

**Position Description**

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| **Early Childhood** **Lecturer – (Teaching Focussed)**  |
| **Position No:** | TBA |
| **Department:** | Department of Education |
| **School:** | School of Education |
| **Campus/Location:** | Shepparton Campus |
| **Classification:** | LEVEL B– Lecturer |
| **Employment Type:** | Fixed Term |
| **Position Supervisor: Number:** | Head of Department, School of Education 50099903 |
| **Other Benefits:** | <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/jobs/working/benefits> |

Further information about:

La Trobe University - <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/about>

College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce – <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/assc>

# For enquiries only contact:

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**Position Description**

# Level B – Lecturer (Teaching Focussed)

A Level B academic with a teaching focussed appointment will work without the need for close supervision and is expected to develop curriculum, coordinate subjects, teach and support students as they learn. In addition, a teaching focussed academic will support the administrative functions of the discipline as well as undertake scholarly work relevant to the development of learning and teaching in their discipline or professional field. A teaching focussed academic is expected to demonstrate teaching excellence in keeping with the La Trobe Teaching Excellence Principles and maintain a track record of excellence as evidenced by Student Feedback on Teaching (SFT) surveys, peer-feedback on teaching and through other evidence-based measures. Further, a level B teaching focussed academic will co-ordinate and/or lead the activities of other staff, as appropriate to learning and teaching in the discipline.

A teaching focused academic is expected to participate regularly in gathering and monitoring of student feedback through Student Feedback on Teaching surveys and will normally receive high teaching results relative to their peers. At least once a year they will also undertake to have their teaching peer-reviewed as part of a commitment to scholarly teaching practice.

# Position Context

The College of Arts, Social Sciences and Commerce is comprised of 4 Schools and 12 Departments across La Trobe’s multi-campus operations. The College offers a range of general and specialist undergraduate and postgraduate courses that are rigorous and attuned to meeting the needs of students in ensuring their readiness to work in changing environments. Our courses are appropriately linked to emerging trends and critical global issues. The College has an outstanding reputation for research excellence, for research translation and for building strong relationships with industry partners.

The School of Education has a long and distinctive history of progressive and socially engaged teaching and research in education. The School provides for the professional preparation of teachers and educators in early childhood, primary, secondary, community, vocational and higher education, and outdoor environmental education.

The School of Education is entering a period of renewal and has adopted an ambitious strategic plan that is intended to reinvigorate the School’s research and coursework portfolio and connectivity with stakeholder groups and industry.

The position is expected to make contributions to the teaching and research objectives of the School of Education. Experience and expertise in higher education, particularly in areas such as student experience, teaching and learning innovation and initiatives, and working with innovative research and research projects is an essential element of the work of the School in achieving its strategic goals. In conjunction with this, this position will innovate and develop teaching and scholarly engagement with flexible delivery and on-line learning approaches across all campuses.

The position holder will work with teams to deliver high quality learning experiences in early childhood education. They will demonstrate a commitment to the scholarship of teaching in early childhood education to inform policy and professional practice. They will engage with professional networks and researchers to inform curriculum innovation and employability pathways.

The position holder will be required to undertake travel to other La Trobe University campuses.

For all duties and key selection criteria, candidates must demonstrate the necessary experience and capability, at the appropriate level, for the role as described in the position context.

# Duties at this level may include:

* Provide pastoral support and academic advice to education students on the Shepparton Campus.
* Work closely with the campus Head of the Shepparton campus and the School of Education course coordinators to enhance the student experience.
* Demonstrate effectiveness by taking an evidence-based approach to evaluate learning and teaching initiatives.
* Demonstrate a scholarly approach to learning and teaching by contributing to La Trobe’s SOLT including sharing of good practice.
* Coordinate and teach subjects providing a high-quality learning experience that engages students through the conduct of lectures, tutorials, practical classes, demonstrations, workshops, student field excursions, clinical sessions and/or other sessions in online, blended or face-to-face modes.
* Provide constructive, fair and timely feedback on learning to students.
* Initiate, and participate in innovative subject and course level curriculum design, development and review in areas such as, but not restricted to, online and blended delivery, taking an evidence-based approach to evaluate how these initiatives improve the student experience.
* Prioritise the embedding of employability capabilities in the curriculum.
* Participate in La Trobe Learning and Teaching conferences, colloquia or workshops.
* Lead and implement teaching improvement projects at subject, course or discipline level.
* Provide mentoring to other academics on good teaching practice.
* With mentoring support, as appropriate, obtain funding from internal or external sources for teaching improvement projects.
* Co-supervise or, where appropriate supervise Higher Degree by Research, honours and postgraduate students.
* Continue to develop professional practice skills, knowledge and expertise.
* Contribute to knowledge transfer and to building relationships at a local level.
* Perform allocated administrative functions effectively and efficiently.
* Serve on committees at the school or course level and contribute to committees at the Department, School or College level as required.
* Undertake other duties commensurate with the classification and scope of the position as required by the Head of Department or Head of School.

# Key Selection Criteria ESSENTIAL:

* Demonstrated significant experience in early childhood settings and an strong understanding of current research and trends that inform early childhood practices and policy reform.
* Demonstrated experience in developing innovative early childhood curriculum to reflect the needs of children and their families in diverse communities.
* PhD degree or equivalent accreditation and standing recognised by the University/profession as appropriate for the relevant discipline areas.
* Demonstrated ability to be effective in teaching and curriculum development in face-to-face, blended and/or online modes, as evidenced by, for example, high results on student feedback on teaching surveys relative to their peers, or through other forms of evidence.
* Evidence of innovative initiatives undertaken in the last three years that have improved the student experience.
* High level oral and written communication skills including the ability to interact effectively with community, staff and students from diverse backgrounds.
* Ability to engage with the Scholarship of Learning and Teaching
* Demonstrated ability to influence the teaching practice of others.
* Demonstrated ability to work as a team member in a collaborative and collegial manner.

# DESIRABLE:

* Ability to supervise, or co-supervise, honours and postgraduate students.
* Ability to produce outputs related to the Scholarship of Learning and Teaching.
* Graduate Certificate in Higher Education or similar evidence of professional preparation for, and continuous professional development in, higher education teaching.

# Other relevant information:

* The position description is indicative of the initial expectation of the role and subject to changes to University goals and priorities, activities or focus of the job.

# Essential Compliance Requirements

To hold this La Trobe University position the occupant must:

* hold, or be willing to undertake and pass, a Victorian Working With Children Check; AND
* take personal accountability to comply with all University policies, procedures and legislative or regulatory obligations; including but not limited to TEQSA and the Higher Education Threshold Standards.

# La Trobe Cultural Qualities

Our cultural qualities underpin everything we do. As we work towards realising the strategic goals of the University we strive to work in a way which is aligned to our four cultural qualities:

* We are ***Connected****:* We connect to the world outside — the students and communities we serve, both locally and globally.
* *We are* ***Innovative****:* We tackle the big issues of our time to transform the lives of our students and society.
* *We are* ***Accountable:*** We strive for excellence in everything we do. We hold each other and ourselves to account, and work to the highest standard.
* *We* ***Care:*** We care about what we do and why we do it. We believe in the power of education and research to transform lives and global society. We care about being the difference in the lives of our students and communities.

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