MATES | Mentoring and Tutoring Education Scheme
Enabled by Great Potentials Foundation

Waipapa Taumata Rau University of Auckland

EDUC 200: Youth Mentoring

Frequently Asked Questions

1) **What is EDUC 200 and who is it offered in partnership with?**
EDUC 200 is a unique service-learning course offered in Semester One each year. Students who take EDUC 200 will gain important skills and experience by participating in a full-year youth mentoring internship where they will be able to apply the knowledge gained in class. This course is offered in partnership with the Great Potentials Foundation and Waipapa Taumata Rau | The University of Auckland (UoA). Great Potentials runs the MATES Jr mentoring programme while the course is delivered by UoA.

2) **What is the goal of the MATES Jr programme?**
The goal of MATES Jr is to support year 8 students, who attend low-socioeconomic intermediate schools, navigate the transition to secondary school. Research indicates that MATES Jr benefits both youth participants (i.e., increasing self-esteem and reducing challenging classroom behaviours), and tertiary student's mentors (i.e., building important skills relevant to youth-focused professions).

3) **How many points is EDUC 200 and when is it offered?**
EDUC 200 is a 15-point course offered in Semester 1.

4) **Who coordinates the lectures and tutorials for the EDUC 200 course?**
The lectures and tutorials are coordinated by Dr Hilary Dutton. The MATES Programme Manager oversees the MATES Jr programme.

5) **What are the assessments in EDUC 200 based on?**
Assessments are based on coursework (50%) and internship (50%). The internship component focuses on course engagement and attendance, mentoring session engagement and attendance, and your mentoring practice which includes feedback from your MATES Jr co-ordinator and a face-to-face meeting with the course director.

6) **When do the course, assessments and internship hours get completed?**While the course and assessments are completed in Semester 1, ***acceptance into the course requires your commitment to complete approximately 50 internship hours over the entire year*** (i.e., Semesters 1 & 2).

7) **What does the 50 hours of internship consist of?**
The 50 internship hours are comprised of approximately 25 two-hour regularly scheduled after-school mentoring sessions (approximately 7 sessions in Semester 1 and 18 in Semester 2). These sessions will run over the four terms of the intermediate school year.

8) **What should I consider before applying for EDUC 200?**
Before completing the application and scheduling an interview, we ask that you carefully consider the following points:

- Mentoring a young person requires serious professional commitment and personal initiative.
- You will need to commit to one after-school session with your Year 8 student each week, for 25 weeks. Sessions are held on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday or Thursday at low-socioeconomic intermediate school across Tamaki Makaurau | Auckland. EDUC 200 lectures and tutorials are held on Fridays. Attendance at lectures and tutorials is expected.
- The **internship begins** the week of **8 March** and concludes **29 October;** while lectures and tutorials begin 6 March and conclude 4 June.
- The timing of the after-school sessions will not always fit with university semesters and may overlap exam times (i.e., Term 1: 28 Jan-9 April; Term 2: 27 April-2 July; Term 3: 19 July-24 Sept; Term 4: 11 Oct-17 Dec)
- You are required to pass a Children's Act Safety Check which includes NZ Police Vetting check an interview and reference checking. This is conducted by Great Potentials Foundation..
- The 50 internship hours are additional to lectures, tutorials, and coursework.

9) **Are there additional requirements beyond the 50 hours of internship?**
Yes, travel to and from weekly sessions, preparation for sessions and any additional voluntary activities are additional to your internship hours. Costs for shared travel and session materials are funded by Great Potentials.

10) **How does mentoring work with MATES Jr?**
While you will be matched with a Year 8 student, MATES Jr operates in school-based teams, so you will work collaboratively with other mentors on your chosen day each week in a fun, supportive, and fully supervised environment.