

## HDR Researcher Profile

**Name:** Megan Pedler

School of Education

**Program:** PhD



**Thesis title:** The influence of teachers' understandings of student engagement on their teaching practices

### **Thesis Description** (key theories and methodologies):

The thesis focuses on effective pedagogies to support student engagement. It also explores connections between teachers' understandings of student engagement (as having behavioural, emotional and cognitive aspects) and their actual teaching practices in the classroom. The study uses a mixed methods approach (online questionnaire, observations & interviews) and descriptive analysis, statistical analysis (SPSS) and thematic analysis (NVivo) to explore the research questions.

### **Bio (short)**

Megan is an Associate Lecturer and the Deputy Course Coordinator (Secondary) in the School of Education. She has been lecturing at Southern Cross University since 2016 in a variety of areas related to Initial Teacher Education, specialising in English. Her time as a teacher and Head of Faculty in the UK provided the opportunity to teach a diverse student cohort as well as mentor and collaborate with the faculty to improve student engagement in the classroom. It is these experiences as a secondary teacher and mentor that developed her interest in student engagement as a field of research, with a specific focus on teachers' understandings and practices.

### **Publications list/current profile**

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### **Principal Supervisor**

Dr Tony Yeigh

### **Co-Supervisor**

Dr Sue Hudson

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