

## Position Description – First Year Education Lead (Computer Science)

### Position Details

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<b>Position Title:</b>	First Year Education Lead (Computer Science)
<b>College/Portfolio:</b>	STEM
<b>School/Group:</b>	School of Computing Technologies
<b>Campus Location:</b>	Based at the city campus, but may be required to work and/or be based at other campuses of the University.
<b>Classification:</b>	Academic Level C
<b>Employment Type:</b>	Continuing
<b>Time Fraction:</b>	1.0

### RMIT University

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RMIT is a multi-sector university of technology, design and enterprise. The University's mission is to help shape the world through research, innovation and engagement, and to create transformative experiences for students to prepare them for life and work. For more information on RMIT University follow the links below.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about>

<https://www.universitiesaustralia.edu.au/university/rmit-university/>

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/facts-figures>

Our three main campuses in Melbourne are located in the heart of the City, Brunswick and Bundoora. Other locations include Point Cook, Hamilton and Bendigo, two campuses in Vietnam (Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City) and a centre in Barcelona, Spain. RMIT is a truly global university.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-locations-and-facilities>

We are also committed to redefining our relationship in working with, and supporting, Indigenous self-determination. Our goal is to achieve lasting transformation by maturing our values, culture, policy and structures in a way that embeds reconciliation in everything we do. We are changing our ways of knowing, working and being to support sustainable reconciliation and activate a relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous staff, students and community. Our three campuses in Melbourne (City, Brunswick and Bundoora campuses) are located on the unceded lands of the people of the Woi Wurrung and Boon Wurrung language groups of the eastern Kulin Nation.

### Why work at RMIT University

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Our people make everything at the University possible. We encourage new approaches to work and learning, stimulating change to drive positive impact. Find out more about working at RMIT University, what we stand for and why we are an Employer of Choice.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/careers>

We want to attract those who will make a difference. View RMIT's impressive standings in university rankings.

<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/facts-figures/reputation-and-rankings>

## **STEM College**

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The STEM College holds a leading position and expertise in the science, technology, engineering, mathematics, and health (STEM) fields. We are uniquely positioned to influence and partner with industry, as never before.

STEM College is a community of exceptional STEM researchers, teachers, inventors, designers and game-changers, supported by talented professional staff. We offer higher education programs across all STEM disciplines at the Bachelor, Master and PhD levels, and ensure our students experience an education that is work-aligned and life-changing. STEM College employs 1,000 staff who deliver onshore and offshore programs to approximately 20,000 students.

The College is renowned for its exemplary research in many STEM areas including advanced manufacturing and design; computing technologies; health innovation and translational medicine; nano materials and devices; and sustainable systems. Our brilliant researchers attract funding from government and industry sources.

Industry is at the heart of what we do. It ensures our research has real world impact, and our students are truly work-ready. Under the leadership of DVC STEM College, we have established new hubs of industry-connected digital innovation and are engaging with global STEM organisations at scale.

Our diversity and shared values empower our work, and we are proud of the College's inclusive, caring culture. We offer a safe, dynamic work environment, and support every member of our community to achieve their potential. The College appointed Victoria's first ever Dean of STEM, Diversity & Inclusion in 2020, and this role drives gender equity, diversity and inclusion strategies across the College.

We are here to positively impact the world and create the next generation of STEM leaders.  
<https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/schools-colleges/stem-college>

## **School of Computing Technologies**

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The School of Computing Technologies (SCT) provides world class computing research and innovative information technology education. We place a significant emphasis on diversity and interdisciplinarity, and aspire to transform the future of technology through integration of varied perspectives and through our distinctive research.

In the 2024 QS University Rankings by discipline, RMIT University was ranked at 170 globally for Computer Science and Information Systems and 57 in Library and Information Management. Education programs in Computer Science, Software Engineering, Data Science, Artificial Intelligence, Cyber Security and Information Technology are offered in the School of Computing Technologies, one of Australia's largest and leading educational facilities in the field.

We are a national leader in industry-connected learning in computing, data science, and IT. We have recently redesigned our undergraduate programs to provide a common foundation in programming for all SCT undergraduates. Our approach is centred on an innovative Bootcamp2Studio model that makes use of immersive and challenge-based pedagogy to drive higher-level learning. We provide students with practical learning experiences that will prepare them to contribute meaningfully to our world through their work.

The School is led by the Dean, School of Computing Technologies, and has three disciplines:

- Cyber Security & Software Systems (CSSS)
- Data Science & Artificial Intelligence (DSAI)
- Interaction, Technology & Information (ITI)

Our PhD students and faculty conduct world leading research in many areas of Computing and Computing applications, including in:

- Information Interaction and Information Retrieval
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Artificial Intelligence and Natural Language Processing

- Data Science and Machine Learning
- Recommendation and Big Data Analysis
- Cybersecurity
- Software Engineering
- Digital Health
- Computer Science Education

For more information about our School, its discipline structure and teaching and research focus areas please visit our [website](#).

### **Position Summary**

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We are seeking a dynamic and experienced Senior Lecturer in Computing to lead and shape the first-year experience for our computing students. This role is integral to establishing a positive and supportive learning environment, ensuring students' success in their foundational computing subjects.

The successful candidate will be responsible for leading curriculum development, mentoring teaching staff, and creating a vision for student engagement and academic excellence. The Senior Lecturer will also contribute to the teaching efforts of the School and may have responsibility for program management.

### **Reporting Line**

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Reports to: Deputy Dean Learning and Teaching

Direct reports: Nil

### **Organisational Accountabilities**

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RMIT University is committed to the health, safety and wellbeing of its staff. RMIT and its staff must comply with a range of statutory requirements, including equal opportunity, occupational health and safety, privacy and trade practice. RMIT also expects staff to comply with its policy and procedures, which relate to statutory requirements and our ways of working.

RMIT is committed to providing a safe environment for children and young people in our community. Read about our commitment and child safe practices. <https://www.rmit.edu.au/about/our-locations-and-facilities/facilities/safety-security/child-safety>.

Appointees are accountable for completing training on these matters and ensuring their knowledge and the knowledge of their staff is up to date.

### **Key Accountabilities**

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1. Curriculum Development and Leadership:
  - Lead the design, implementation, and continuous improvement of the first-year computing curriculum.
  - Collaborate with relevant staff to ensure the curriculum is current, relevant, and aligned with industry standards.
  - Integrate innovative teaching methods and technologies, with a particular focus on flipped learning, to enhance learning outcomes.
2. Pedagogical Leadership and Teaching Practices:
  - Provide leadership in pedagogical approaches, model and promote effective teaching practices, especially in flipped learning, to enhance student engagement and understanding.
  - Support the School in adopting and refining flipped learning strategies, ensuring they are effectively implemented in the classroom.
3. Student Experience and Success:
  - Develop and implement strategies to create a positive and supportive learning environment for first-year computing students.
  - Proactively seek and utilise student feedback to understand and improve the student experience.
  - Identify and address challenges that may hinder student success, providing timely support and intervention.
4. Scholarship of Learning and Teaching:

- Engage in professional development in evidence-based approaches to learning and teaching.
  - Undertake systematic inquiry about student learning.
5. Mentorship and Staff Development:
    - Mentor and support first year teaching staff, fostering a collaborative and professional teaching environment.
    - Provide guidance on best practices in teaching, assessment, and student engagement.
    - Lead professional development initiatives to enhance the teaching skills and effectiveness of teaching staff.
  5. Vision and Strategy:
    - Establish a clear and compelling vision for the first-year computing experience, aligned with the School's goals and vision.
    - Collaborate with School's leadership to develop and implement long-term strategies for student success.
    - Engage with industry partners and external stakeholders to ensure the relevance and quality of the first-year curriculum.
  6. Student Support and Advocacy:
    - Be empathetic and approachable, serving as a key point of contact for first-year students needing academic or personal support.
    - Understand and support the unique needs of students transitioning from high school to university, helping them adapt to new ways of learning and studying.
    - Work closely with university services such as the library and student services to ensure comprehensive support for all students.
    - Advocate for student needs within the department and across the university.

### Key Selection Criteria

1. Demonstrated ability to coordinate large courses for first year programs, including high quality curriculum and program materials and ability to implement innovative approaches to student-centred learning and quality improvement.
2. Capable of establishing and executing a clear vision for the first-year computing experience.
3. Proven ability to lead, mentor, and inspire teaching staff to achieve high standards of teaching and student engagement.
4. Demonstrated expertise in flipped learning and other innovative teaching practices.
5. Demonstrated ability to support student issues related to effective learning.
6. Experience in supporting students transitioning from high school to university.
7. Demonstrates a deep understanding and empathy towards students' needs and challenges.
8. Ability to analyse student data to inform decisions and interventions.
9. Commitment to fostering an inclusive and supportive learning environment.
10. Expertise in techniques that actively engage students in their learning.
11. Skilled in developing and implementing curricula that are engaging, relevant, and aligned with educational goals.
12. Takes initiative in identifying and addressing potential issues before they impact student success.

### Qualifications

**Mandatory:** PhD or equivalent<sup>1</sup> in relevant field.

Note: Appointment to this position is subject to passing a Working with Children Check and other checks as required by the specific role. Maintaining a valid Working With Children Check is a condition of employment at RMIT.

**Preferred:** Completion of the [Intro to Learning and Teaching Course \(Login required\)](#) or possess (or eligible to apply for) appropriate [HEA Fellowship \(login required\)](#).

<b>Endorsed:</b>	Signature: Name: Title: Date:	<b>Approved:</b>	Signature: Name: Title: Date:
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<sup>1</sup> Equivalence is defined in the exemption criteria at **Appointment of staff without Doctoral qualifications** instruction