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, 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 is Secondary Teacher Education?

UC offers two internationally recognised qualifications for students who wish to train as secondary school teachers.

The Graduate Diploma in Teaching and Learning (Secondary) is a one-year graduate qualification for those who already hold a degree. The graduate diploma is currently offered on campus in Christchurch with an intake in early February.

The Master of Teaching and Learning is a one-year postgraduate qualification for those who already hold a degree. You will complete an 180-point master’s degree within one calendar year of full-time study on campus. This qualification focuses on practices that cater for diverse and priority learners’ needs in the Aotearoa New Zealand context.

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 skills have UC graduates gained?

Through their Secondary 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 in this major, 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.

For more examples of employers go to www.canterbury.ac.nz/recruitingemployers

AT A GLANCE

- 94% of Education graduates that are not in further study are employed (the highest of all UC fields)*

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

* 94% of Education graduates, that are not in further study, are in part-time or full-time employment — the highest of all UC fields surveyed (2016 UC Graduate Destinations Survey)

# 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

**Kaiwhakako 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 | kaārahi**
- 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
- Listens to and reflects upon their issues
- 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

**Operations manager**
- Improves ongoing business effectiveness
- Ensures health and safety adhered to
- Builds an engaged and skilled team
- Manages day-to-day operations and budgets

**Entrepreneur and CEO**
- Develops an idea to form their own business
- Offers freelance or consultancy services

Get started at [www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers/Entrepreneurship/getting_started.shtml](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers/Entrepreneurship/getting_started.shtml)

What professional bodies can people link to?

As they progress, students and graduates often join professional bodies and organisations relevant to their area of interest. These groups can provide regular communications and offer the chance to network with others in the same community.

- New Zealand Educational Institute [www.nzei.org.nz](http://www.nzei.org.nz)
- National Association of Resource Teachers and Advisors of Māori [www.nartam-takawaengamataurangamaori.wikispaces.com](http://www.nartam-takawaengamataurangamaori.wikispaces.com)
- New Zealand Post Primary Teachers’ Association [www.ppta.org.nz](http://www.ppta.org.nz)
- New Zealand Educational Administration and Leadership Society [www.nzeals.org.nz](http://www.nzeals.org.nz)

Social media networks such as LinkedIn, Facebook and Twitter can provide avenues to keep up-to-date with industry knowledge, networking opportunities, events and job vacancies.

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, Specialist Teaching, Teaching English to Speakers of Other Languages, e-Learning and Digital Technologies, Leadership, and Positive Behaviour Support.

Useful links

- UC Careers, Internships & Employment [www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers)
- UC Careerhub — internships, jobs, tips [www.careerhub.canterbury.ac.nz](http://www.careerhub.canterbury.ac.nz)
- UC degree and course options [www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/courses)
- Careers New Zealand [www.careers.govt.nz](http://www.careers.govt.nz)
- Teach NZ [www.teachnz.govt.nz](http://www.teachnz.govt.nz)
UC students seeking study advice.
UC School of Teacher Education
Te Kura Whakangungu Kaiako
UC is rated in the top 100 in the world in Education (QS World University Rankings by Subject, 2017). UC Education’s teaching and research is conducted by staff at the forefront of their fields.
The School provides qualifications at all levels for prospective and current teachers, supervisors, curriculum specialists, and other professionals. We have a strong partnership model that provides school placements for teacher trainees. We deliver teacher training both on-campus and by distance.
T: +64 3 369 3708
E: educationadvice@canterbury.ac.nz
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/education](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/education)

Anyone seeking careers advice.
CIE 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 3 364 3310
E: careers@canterbury.ac.nz
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/careers)

Prospective students seeking study advice.
Student Liaison
Te Rōpū Takawaenga
Student Liaison provides intending students with information about the university system in general and the courses, qualifications, support and facilities available at UC.
Ōtautahi | Christchurch
T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748)
E: liaison@canterbury.ac.nz
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison)

Tāmaki-makaurau | Auckland
T: 0800 UCAUCK
E: auckland@canterbury.ac.nz

Te Whanganui-a-Tara | Wellington
T: 0800 VARSITY (0800 827 748) ext 93231
E: wellington@canterbury.ac.nz
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/liaison)

Ngāti Mutunga
Bachelor of Arts majoring in History with a minor in Māori and Indigenous Studies
Master of Teaching and Learning (Secondary) with Distinction
History and Social Studies Teacher, Christchurch Adventist School

Why did you decide to become a teacher?
Learning the stuff that I’ve learnt at UC, I wanted to give back from my experiences and hopefully hand them on to the next generation — it does not matter what college or school or whatever I am in — teaching is a perfect way to be able to do that.
Once I completed my BA, I knew I wanted to teach at secondary level but I was not too sure if I was going to enrol for a graduate diploma in teaching. At the time, they were coming up with this new master’s programme so I applied.

Can you tell us about your previous experience in education?
I had previously done various jobs as a teacher aide at different primary schools throughout Christchurch but I made a decision in 2008 to join the Royal New Zealand Air Force (RNZAF).
I had two years at UC when I was younger and they weren’t as successful as they probably should have been. So I joined RNZAF and went away. After a while, I decided to come back to UC and when I was studying, I found that I was quite good at it. I enjoyed it.
I have gained lots of experience in education during my working career and I draw upon these experiences when working with young people.

What did you enjoy about your degree?
The Master of Teaching and Learning is all about and caters for the diversity in New Zealand schools. The diversity in New Zealand schools is massive, and just giving back to schools that have a high number of diverse students is awesome.

What would you say to someone considering this pathway?
I would encourage anyone thinking about teaching to seriously consider the Master of Teaching and Learning programme — the worst thing they can say is no.
The programme is pretty intensive and it is a bit longer than the graduate diploma but what is good about it is that it has a high content for diverse learners and different Māori and Pasifika students and that is good.

Read more online
UC alumni like Sione make a difference in varied ways around the globe. For stories of graduates who are working in secondary education visit
[www.canterbury.ac.nz/profiles](http://www.canterbury.ac.nz/profiles)

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