



Master of Contemporary Education
FAQs
Updated 5th June 2018 - subject to change

Q: What are the programme fees?

A: For those who **have not yet started the Postgraduate Certificate in Applied Practice (Digital & Collaborative Learning) ([PGCAP-DCL](#))**, the course will cost **\$9,995.00 + GST** for the full programme (parts 1, 2 and 3).

For those who have **already completed the PGCAP-DCL**, the course will cost **\$7,250.00 + GST** for the remaining 2 parts (**parts 2 and 3 only**).

Q: Are there scholarships or discounts available for the programme?

A: [NEXT Foundation Scholarships](#) for Part 1 are available for the **July 2018 [PGCAP-DCL](#) intake only** and then we can no longer offer these. These scholarships entitle public school educators to \$2000 off the fees or \$2750 for decile 1-3 educators. If you have already completed the [PGCAP-DCL](#) programme and are going on to complete the MCE, you have already received your scholarship.

There is a **10% discount** if payment is made via credit card or Account-to-Account payment online when you enrol via The Mind Lab by Unitec [enrolments site](#). Please note enrolments are not yet open.

Q: How long will the programme take to complete?

A: Part 1 is 32 weeks part-time and is the [PGCAP-DCL](#). Parts 2+3 will take 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time.

Q: Are there any breaks between the 3 parts of the MCE?

A: Between Part 2 and Part 3 of the MCE there is a 3 week semester break, and there is always a 3 week holiday break (semester break) over summer.

Q: Which intakes will run for the MCE?

A: 2018 is a transitional year and we will run in June.
2019 onwards we will run an April intake and a September intake.

Q: How many places are available for the June 2018 intake?

A: Limited spaces for 2018 transitional year. Decisions on cohorts size(s) in 2018 will depend on interest in geographical areas, resourcing and other considerations.



Q: What locations are you holding the programme in?

A: We are planning to have centres in Auckland, Wellington, Christchurch and Rotorua where we will run scheduled face-to-face workshops. You are able to complete the programme from any location in New Zealand, as long as you are able to attend the required workshops at one of these locations. The first face-to-face session will either be in week 2 or 3.

Q: What is the time commitment per week for the programme?

A: Part 2, full time will be 26 hours per week, covering 4 courses in 26 weeks. FYI Full time workshops have potential to be on work days.

Part time commitment is 52 weeks, at around 16 hours per week.

Part 3 (single course): full-time will be around 26 weeks working on your practice-based change project or 52 weeks part-time.

Q: When will workshops be held?

A: For part-time students we are looking at weekends and school holidays. This may be similar for full-time students but there may be some sessions on work days. There may be some flexibility around workshops/days of the week, but there is an expectation that you will attend these workshops.

Q. What are the dates for the June intake (full time)?

A: For full-time students, Part 2 begins on 25th June 2018 and runs for 25 weeks, finishing on 16th December 2018. There is a 3 week break between Part 2 and 3.

Part 3 commences on the 7th January 2019 and runs for a further 24 weeks, finishing on 23rd June 2019.

Q. What are the dates for the June intake (part time)?

A: For part-time students, Part 2 begins on 25th June 2018 and finished on 23rd June 2019. There is then a three-week break.

Part 3 commences on the 15th July 2019 and finishes on 21st June 2020.

Q: Will completing this programme allow me to move up the MoE payscale?

A: This depends on where you sit on the pay scale.

NZEI - Primary Collective Agreement states that:-

- Teachers who improve their qualification(s) shall, on the effective date of improving the qualification(s), receive at least the minimum commencing step for the new qualification(s)



- PPTA (Secondary) Trained teachers who improve their qualification(s) shall, on the effective date of improving the qualification(s), receive at least the minimum commencing step for the new qualification(s).

(ii) Those teachers who, in accordance with clause 3.2.1(e) above, have been held at the maximum point of the salary scale for their qualification group for one or more years of service for salary purposes and who subsequently improve their qualification(s) shall be entitled to progress one salary step towards the maximum step of their new qualification group from the effective date of improving their qualification(s). This date shall become their new anniversary date for salary progression purposes.

Q: What are the minimum numbers for this programme to run in my centre?

A: There must be at least 10 people that will attend face-to-face workshops in each centre for us to host them there. Please keep in mind there is an expectation that you attend the face-to-face workshops, which means you may need to travel.

Q: What makes this Master's programme different from other Master's programmes?

- A:**
- This is a practice-based Master's highly relevant to your education context e.g classroom
 - It will have value to your school (or other education context), so your manager will be supportive of your study. Importantly, this Master's is about your practice, the challenges, problems and opportunities that you face in your classroom (or other education context).
 - This Master's adds value to the *Digital and Collaborative Learning* Postgraduate Certificate which is Part 1 of the 3 part MCE. The PGCAP-DCL and MCE become a suite of options for teachers and other educators to choose from and move between.
 - The MCE focuses on the challenges of contemporary education including digital fluency through leadership and collaboration. The MCE recognises that all teachers are leaders.
 - The MCE Agile Inquiry Process is a framework that allows you to tackle complex change in learning environments where requirements are not fully understood or are ever changing.
 - The learning is divided into sprints (chunks) that facilitate successful collaboration and shared learning. There is an individual and collective responsibility and a shared accountability with personalised learning through the selection and development of particular sprints that are focused to your context. Through continuous improvement, regular reflection and iteration the solution to the challenge emerges through the process.
 - The MCE has part-time and full-time options.

Q: Can international students do the MCE programme?

A: Yes international students are able to do the MCE programme, however they must meet the eligibility criteria. Please enquire at mce@themindlab.com to see if you meet this criteria.

Q: How do I know if I am eligible?



A: To be admitted to the Master of Contemporary Education, all applicants must have:

A recognised bachelor degree in the same or similar discipline, with merit achievement, deemed to be an average grade of B- or higher in all Level 7 courses;

Or

A professional qualification in a relevant discipline, recognised as being equivalent to merit achievement in a bachelor degree or equivalent;

And

Applicants must give their consent to undergo a process of Safety Checking* as set out in the Vulnerable Children (Requirements for Safety Checks of Children’s Workers) Regulations 2015 (“the Regulations”).

This checking process will include:

- i. Providing 2 forms of identification, and evidence of any name changes (if any);
- ii. Consent to Unitec undertaking a Police Vet check, or a Criminal Record Check (as required), and advise Unitec of any current charges or pending court matters;
- iii. Providing a chronological summary of his or her work history, if any, for the preceding 5 years and the name of any professional organisations and/or licensing authorities and/or registration authorities that the student is a member of or been licensed by and that is relevant to the proposed placement (if required);
- iv. Providing the names of 2 referees who may be contacted by Unitec or your placement provider (if required);
- v. Attending a face to face interview (if required) for the purposes of a risk assessment as required by section 8 of the Act.

Applicants are also required to consent to the above information gathered as part of the Safety Check to be shared with a host institution for the purposes of any practicum placement.

*This clause is waived if the candidate has already fulfilled the requirements of the Safety Check as part of their current employment.

Applicants must have an identified education-based practice that would normally be through current employment.

1.2 Whakaurunga Motuhake | Special Admission

Applicants must have:

- a. attained the age of 20 years on or before the first day of the semester in which study for the programme is to commence; and
- b. a qualification (at level 7 of at least 120 credits) in a relevant discipline area, with a B grade average or better, and a minimum of two years’ appropriate work experience; and
- c. provided sufficient evidence of aptitude or appropriate work or other life experience that would indicate a successful outcome in the qualification.



1.3 Whakaurunga Kōwhiringa | Discretionary Admission

In exceptional cases an applicant who does not meet the general admission requirements and who has not reached the age of 20 on or before the first day of the semester in which study for the Certificate is to commence may apply for discretionary admission.

In assessing whether to grant discretionary admission in exceptional cases, the primary focus will be on the applicant's level of preparedness for study at the required level.

1.4 Whakaurunga Reo Pākehā | English Language Admission Requirements

Applicants must have achieved a minimum standard of English as demonstrated by a minimum of 8 credits at NCEA Level 2 in English (4 in Reading, 4 in Writing).

International applicants must also meet the English Language Entry Requirements stated in Unitec's Admission Requirements Policy.

2. Paearu Kōwhiri Tukanga | Selection Criteria & Process

2.1 Paearu Kōwhiri | Selection Criteria

When the number of eligible applicants for admission exceeds the number of places available, the following selection criteria will be applied:

- Willingness to commit to the programme;
- Demonstrate competency in achievement, leadership, humility, respect and empathy, self-reflection and commitment to the vision of the MCE programme.

Applicants who meet the maximum number of listed criteria will be the preferred candidates

2.2 Tukanga Kōwhiri | Selection Process

Selection will be made by a subcommittee set up for the purpose with the delegated authority to offer places to applicants. The subcommittee will select students on the basis of written information supplied on the enrolment form. At the discretion of the subcommittee, an interview (face-to-face or electronic) may be required.