

Graduate Certificate of Education (Special Education: Complex Communication Needs)



It was amazing to hear a child ask, "Can we write more?"

I was very fortunate to complete the first Graduate Certificate of Special Education: Complex Communication Needs course offered in Australia at Edith Cowan University (ECU). It was a delight to work with a group of passionate educators and learn more about how to support people with complex communication needs. The course expanded my skills and I absolutely love sharing the knowledge and resources I've come across with my colleagues, other educators and people in the community. I was able to apply the literacy unit of the course to my clinical practice when I delivered a holiday program on shared reading and writing without standards. It was amazing to hear a child ask, "Can we write more?"

Kate Martinez

ECU Graduate Certificate of Education (Special Education: Complex Communication Needs) graduate and Occupational Therapist



Graduate Certificate of Education (Special Education: Complex Communication Needs)

Course Code: L41

This course is intended for education or therapy professionals to enhance their experience and understandings of the specific skills required to communicate with, teach, support and include individuals with complex communication needs, whether in a regular classroom, special education facility or elsewhere in the wider community.

Including both theoretical and practical exploration of teaching strategies which improve learning outcomes for students with complex communication needs, the course has a particular focus on the role and skills of the communication partner and on designing and delivering successful literacy, language and communication instruction to students of diverse abilities with complex communication needs. This will enable professionals working in regular classrooms, education support facilities or elsewhere within the community to create effective learning programmes which are communication accessible for all.

Units to complete (45 credit points)

- EDU5310 Complex Communication Needs: Being an Effective Communication Partner – 15 Credit Points
- EDU5315 Complex Communication Needs: Literacy, Language and Communication Instruction for All – 15 Credit Points
- EDU5373 Foundation Studies and Current Issues in Special Education – 15 Credit Points
- Plus select any 15 credit point Level 5 EDU unit in consultation with the Course Coordinator

Admission requirements: Four-year teaching qualification or equivalent; a comparable professional level qualification in a related field.

Delivery: Online and On-Campus

Note: A limited number of places are available for members of the community to audit the course (with no assessment component) in order that the diverse nature of genuine communication teams can be replicated for authentic collaborative learning projects.

For more information, email
Dr John O'Rourke at j.o_rourke@ecu.edu.au

