

EDU739

# Teaching Junior Secondary Geography

**School:** School of Education and Tertiary Access

2024 | Semester 1

UniSC Sunshine Coast  
UniSC Moreton Bay**BLENDED  
LEARNING**

Most of your course is on campus but you may be able to do some components of this course online.

*Please go to [usc.edu.au](http://usc.edu.au) for up to date information on the teaching sessions and campuses where this course is usually offered.*

## 1. What is this course about?

### 1.1. Description

The course builds your capacity to design inquiry-based pedagogy and assessment for Years 7 -10 Geography. You will organise, plan, explain and justify engaging lessons based on the Australian Curriculum and evaluate teaching, learning, assessment, feedback and reporting strategies. In addition, you will apply and explain ways to integrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander perspectives into learning activities and evaluate your developing teaching practice and teacher identity.

### 1.2. How will this course be delivered?

ACTIVITY	HOURS	BEGINNING WEEK	FREQUENCY
<b>BLENDED LEARNING</b>			
<b>Learning materials</b> – You are required to engage and interact with asynchronous materials and activities accessed through Canvas modules, course readings and required texts.	2hrs	Week 1	9 times
<b>Tutorial/Workshop 1</b> – The workshop uses on-campus activities using technology to engage with and apply course content and outcomes.	2hrs	Week 1	10 times

### 1.3. Course Topics

- Australian Curriculum junior secondary geography
- Curriculum design and alignment of content, pedagogy and assessment
- Lesson planning and sequencing using inquiry learning for junior secondary geography
- Teaching and learning strategies that engage junior secondary geography including fieldwork and spatial technologies
- Diagnostic, formative and summative assessment strategies and feedback in geography
- Implementation of ICT, literacy, numeracy and cross-curricular themes and general capabilities in junior geography
- Aboriginal perspectives and Torres Strait Islander perspectives of geographical knowledge
- Strategies for differentiating teaching to meet the specific learning needs of students in geography
- Developing identity as a junior geography teacher

## 2. What level is this course?

700 Level (Specialised)

Demonstrating a specialised body of knowledge and set of skills for professional practice or further learning. Advanced application of knowledge and skills in unfamiliar contexts.

## 3. What is the unit value of this course?

12 units

## 4. How does this course contribute to my learning?

COURSE LEARNING OUTCOMES	GRADUATE QUALITIES MAPPING	PROFESSIONAL STANDARD MAPPING *
On successful completion of this course, you should be able to...	Completing these tasks successfully will contribute to you becoming...	Australian Institute for Teaching and School Leadership
1 Apply and explain geography content and curriculum to year 7-10 geography teaching.	Knowledgeable Empowered	2.1, 2.2, 2.3, 2.4, 2.6, 3.2
2 Apply and explain a range of teaching and learning strategies, literacy, numeracy, and ICT to engage students' diversity in junior geography.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker Empowered	2.5, 2.6, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 4.1, 4.5
3 Plan and justify learning activities that use geographical inquiry to support student participation in achievable challenges.	Creative and critical thinker Empowered Engaged	2.2, 3.1, 3.2, 3.3, 3.4, 3.5, 4.1, 4.2
4 Create and evaluate assessment tools to measure student learning and provide feedback on progress for teaching, learning and reporting.	Knowledgeable Empowered Engaged	2.3, 5.1, 5.2, 5.3, 5.4
5 Explain and evaluate your developing identity as a junior secondary geography teacher.	Knowledgeable Creative and critical thinker	2.1, 3.2, 4.1, 5.4

\* Competencies by Professional Body

CODE	COMPETENCY
AUSTRALIAN INSTITUTE FOR TEACHING AND SCHOOL LEADERSHIP	
2.1	Content and teaching strategies of the teaching area: Demonstrate knowledge and understanding of the concepts, substance and structure of the content and teaching strategies of the teaching area
2.2	Content selection and organisation: Organise content into an effective learning and teaching sequence.
2.3	Curriculum, assessment and reporting: Use curriculum, assessment and reporting knowledge to design learning sequences and lesson plans.
2.4	Understand and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to promote reconciliation between Indigenous and non-Indigenous Australians: Demonstrate broad knowledge of, understanding of and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and languages.
2.5	Literacy and numeracy strategies: Know and understand literacy and numeracy teaching strategies and their application in teaching areas.
2.6	Information and Communication Technology (ICT): Implement teaching strategies for using ICT to expand curriculum learning opportunities for students.
3.1	Establish challenging learning goals: Set learning goals that provide achievable challenges for students of varying abilities and characteristics.

CODE	COMPETENCY
3.2	Plan, structure and sequence learning programs: Plan lesson sequences using knowledge of student learning, content and effective teaching strategies.
3.3	Use teaching strategies: Include a range of teaching strategies.
3.4	Select and use resources: Demonstrate knowledge of a range of resources, including ICT, that engage students in their learning.
3.5	Use effective classroom communication: Demonstrate a range of verbal and non-verbal communication strategies to support student engagement
4.1	Support student participation: Identify strategies to support inclusive student participation and engagement in classroom activities.
4.2	Manage classroom activities: Demonstrate the capacity to organise classroom activities and provide clear directions
4.5	Use ICT safely, responsibly and ethically: Demonstrate an understanding of the relevant issues and the strategies available to support the safe, responsible and ethical use of ICT in learning and teaching.
5.1	Assess student learning: Demonstrate understanding of assessment strategies, including informal and formal, diagnostic, formative and summative approaches to assess student learning.
5.2	Provide feedback to students on their learning: Demonstrate an understanding of the purpose of providing timely and appropriate feedback to students about their learning
5.3	Make consistent and comparable judgements: Demonstrate understanding of assessment moderation and its application to support consistent and comparable judgements of student learning.
5.4	Interpret student data: Demonstrate the capacity to interpret student assessment data to evaluate student learning and modify teaching practice.

## 5. Am I eligible to enrol in this course?

Refer to the [UniSC Glossary of terms](#) for definitions of “pre-requisites, co-requisites and anti-requisites”.

### 5.1. Pre-requisites

Enrolled in Program ED706 and a Geography Teaching area

### 5.2. Co-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.3. Anti-requisites

Not applicable

### 5.4. Specific assumed prior knowledge and skills (where applicable)

It is expected that you will draw upon geography content knowledge to complete this course that you have studied prior to entry to this program.

## 6. How am I going to be assessed?

### 6.1. Grading Scale

Standard Grading (GRD)

High Distinction (HD), Distinction (DN), Credit (CR), Pass (PS), Fail (FL).

### 6.2. Details of early feedback on progress

### 6.3. Assessment tasks

DELIVERY MODE	TASK NO.	ASSESSMENT PRODUCT	INDIVIDUAL OR GROUP	WEIGHTING %	WHAT IS THE DURATION / LENGTH?	WHEN SHOULD I SUBMIT?	WHERE SHOULD I SUBMIT IT?
All	1	Oral and Written Piece	Group	20%	Written - 70-minute lesson plan Oral – 15-minute lesson segment	Week 4	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check and in class
All	2	Portfolio	Individual	40%	2500 words	Week 7	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check
All	3	Artefact - Professional, and Written Piece	Individual	40%	2500 words	Week 10	Online Assignment Submission with plagiarism check

#### All - Assessment Task 1: Teach a lesson

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this task is to work as a teaching team to develop a lesson plan and present a lesson segment that explores a specific pedagogical choice moment when teaching Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and culture relevant for the year 9/10 geography classroom.													
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Oral and Written Piece													
<b>FORMAT:</b>	<p>Submission - Written: Monday, week 4, 9 am – online with plagiarism check</p> <p>Oral: Week 4 lesson segment presentation – in class</p> <p>You will be allocated a topic and inquiry question connected with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander culture and history relevant to the year 9/10 geography classroom, as part of a small group, in the first tutorial. Each team member will contribute to developing a 70-minute lesson plan that identifies and applies the junior geography curriculum and content. The lesson will use inquiry pedagogy and teaching strategies to engage diverse students with achievable learning goals. The team will role-play a 5-minute segment of the lesson that provides an opportunity to discuss the next pedagogical move the teacher could make. All group members should then facilitate a 10 minutes class discussion to explore the range of possible next moves in the lesson and their justification in the context of decolonising pedagogy. The presentation needs to:</p> <p>a) provide an opportunity for all group members to take the lead during the facilitated discussion, b) demonstrate oral communication skills and respect for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories and culture.</p>													
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<p><b>No.</b></p> <table> <tr> <td>1</td><td>Application and explanation of geography content and curriculum including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and languages</td><td>1</td></tr> <tr> <td>2</td><td>Creation of a lesson plan that uses and justifies geographical inquiry</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>3</td><td>Generation of a role-play and discussion that justifies teaching and learning strategies to support student participation in achievable challenges</td><td>3</td></tr> <tr> <td>4</td><td>Creation of professional and culturally respectful communication using credible sources</td><td>1 3</td></tr> </table>	1	Application and explanation of geography content and curriculum including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and languages	1	2	Creation of a lesson plan that uses and justifies geographical inquiry	3	3	Generation of a role-play and discussion that justifies teaching and learning strategies to support student participation in achievable challenges	3	4	Creation of professional and culturally respectful communication using credible sources	1 3	<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
1	Application and explanation of geography content and curriculum including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, cultures and languages	1												
2	Creation of a lesson plan that uses and justifies geographical inquiry	3												
3	Generation of a role-play and discussion that justifies teaching and learning strategies to support student participation in achievable challenges	3												
4	Creation of professional and culturally respectful communication using credible sources	1 3												

### All - Assessment Task 2: Fieldwork assessment task and reporting

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this task is to demonstrate your ability to apply, explain and evaluate curriculum, assessment and reporting in junior secondary geography fieldwork.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Portfolio		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	<p>Create an inquiry-based summative fieldwork assessment task and rubric for a selected year 7-10 junior geography class at a specific school.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Identify a school and explain the choice of a fieldwork site. Describe how your choice relates to the junior geography curriculum and students.</li> <li>2. Create an assessment task and explain and evaluate how it engages with geographical inquiry and represents an achievable challenge for students.</li> <li>3. Explain and justify how you will mark and moderate the task and how your marking will be used for reporting to parents/careers and in your future teaching of these students.</li> </ol>		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>		<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Explanation of a fieldwork site and description of the fieldwork site's application for geography curriculum and student engagement.	1 2
	2	Creation of an assessment task and justification of geographical inquiry and achievable challenge.	3 4
	3	Evaluation of how marking will measure student learning, be reported to parents and used for future learning.	4
	4	Creation of communication using credible sources.	1 2 3 4

### All - Assessment Task 3: Inquiry lesson sequences – connecting to curriculum, students and assessment

<b>GOAL:</b>	The goal of this task is to demonstrate your application, justification and evaluation of curriculum, pedagogy and assessment in junior secondary geography.		
<b>PRODUCT:</b>	Artefact - Professional, and Written Piece		
<b>FORMAT:</b>	<p>Create an inquiry-based lesson sequence that would be required to be covered before the assessment task you created for task 2 can be provided to students. You will:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Create an inquiry-based sequence of three lessons and explain and justify a) how the curriculum and assessment task connects to the lesson sequence content, b) how a variety of teaching strategies and resources, including literacy, numeracy and ICT, c) how learning goals support the assessment task and create an achievable challenge, e) student engagement and participation are enacted f) how geographical inquiry is evidenced.</li> <li>2. Explain and evaluate the challenges you might face as a beginning teacher planning, teaching, marking, and reporting the fieldwork and ways you might improve your teaching practice as an explanation of your reflection on your developing identity as a junior secondary geography teacher.</li> </ol>		
<b>CRITERIA:</b>	<b>No.</b>		<b>Learning Outcome assessed</b>
	1	Application and explanation of geography content and curriculum to fieldwork planning and assessment.	1
	2	Application and explanation of a range of teaching and learning strategies, literacy and numeracy, and the ethical use of ICT to engage students.	2
	3	Description and justification of the use of geographical inquiry, student engagement, participation and achievable challenge	3
	4	Explanation and evaluation of your developing identity as a junior secondary teacher.	4 5
	5	Creation of communication using credible sources	1 2 3 4 5

## 7. Directed study hours

A 12-unit course will have total of 150 learning hours which will include directed study hours (including online if required), self-directed learning and completion of assessable tasks. Student workload is calculated at 12.5 learning hours per one unit.

## 8. What resources do I need to undertake this course?

Please note: Course information, including specific information of recommended readings, learning activities, resources, weekly readings, etc. are available on the course Canvas site– Please log in as soon as possible.

### 8.1. Prescribed text(s) or course reader

Please note that you need to have regular access to the resource(s) listed below. Resources may be required or recommended.

REQUIRED?	AUTHOR	YEAR	TITLE	EDITION	PUBLISHER
Required	Malcolm McInerney, Susan Caldis, Stephen Cranby, John Butler, Alaric Maude, Susanne Jones, Michael Patrick Law, Rebecca Nicholas	2021	Teaching Secondary Geography	n/a	Cambridge University Press

### 8.2. Specific requirements

It is expected that you will require Internet access and a personal computer. Recommendations from information and technology services are available via the Student Portal if you search for computer specifications. Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) is necessary for each class session. Access to a mobile device with a camera and microphone is recommended for participation in online sessions.

## 9. How are risks managed in this course?

Health and safety risks for this course have been assessed as low. It is your responsibility to review course material, search online, discuss with lecturers and peers and understand the health and safety risks associated with your specific course of study and to familiarise yourself with the University's general health and safety principles by reviewing the [online induction training for students](#), and following the instructions of the University staff.

## 10. What administrative information is relevant to this course?

### 10.1. Assessment: Academic Integrity

Academic integrity is the ethical standard of university participation. It ensures that students graduate as a result of proving they are competent in their discipline. This is integral in maintaining the value of academic qualifications. Each industry has expectations and standards of the skills and knowledge within that discipline and these are reflected in assessment.

Academic integrity means that you do not engage in any activity that is considered to be academic fraud; including plagiarism, collusion or outsourcing any part of any assessment item to any other person. You are expected to be honest and ethical by completing all work yourself and indicating in your work which ideas and information were developed by you and which were taken from others. You cannot provide your assessment work to others. You are also expected to provide evidence of wide and critical reading, usually by using appropriate academic references.

In order to minimise incidents of academic fraud, this course may require that some of its assessment tasks, when submitted to Canvas, are electronically checked through Turnitin. This software allows for text comparisons to be made between your submitted assessment item and all other work to which Turnitin has access.

### 10.2. Assessment: Additional Requirements

Eligibility for Supplementary Assessment

Your eligibility for supplementary assessment in a course is dependent of the following conditions applying:

The final mark is in the percentage range 47% to 49.4%

The course is graded using the Standard Grading scale

You have not failed an assessment task in the course due to academic misconduct

### 10.3. Assessment: Submission penalties

Late submission of assessment tasks may be penalised at the following maximum rate:

- 5% (of the assessment task's identified value) per day for the first two days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- 10% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the third day - 20% (of the assessment task's identified value) for the fourth day and subsequent days up to and including seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task.
- A result of zero is awarded for an assessment task submitted after seven days from the date identified as the due date for the assessment task. Weekdays and weekends are included in the calculation of days late. To request an extension you must contact your course coordinator to negotiate an outcome.

### 10.4. SafeUniSC

UniSC is committed to a culture of respect and providing a safe and supportive environment for all members of our community. For immediate assistance on campus contact SafeUniSC by phone: [07 5430 1168](tel:0754301168) or using the [SafeZone](#) app. For general enquires contact the SafeUniSC team by phone [07 5456 3864](tel:0754563864) or email [safe@usc.edu.au](mailto:safe@usc.edu.au).

The SafeUniSC Specialist Service is a Student Wellbeing service that provides free and confidential support to students who may have experienced or observed behaviour that could cause fear, offence or trauma. To contact the service call [07 5430 1226](tel:0754301226) or email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au).

### 10.5. Study help

For help with course-specific advice, for example what information to include in your assessment, you should first contact your tutor, then your course coordinator, if needed.

If you require additional assistance, the Learning Advisers are trained professionals who are ready to help you develop a wide range of academic skills. Visit the [Learning Advisers](#) web page for more information, or contact Student Central for further assistance: +61 7 5430 2890 or [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au).

### 10.6. Wellbeing Services

Student Wellbeing provide free and confidential counselling on a wide range of personal, academic, social and psychological matters, to foster positive mental health and wellbeing for your academic success.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email [studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentwellbeing@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 1226.

### 10.7. AccessAbility Services

Ability Advisers ensure equal access to all aspects of university life. If your studies are affected by a disability, learning disorder mental health issue, injury or illness, or you are a primary carer for someone with a disability or who is considered frail and aged, [AccessAbility Services](#) can provide access to appropriate reasonable adjustments and practical advice about the support and facilities available to you throughout the University.

To book a confidential appointment go to [Student Hub](#), email [AccessAbility@usc.edu.au](mailto:AccessAbility@usc.edu.au) or call 07 5430 2890.

### 10.8. Links to relevant University policy and procedures

For more information on Academic Learning & Teaching categories including:

- Assessment: Courses and Coursework Programs
- Review of Assessment and Final Grades
- Supplementary Assessment
- Central Examinations
- Deferred Examinations
- Student Conduct
- Students with a Disability

For more information, visit <https://www.usc.edu.au/explore/policies-and-procedures#academic-learning-and-teaching>

### 10.9. Student Charter

UniSC is committed to excellence in teaching, research and engagement in an environment that is inclusive, inspiring, safe and respectful. The [Student Charter](#) sets out what students can expect from the University, and what in turn is expected of students, to achieve these outcomes.

### 10.10. General Enquiries

#### In person:

- **UniSC Sunshine Coast** - Student Central, Ground Floor, Building C, 90 Sippy Downs Drive, Sippy Downs
- **UniSC Moreton Bay** - Service Centre, Ground Floor, Foundation Building, Gympie Road, Petrie
- **UniSC SouthBank** - Student Central, Building A4 (SW1), 52 Merivale Street, South Brisbane
- **UniSC Gympie** - Student Central, 71 Cartwright Road, Gympie
- **UniSC Fraser Coast** - Student Central, Student Central, Building A, 161 Old Maryborough Rd, Hervey Bay
- **UniSC Caboolture** - Student Central, Level 1 Building J, Cnr Manley and Tallon Street, Caboolture

**Tel:** +61 7 5430 2890

**Email:** [studentcentral@usc.edu.au](mailto:studentcentral@usc.edu.au)

