



2 October 2024

Ms Julia Finn MP  
Chair, Joint Select Committee on Arts and Music Education and Training in NSW  
Parliament House  
Macquarie Street  
Sydney NSW 2000  
*via email: ArtsandMusic@parliament.nsw.gov.au*

Dear Ms. Finn,

Thank you for your letter dated 9 September, inviting us to provide information about the arts and music training provided to students during initial teacher education at the University of Newcastle. Please excuse my delayed reply. We appreciate the opportunity to contribute to the Joint Select Committee on Arts and Music Education and Training in New South Wales.

At the University of Newcastle, we are committed to equipping our undergraduate and postgraduate primary education students with comprehensive training in the creative arts, including music.

Undergraduate teaching students complete EDUC1070 and EDUC3745 as core courses in their degree. Each course includes 3 weeks of lectures and tutorials on each strand of dance, drama, music, and visual arts, totalling 6 weeks per strand across their degree. Students can also choose arts and music education as part of their Discipline and Depth study, for which they complete EDUC1751, EDUC2081, EDUC3810 and EDUC4810.

Postgraduate teaching students complete EDUC6745 as a core course in their degree. This specialised course delves into the principles of teaching and learning K-6 Creative Arts and includes integrated learning sessions, lectures, and tutorials covering dance, drama, music, media, and visual arts.

Through these courses, our students gain a robust foundation in the creative arts, preparing them to teach music and other art forms in primary education settings.

On the next page, please find a brief overview of each course. For further detail, the course outlines can be accessed on the University's website by searching for the course codes. Should you require further details or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

With best wishes,

Professor Susan Ledger  
Head of School of Education  
University of Newcastle



## Undergraduate (Bachelor) Arts and Music Education courses

### Core courses:

**EDUC1070: Foundation of Creative Arts for Early Childhood and Primary Teachers**

Introduces foundational knowledge and skills in visual art, music, drama, media, and dance. Includes 3 weeks of lectures and tutorials on each art strand, with practical teaching opportunities during placements.

**EDUC3745: K-6 Creative Arts**

Explores principles of teaching and learning K-6 Creative Arts, including the role of arts in the broader curriculum and its links to literacy and numeracy. Comprises lectures and tutorials covering dance, drama, music, and visual arts, with a focus on skill development and pedagogical strategies.

### Discipline Depth Study Courses:

**EDUC1751: Knowledge and Communication Technologies**

Students focus on integrating technology into creative arts education.

**EDUC2081: Creativity in Practice: Drama Pedagogies for Imaginative Learning**

Students explore drama pedagogies to enhance imaginative learning.

**EDUC3810: Teaching Science with The Creative Arts**

Students integrate the creative arts with science teaching to foster interdisciplinary learning.

**EDUC4810: Media Arts Learning in Primary School: An Integrated Approach**

Students focus on media arts and its integration into primary education.

## Postgraduate (Master) Arts and Music Education courses

**EDUC6745: K-6 Creative Arts** - Designed for postgraduate students, this course delves into the principles of teaching and learning K-6 Creative Arts, examining the role of arts in the broader curriculum. Includes integrated learning sessions, lectures, and tutorials covering dance, drama, music, media, and visual arts.