

What can I do with a degree in Secondary Teacher Education?

Secondary Teacher Education.



Career planning: what do I need to know?

Knowledge of yourself is important for career decision making. Start by looking at your personal goals, abilities, values and interests to explore study and career options that are relevant to you. Some of these may change over time, so it is important to self-reflect and evaluate your career on an ongoing basis.

What do employers look for?

Many employers look for generic skills such as communication, customer-focus, bicultural competence, cultural awareness and teamwork. With technology and globalisation changing the nature of society, skills such as resilience, problem solving and adaptability are valuable at work as well as in life.

How can I develop these skills?

- Some skills are developed through your degree
- Extra-curricular activities can help, for example getting involved in clubs, mentoring, cultural groups, part-time work or volunteering
- Be open to professional and personal development opportunities. Whether it is undertaking an internship, overseas exchange, skills seminar, or joining an industry group – these activities will enhance your employability.

What else should I know?

The career options in this brochure are examples only and the list is not exhaustive. Some careers may require further study beyond a first degree or additional work experience. Some pathways and degrees have a recommended school background. Find more subject details at www.canterbury.ac.nz/subjects/secondary

If this brochure does not answer your questions, talking to an expert such as a career consultant can help you to identify the next steps in your career decision making journey. www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

What is Secondary Teacher Education?

Secondary teachers work with young adults in Years 7 to 13 (ages 11-18) in intermediate, middle, area and secondary schools. As a Secondary teacher you teach one or more subjects that you are passionate about. Along with promoting your students' social, emotional, intellectual and physical development, you enjoy cultivating a love of learning in others.



AT A GLANCE

96%

of Secondary Teacher Education graduates were in employment directly related to their study*

\$10-30k+

scholarships for course fees plus \$10-30,000 available for high school science, technology, te reo Māori, and maths teacher trainees#

What skills have UC graduates gained?

Through their Secondary Teacher Education degree, graduates develop a valuable set of skills that are transferable to a range of careers.

These skills include:

- An understanding of human development across the lifespan
- Knowledge of teaching and learning processes
- Interpretive and analytical thinking
- Problem solving skills
- Thinking critically and creatively, and challenging ideas
- Planning and organisation
- Oral and written communication.

Opportunities to apply your learning in schools are available, through community engagement, work-integrated learning (on placement) and international study tours. These experiences deepen your skillset, awareness of others, working knowledge, and employability.

Where have UC graduates been employed?

Secondary Teacher Education graduates gain teaching and management positions in secondary schools in Aotearoa New Zealand.

There are also international teaching opportunities, for example in the UK and Australia, or in international schools around the world.

As well as opportunities in the education sector, teaching skills of leadership, communication, coordination, responsibility and organisation are prized in many professions such as management, policy, publishing, community work, politics and business.

The contacts and experiences from teaching placements can often provide a good springboard into the working world.

* 2017, 2018, 2019 UC Graduate Destinations Survey results combined

www.teachnz.govt.nz/scholarships

What jobs and activities do graduates do?

Graduates of UC's Secondary Teacher Education programmes will be eligible for provisional registration. This enables you to apply for secondary teaching positions in Aotearoa New Zealand.

Graduates can teach anything from drama to French, physical education to statistics. There may be opportunities to get involved in school committees, extra-curricular student activities and take on leadership opportunities.

See some examples of graduate jobs below.

Note: Some of the jobs listed may require postgraduate study. See the 'Further study' section.

Secondary school teacher

- Prepares and delivers instructional activities and lessons in specialised subjects
- Observes and evaluates performance in order to provide feedback
- Develops and marks tests and assessments

Kaiwhakaako Māori | Māori-medium teacher

- Provides Māori medium education by developing te reo and tikanga
- Collaborates with whānau and iwi
- Prepares class plans, and sets and marks assessments

Special education / early intervention teacher

- Teaches young people with diverse learning needs
- Evaluates special needs, working with whānau and teachers to develop learning plans
- Recommends and coordinates support services, treatment and therapy

Guide / leader / mentor | kaiārahi

- Supports people to practise biculturalism
- Identifies opportunities and reviews processes to achieve organisational Māori aspirations
- Connects with contributors, leaders and knowledge guardians

Private tutor

- Develops a student's subject understanding
- Maintains knowledge of the curriculum
- Prepares students for assignments or tests

Education advisor

- Works with teachers to develop teaching programmes to increase student achievement
- Designs and creates teaching resource materials
- Assists with school implementation of new education priorities and policies

School counsellor

- Helps a student to share their feelings and experiences
- Raises self-awareness and understanding

Educational publisher

- Develops educational materials for use in classrooms, eg workbooks, videos or apps
- Writes assessment questions
- Ensures an efficient material distribution system

Secondary school dean

- Assists in the management of students who may be struggling academically
- Monitors attendance and attends to truancy
- Supports teaching staff

Vice / deputy principal

- Promotes the school's values, plans and policies
- Develops initiatives that allow for optimum learning and teaching
- Provides leadership and fosters relationships

Boarding manager

- Ensures the house is managed efficiently
- Looks after the physical, cultural, social, intellectual and emotional needs of students
- Helps students settle into the environment

Entrepreneur & self-employment

Entrepreneurship and innovation are an increasing part of the working landscape. Through generating a business idea, or getting involved in a start-up/business venture, you have the potential to create a work opportunity that aligns with your knowledge, skills, values and risk profile. To get started on how to establish, run and grow a new business, go to Te Pokapū Rakahinonga, Centre for Entrepreneurship at the University of Canterbury www.canterbury.ac.nz/uce



What professional organisations can I engage with?

Connecting with professional bodies and organisations can help you to establish professional networks and learn more about different career options in your area of interest. Gaining valuable insight into a profession can assist in making informed career decisions.

- Te Riu Roa NZEI www.nzei.org.nz
- Teaching Council of Aotearoa New Zealand www.teachingcouncil.nz
- Te Wehengarua Post Primary Teachers' Association www.ppta.org.nz
- New Zealand Educational Administration and Leadership Society www.nzeals.org.nz

Having a professional presence on social media networks such as www.linkedin.com and Facebook can help you to keep up to date with important industry developments and trends, networking opportunities, events and job vacancies. Following relevant professional bodies, organisations, companies and thought leaders is a great way to gain a deeper awareness of the industries that interest you. Social media presents an opportunity to build and enhance networks as well as to display your involvement in projects and any academic successes.

Why do further study and what are my options?

Postgraduate study can facilitate career benefits such as specialist skills, higher starting salary, faster progression rate, and advanced research capability. It is important to determine which, if any, further study will help you in your career.

Honours, master's and doctoral studies allow graduates to focus on an area of interest in Education. Higher study is also a pathway to an academic career.

UC also offers higher qualifications in areas such as Hōaka Pounamu: Te Reo Māori Bilingual and Immersion Teaching, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, e-Learning and Digital Technologies, Leadership, and Positive Behaviour Support.

Useful links

Te Rōpū Rapuara UC Careers
www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Careers New Zealand
www.careers.govt.nz

Akona a Aotearoa Teach NZ
www.teachnz.govt.nz

Tukutuku Kōrero Education Gazette
www.gazette.education.govt.nz

Matt



Bachelor of Science in Chemistry
Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning
(Secondary)
Teacher, Middleton Grange School

Give a brief description of what your job involves:

Educating young minds and passing on a passion for Chemistry

What do you find interesting about your job?

I get to shape the lives of young people and help them discover how amazing chemistry is. We also get to do exciting experiments (which often involve explosions!). I think humour is essential in the classroom, as well as being flexible. Sometimes my lesson goes in a totally different direction than what I had planned!

What are some skills you need to be a teacher?

I am constantly having to adapt to the modern learner. Thinking of new, creative ways to engage students and help them understand difficult concepts. You have to be able to relate to people and be passionate about your subject. You have to be a team player.

What advice would you give to someone considering becoming a science teacher?

It is a fantastic subject area. It appeals to a logical mind, and you can have a lot of fun!

Read more online

Read more stories about our students' university experiences online. UC alumni make a difference in varied ways around the globe. To find out where graduates are now visit www.canterbury.ac.nz/getstarted/whyuc/student-profiles

The information in this brochure was correct at the time of print but is subject to change.

More information

UC students seeking study advice.

Te Kura Whakangungu Kaiako |
School of Teacher Education

We provide a range of qualifications at all levels. We are committed to providing exemplary programmes for teachers, supervisors, curriculum specialists, and other professionals pursuing careers in education. We deliver teacher training both on-campus and by distance.

P: +64 3 369 3333

E: education@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/education

Anyone seeking careers advice.

Te Rōpū Rapuara | UC Careers

UC offers intending and current students and recent graduates a wide range of services, including individual career guidance, seminars, career resources and student and graduate employment opportunities.

T: +64 3 369 0303

E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers

Prospective students seeking study advice.

Te Rōpū Takawaenga | Student Liaison

The liaison team provide advice to future students who are starting their degree for the first time. They can assist with information on degrees, scholarships, accommodation, and other aspects of university life. We have offices in Christchurch, Auckland and Wellington.

Ōtautahi | Christchurch

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz

Tāmaki Makaurau | Auckland

T: 0800 UCAUCK

E: auckland@canterbury.ac.nz

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington

T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)

E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz

www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison

