



MONASH University
Education

Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development 2008



Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development

Course Prospectus

The ***Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development*** is an innovative degree program offered only by the Faculty of Education at Monash University. Developed in collaboration with leading practitioners, the course provides access to advanced professional development and a highly regarded university qualification that will place graduates at the forefront of adult learning and development, and give them a competitive edge in the employment market.

New opportunities and a unique qualification

Adult learning and development is an expanding area of educational participation and employment opportunities. Current trends towards lifelong learning, learning organisations and a knowledge-based society mean that increasing numbers of adults are participating in further education and training throughout their working lives. These trends have generated demand for people who possess the professional knowledge, skills and expertise to enhance adult learning and development in diverse workplace and community settings.

Growing numbers of people are involved in the design and delivery of adult learning programs for personal, professional and commercial reasons. Many see challenging new employment opportunities opening up in the area. Others wish to play a more active and effective role in developing the full potential of their organisation's human resources or their community's members. Many of these people already have extensive skills, experience and qualifications, but feel the need to expand their knowledge base and improve their future prospects by graduating with a recognised credential in the field.

The ***Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development*** is designed especially for people working with adult learners who wish to upgrade their qualifications, gain recognition for prior experience and enhance their professional and career development. The ***BAL&D*** is unique in that it embraces all dimensions of adult learning and development and adopts an integrated approach to theory and practice. It recognises the diverse roles of people working with adult learners and equips participants to become highly knowledgeable, flexible and innovative practitioners.

Who should enrol in the BAL&D?

The ***Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development*** is ideal for people currently working with adult learners in TAFE, Registered Training Organisations, industry, and adult and community education providers.

The course is directly relevant to teachers, trainers, program coordinators, staff development and human resource practitioners, training consultants, and the broad spectrum of people who facilitate adult learning and development, such as workplace mentors, careers and job advisors, and human service professionals (eg. nurses, counsellors and police).

The *Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development* is a flexible degree program designed specifically to suit people with work and family commitments. Course participation involves a mix of face-to-face delivery and self-directed learning, with the support of high quality resources and support. Students can enrol on a full-time or part-time basis.

The course can be customised and delivered flexibly as workplace-based staff development for private enterprises, education and training institutions, community organisations and other bodies, both in Australia and overseas.

What are the aims of the BAL&D?

The *Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development* aims to develop highly qualified practitioners who can enhance adult learning and facilitate the development of individuals, enterprises, industry, and local and global communities. It will:

- introduce participants to core concepts and contemporary policies and practices in adult learning and development
- expose participants to social, cultural and psychological perspectives on adult learning, and to techniques for managing diversity and change
- develop participants' capacity to plan, manage, deliver, promote and evaluate adult learning and development projects
- provide access to new learning technologies and opportunities to develop skills and multimedia resources for flexible delivery
- enhance skills in designing, conducting and using work-related research
- equip participants to manage their own lifelong learning and career development

Delivered by experienced academic staff with expertise in relevant fields, the course develops students' knowledge and understanding of the theoretical foundations and professional skills that underpin adult learning and development. Regular guest presenters from industry, TAFE, commercial and community education sectors ensure that participants have access to current trends and developments.

What are the main features of the BAL&D?

The *Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development* offers unique learning opportunities for individuals wishing to become innovators and leaders in the field of adult learning and development. It has wide appeal because it is:

- ❖ *a broad-based program which recognises that adult learning and development occurs in diverse workplace and community settings*
- ❖ *an effective way to gain recognition for prior experience and to develop cutting-edge knowledge, skills and capabilities*
- ❖ *a unique opportunity to acquire new, or upgrade and add value to existing, qualifications*
- ❖ *open, flexible and responsive to the diverse needs and interests of participants*
- ❖ *relevant to current trends and developments in the workplace and community*
- ❖ *a short and challenging degree-level course delivered in an informal and supportive environment*

- ❖ *designed and delivered by the Faculty of Education at Monash University which leads the way in advanced professional development for adult educators and trainers in Australia*

Based on adult learning principles, the course is delivered through flexible modes to suit people with work and family commitments. It assists participants to pursue their personal interests and professional goals while also expanding their career paths and employment opportunities.

What are the entrance requirements?

Applicants do not need to have previous experience of study at a university level, but are expected to possess relevant work and/or community experience and/or post-school qualifications (part or whole). Recognised prior experience and qualifications include appropriate combinations of:

- Relevant work/community experience
- Certificate IV in Workplace Training and Assessment/ Cert IV in VET
- Diploma in Training and Assessment Systems
- Diploma in Vocational Education and Training
- Trade/post-trade qualifications
- Other relevant educational qualifications

Please note that it is highly desirable that applicants have access during the course to:

- a formal or informal adult learning and development environment, and
- email/Internet for accessing Discussion Forums and online resources.

A pathway to lifelong learning

Graduates can apply for further studies in a range of relevant postgraduate courses including Graduate Diplomas through to doctoral programs offered by the Faculty of Education. For example, the *Master of Education* specialising in Work and Learning Studies provides opportunities for more advanced professional development and research training. After gaining the appropriate research experience, graduates can progress to doctoral programs in education. For further information on the full range of postgraduate courses offered, please contact the *Education Hotline* on (03) 9905 2819 or visit the Faculty of Education website at:

www.education.monash.edu.au/students/prospective

The program, workload and assessment

The *Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development* is a three-year degree program that can be completed in two years with *Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL)* taking the place of Year 1. The course comprises sixteen units and entails two years study on a full-time basis or up to six years on a part-time basis. Most people take this course full-time as it is designed for those working full time and having commitments beyond work. We generally encourage people to take it on full-time at first and if they feel the need to decrease their load, they can move to part-time later in the program. Full-time participants undertake four units per semester, and part-time students generally undertake two units per semester to complete in four years.

Course work and assessment relate to, and build on, participants' work and community experience. In addition to attending course sessions, students are expected to undertake self-directed study and research towards their unit assignments.

Assessment in each unit consists of assignments equivalent to 4,000 words of written work. Assignments are negotiated with lecturers within appropriate guidelines and can take a range of forms including work diaries/journals, reports, essays, seminar presentations and syndicate group projects. There are no examinations.

Visit www.monash.edu.au/pubs/handbooks/undergrad/edu-2296.html for further information.

Course presenters

The *Bachelor of Adult Learning & Development* is delivered by a diverse group of presenters each with experience and expertise in fields that are directly relevant to adult learning and development. Core members of the *BAL&D* team include:

Nicholas Allix

Nicholas has a vocational background in human resource management and development, educational administration, knowledge management and teaching and research. His professional and research interests include: cognition, leadership, policy analysis, knowledge creation and utilization in policy contexts (knowledge management), and the coordination of learning, intelligence, innovation, and change in administrative contexts (learning organization).

Damon Anderson

Damon teaches and researches in the Faculty of Education in the field of Adult and Vocational Education and Training (AVET). His interests include the history, sociology, and political economy of AVET with particular emphasis on relationships between education, work and social change. Most of his recent work focuses on markets, participation and equity in AVET. Damon has undertaken research for the National Centre for Vocational Education Research, the Victorian Office of Post-Compulsory Education, Training and Employment, and the Australian National Training Authority. Previously Damon worked for ten years in TAFE as a senior policy analyst, program coordinator and teacher.

Allie Clemans

Allie teaches and researches in the Faculty of Education in the area of adult learning and development. Her main research and teaching interests focus on the theories, practices and policies of adult learning and development. Allie has been involved in research consultancies in areas that include adult learning in TAFE, the skill needs of women in small businesses, the LLEN and performance measurement of outcomes for adult community education. She has also delivered Workplace Trainer programs to adult educators locally and internationally. Allie is a past member of the Victorian Adult, Community and Further Education Board and a member of Women in Vocational Education (WAVE).

Gail Fitzsimons

Gail has been a teacher of adult and vocational mathematics for two decades, primarily in the TAFE sector. She has recently completed a PhD providing a critique of this sector of education in Australia. Her thesis was published in 2002 by Kluwer Academic Publishers under the title, *What counts as mathematics? Technologies of power in adult and vocational education*. She is the author and co-author of numerous publications in this field as well as the chief organiser of working groups in adult education and lifelong learning for the 1996 and the 2000 International Congress on Mathematics Education [ICME]. Currently Gail is an ARC Post-doctoral Research Fellow at Monash University, investigating adult numeracy and new learning technologies.

Judy Gray

Judy is an Associate Professor in the Faculty of Education. She has twelve years experience in the Department of Management, Monash University and has developed and taught a range of courses at graduate and undergraduate levels. Her teaching draws on her extensive background in research that focuses on leadership and entrepreneurship, and she takes a practical approach based on her many years as a business manager. She has also taught in adult education, TAFE, and at secondary level. Her current research interests include leadership, learning organisations, executive human resource management, organisational culture, behavioural complexity, innovation, resilience, and organisational communication.

Anita Devos

Anita Devos teaches in the Faculty of Education in the field of adult and workplace learning and development. She has researched and written in the areas of community and trade union education; workplace learning, professional development and mentoring; and gender issues in employment and education. Her current work focuses on the relationship between work, learning and identity in contemporary organisations.

Guest presenters

The diverse strengths of the core academic team are complemented by lectures and workshops by leading practitioners from industry, TAFE, commercial and community education sectors. The combination of core academic lecturers and a range of guest presenters ensures that course participants have access to current trends and developments in the theory and practice of adult learning and development.

Course dates for 2008

The course will be delivered on the following dates in 2008:

(* Dates are subject to change without notice.)

Semester 1	Semester 2
18-22 February inclusive	7-11 July inclusive
Thursday 6 March Thursday 20 March Saturday 29 March Thursday 10 April Saturday 26 April Saturday 10 May	Thursday 24 July Saturday 9 August Thursday 28 August Saturday 6 September Thursday 18 September Saturday 4 October
Study Skills Support sessions: Thursday 13 March Thursday 24 April	

Please note:

- Full-time applications are given priority. Applications for part-time enrolment may be considered once full time places have been allocated.
- Attendance is vital in a course that is flexibly delivered. Participation during all sessions (2 week intensives, Thursdays and Saturdays) is critical.

Commonwealth Supported Places and Full-fee Places

For information on Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP), formerly called HECS places, or a Full-fee places visit www.monash.edu.au/study/fees .

Employer sponsorship:

Many employers are willing to sponsor their employees to upgrade their qualifications in relevant areas of expertise. Information about tax benefits to employers can be sought from Business Enquiries at the Australian Taxation Office on 13 2869.

How to apply

1. Complete the Application Form and RPL Proforma found at <http://www.education.monash.edu.au/prospective/howtoapply/undergraduate.html>
2. Attend the Course Briefing and Workshop to develop your RPL Portfolio
3. Submit your application, including RPL Portfolio with supporting documents.

Please note: No fees are charged for RPL assessments.

Key dates for applicants

17 October 2007 (6.00-7.15pm)	Course briefing/RPL workshop Room G23, Faculty of Education, Building 6, Clayton
2 November 2007	Closing date for first round applications (late applications may be accepted for 2 nd round offers)

Further inquiries

Further information about the Bachelor of Adult Learning and Development can be obtained from the Faculty:

Faculty of Education
Building 6
Monash University
Victoria 3800

Ph: +61 3 9905 2819
Email: info@education.monash.edu.au

Note: *Information in this prospectus is correct at the time of printing, but is subject to alteration without notice – September 2007*