The Faculty of Education may offer a credit of up to 30 points to a masters degree or postgraduate diploma through a formal Recognition of Prior Learning Process (RPL). Examples of professional learning and experience that may be eligible for credit include sustained participation in a professional development programme or participation in a formal research project with academic institutional members linked to the area in which recognition is sought.

RPLCR500 Recognition of Prior Learning - Professional Learning In Educational Practice

Description

This paper allows students to submit a portfolio for assessment of learning in educational practice, for credit towards a related postgraduate qualification in Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education.

Only one RPL credit of up to 30 points is permitted for a masters qualification in Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education. This unspecified credit may not normally be substituted for required papers for a qualification.

Credit for RPLCR500 is available for MCouns, MEd, MEdLeadership, and MDInS. RPLCR500 is not available for Individual Paper Credit.

The Process of Assessment

1. The student completes an initial application and pays the application fee to the University of Waikato Credit Office. The application form and fees can be found on the University website at http://www.waikato.ac.nz/sasd/enrolment/credit/rpl/apply.shtml.

2. If the initial application is accepted, the applicant will be sent this guideline and a due date to submit an Evidence Portfolio. The time allowed for submission is normally six months from initial application acceptance. There are no classes associated with RPL and no formal supervision or oversight from staff is provided. As a guide, a 30 point postgraduate paper is normally 300 learning hours and the portfolio must represent comparable learning.

3. The portfolio is then submitted to the Faculty Administrator-Postgraduate, Te Kura Toi Tangata Faculty of Education educ_grad@waikato.ac.nz for evaluation and grading. The assessment will be undertaken by an appropriately qualified staff member and take at least four weeks. The grading for RPLCR500 is Pass or Fail. The Faculty Administrator-Postgraduate will notify the student of the outcome and feedback may be given. Only one such submission is permitted and it is not possible to re-submit a failed attempt. If the portfolio is given a Pass grade, the student enrolls in RPLCR500 and pays the approved fee and the Pass grade will be entered against the enrolment. The credit is not normally transferable to a qualification in another educational institution.
The Evidence Portfolio

The evidence portfolio may be hard or digital copy or in an ePortfolio and should demonstrate the applicant’s experience and learning in a defined area related to the qualification towards which credit is sought. It should provide evidence of the applicant’s engagement with a programme or project in a relevant context, and demonstrate (or consider) application of this knowledge. To be recognised at masters level, the portfolio will provide evidence of reflection, synthesis and analysis at an advanced level equivalent to NZQA level 8 (see https://www.nzqa.govt.nz/studying-in-new-zealand/understand-nz-quals/). The portfolio should demonstrate the applicant’s capacity to use academic conventions such as accurate referencing (APA is preferred), English language proficiency, the capacity for grounded, coherent argument, and the ability to reflect critically on their professional achievement.

Format

The portfolio should be presented in digital format or as a Word document and be accompanied by a declaration stating that it is the applicant’s own work.

Length: 7000 words maximum (excluding references)

There is no required format for the portfolio. However, it could include a record of activities undertaken; presentations given; an annotated bibliography; and examples of the applicant’s knowledge, skills, applications of professional learning in one or more programmes.

It must include Items 1 and 2 below but it may also contain examples of items 3-6:

1. a record, with evidence, of activities undertaken for which RPL is sought, including dates, times and places
2. a statement of the nature and extent of the professional learning and experience, and a summary of what has been achieved by the applicant in the course of the project/programme(s)
3. presentations given by the applicant during the project/programme(s)
4. evidence of engagement with scholarly literature (this may be take the form of a critique, or an annotated bibliography)
5. examples of the applicant’s own knowledge and skills attained in the project/programme
6. applications of professional leadership resulting from the project/programme (provide links to the learning in the initial programme)

The portfolio must provide evidence of the following competencies:

- advanced knowledge about a specialist field of enquiry or professional practice;
- mastery of sophisticated relevant theoretical subject matter;
- critical evaluation of the findings and discussions in the relevant literature;
- ability to engage in analysis and argument from evidence;
- ability to apply knowledge to new situations; and
- engagement in rigorous intellectual analysis, critique, reflection, and consideration of implications for the relevant field.