

**“TPC proved to be the right choice. I developed skills that helped me to make the transition to university easily.”**

**“I feel that I’ve had a head-start over students who didn’t do the TPC.”**

**“The staff were fantastic — they were really supportive.”**

Why not make an appointment with our Counselling team to discuss your career and TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute study options?

Enquiries:

**131 674** (within NSW),

**02 9942 0333** (within Australia),

**+61 2 9942 0333** (outside Australia)


or go to **[www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au)**



## Tertiary Preparation Certificate



RTO Provider Number 90011  
CRICOS Provider Code 00591E

 **131 674**

 **[www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au](http://www.nsi.tafensw.edu.au)**

## Must I have completed the HSC or Year 12?

No. The TAFE NSW – Northern Sydney Institute (NSI) Tertiary Preparation Certificate (TPC) is designed for students who do not have a Year 12 qualification, or those whose Year 12 results are not sufficient for entry to the tertiary education they desire.

The program is especially suitable for mature students and recognises the individual needs of people who wish to return to study after a long break from education.

## Who can apply?

If you have a Year 10 school qualification or equivalent (such as General and Vocational Education or English for Academic Purposes) you can apply for the TPC. The program is suitable for mature students.

Applicants may be required to sit a basic English test. Maths is not a compulsory subject for TPC, however, those requiring Maths as a subject because of subsequent study plans, may also need to take a basic Maths screening test.

## What skills will I learn?

The TPC will teach you a wide range of skills that will help you with your studies, including how to:

- study effectively
- research using the latest technology
- write essays and reports
- work in groups
- organise your time
- take notes
- speak to small groups.

## What subjects can I study?

All TPC students must study the compulsory subject Language and Learning Skills which also incorporates Learning Awareness, Team Participation Skills and Fundamental Computing modules.

## Other subjects offered include:

- A range of Humanities studies (including Political Studies, Asia-Pacific Relations, Historical Studies, Film and Media, and Literature, Contemporary Australian Society,

- Multicultural Australia and Language and Creative Arts),
- Mathematics (including Preliminary and Foundation Maths, Calculus and Advanced Maths),
- Science (including Biology, Physics and Chemistry),
- Languages other than English (in association with Meadowbank College),
- Environmental Studies,
- Statistics.

## Choosing your subjects

Some students may require particular TPC subjects for particular education or employment (mainly Maths and Science subjects). Some university courses do not require particular TPC (or Higher School Certificate) subjects for entry.

You are strongly advised to check the entry requirements and assumed knowledge of the courses you will be applying for. The NSI Careers Counselling Service and the TPC Coordinator at your local college are happy to help with such questions.

## What is the teaching like?

The TPC teaching approach is based on an adult style of learning. You will study in a stimulating and supportive environment as you learn and develop skills you will need to go on to further study or training.

## What will my commitment be?

The course lasts for two semesters, involving 36-weeks of attendance during the year. There are four terms (two per semester), which are similar to the school terms.

If you study full-time, you will be attending college for around 20-22 hours per week, depending on your choice of subjects. If you study part-time, you will attend over a period of two years or more. Attendance hours for part-time students vary according to the number and type of subjects they choose.

Some subjects are offered during both day and evening. Others are offered either during the day or evening.

Whatever your study pattern, you must be prepared to devote time outside the classroom for study, assignments and research tasks.

## How much will the TPC cost me?

Please refer to [www.tafensw.edu.au/nsi](http://www.tafensw.edu.au/nsi) then click on the 'Courses and Careers' drop down menu then go to 'Fees and charges'. The TPC is a Certificate IV course.

## What financial support is available?

If you receive a Centrelink benefit, you may be exempt from the TAFE NSW fee. Please check with Student Services at your local college.

If you are studying full-time, you may be eligible for government-funded student support. Contact Centrelink for more information.

## Where can I study after the TPC?

The TPC is widely accepted by universities and other tertiary institutions as an equivalent to the HSC, and for entry into most courses including diploma level courses at NSI.

It is also recognised as a Year 12 equivalent by many employers including:

- NSW Public Service
- Australian Defence Forces
- NSW Police Academy

However you should contact relevant tertiary institutions or potential employers to check on the level of TPC English required.

## What support is available?

Our institute provides an outstanding range of services to support you including:

- Careers counselling
- Recognition of prior learning
- Individual Learning Centre
- Jobplace assistance
- College Libraries
- Disability Services
- Telephone-typewriter service for people with a hearing impairment.