledge of teaching indigenous learners in developing culturally appropriate materials and assessments

TAFE NSW Higher Education Graduates will:

- Be work ready
- Develop and employ a body of knowledge within a professional and applied context
- Develop a professional ability to communicate effectively in the profession using a variety of text and media
- Develop positive interpersonal, teamwork and leadership skills to apply in the workplace
- Solve problems using innovative, critical and creative thinking
- Develop attitudes and attributes conducive to lifelong learning

Graduates at this level will apply knowledge and skills to demonstrate autonomy, judgement and defined responsibility in known or changing context, and within broad but established parameters.

Entry requirements

Course admission into the Diploma of Adult Education is governed by the TAFE NSW Higher Education Student Selection and Admission policy, which list the following alternative minimum requirements for undergraduate courses:

- A qualification from a Registered Training Organisation at Certificate IV level or above
- Successful completion of the Certificate IV Training and Assessment
- An employer reference verifying 2 years' teaching in the past 5 years
- Evidence of discipline vocational currency
- Evidence of engagement with professional discipline network
- In addition, applicants are expected to have a Vocational Education and Training (VET) background and/or qualifications in at least one vocational area, with at least three years of current industry experience

These subjects and at least 2 years' experience teaching adults within the last 5 years

also require applicants to have a Certificate IV in Training and Assessment (or equivalent),

- Assessment Fundamentals
- Teaching Adults
- Academic Leadership
- Understanding Adult Learning
- Working in Adult Education
- Work Placement
- Mentor & Support Teachers
- Support Learners

Contact Information :

If you are interested in finding out more contact this email address:

EducationStandards@tafensw.edu.au

131 601

tafensw.edu.au/education-and-training

Scan the QR code below to start your application



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satisfaction

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of graduates
recommend
TAFE NSW

as a training provider.³



80%
employer
satisfaction

With the overall quality of training offered by TAFE Australia-wide.¹