

## HDR Researcher Profile

**Name:** Simone Blom  
School of Education

**Program:** PhD



**Thesis title:** Exploring early years teachers' perceptions of nature and how this informs pedagogy

**Thesis Description:** The aim of the project is to explore early years teachers' perceptions of nature and how this informs pedagogy through a Diffractive Ethnography which adopts a posthuman theoretical framework and navigates the space between qualitative and post-qualitative methodologies. The process for undertaking the research involves three phases from ethnographic traditions including lesson observations, video-stimulated recall interviews and a diffractive data analysis.

### **Bio:**

Simone Blom is an experienced educator and emergent researcher, having worked in education for the past 18 years. Simone has worked as an environmental educator, head of science, school sustainability officer and classroom teacher across numerous schools and environmental education centres in many states and territories in Australia prior to moving into the tertiary education sector.

Simone started working for Southern Cross University in 2013 through her involvement with the Science and Technology education unit. Simone continued to teach in this unit and was awarded a prestigious Vice-Chancellor's Award for Student Engagement in 2015. Simone has continued to build her capacity as a tertiary educator by further teaching in educational psychology, environmental education, English curriculum and pedagogy (primary) and secondary science. She has also been involved in many research projects during this time including producing a curriculum resource as part of the inspiring Science and Maths Education partnership project between the Australian Academy of Technology and Engineering, Southern Cross University and a number of other regional universities. Simone is an active member of the Sustainability, Environment, Arts and Education (SEAE) Research Cluster based at Southern Cross University.

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**Co-Supervisor:** A/Prof Lexi Lasczik

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