PROJECT DETAILS

Project Title:

> **Exploring Teachers' Professional Knowledge and Competencies**

Project Summary:

> Students' learning outcomes—both cognitive (e.g., achievement) and affective (e.g., perceptions, self-concept)—depend significantly on teacher professional competencies. These competencies include discipline-specific knowledge, motivation, and professional beliefs. To enhance professional education offerings, understanding the competencies that pre-service and practicing teachers currently hold, and how these competencies develop, is crucial. This project aims to document teachers' existing competencies across relevant disciplinary contexts (e.g., mathematics, drama, or literacy).
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> Findings will inform stakeholders, guiding improvements in initial teacher education programs and professional development initiatives, thus fostering the desired competencies in both pre-service and practicing teachers, and ultimately enhancing educational outcomes of students.

Preferred Applicant Skillset:

> We seek self-motivated Masters or PhD candidates with strong scholarly abilities, including organisation, project management, academic writing, and publishing skills. Ideal applicants will be familiar with qualitative and quantitative research methodologies and experienced with relevant analytical software (e.g., SPSS, NVivo). Teaching experience is advantageous but not essential; however, candidates should demonstrate familiarity with Australian teacher education and professional development contexts. Both domestic and international candidates with these skills and interests are encouraged to apply.

Internship Opportunity:

> Candidates will have opportunities to engage with industry partners, including schools, throughout the research. This will enable practical experience in real-world educational settings, supporting data collection and offering direct insights into teacher professional competencies and practice.

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