



Department of  
Education and Training

## *Media Statement*

---

Attention: News Editor / Chief of Staff

12 October 2009

### **Education in tune with iTunes U**

Students, teachers and others interested in education are now able to find a wealth of free information and resources on iTunes U, an area of the iTunes Store offering free education content from top institutions around the world.

Department of Education and Training Assistant Executive Director Curriculum Support Andrew Thompson said the Department would monitor response to its iTunes U content to gauge demand for resources in alternative formats.

“The Department already provides significant online resources and information for teachers, student teachers, students, parents and other community members,” Mr Thompson said.

“By providing this online content in alternative formats, we hope to make the information more accessible and appealing to people in the education community.

“This program will also test the practicality of using alternative electronic formats to distribute the Department’s information.

“iTunes is a particularly exciting format because it allows users to download the information and play it back at any time or place – such as when they catch a bus or work out at the gym.”

Teachers and student teachers can download curriculum information for Kindergarten to Year 12 classes, information about reporting to parents, advice about using online resources and more.

Students can better communicate with their peers and access different perspectives on their subjects by sharing audio files discussing their school work.

“We know students in particular are keen to embrace new technology, so it will be interesting to see how this group takes up iTunes U content,” Mr Thompson said.

“By providing information from the Teaching WA website, we hope iTunes U will allow more overseas and interstate teachers to learn about the many teaching opportunities in regional and remote public schools in Western Australia.”

Found within the K-12 section of iTunes U, materials from Western Australia schools can now be downloaded from the iTunes Store, allowing learning to happen anywhere and any time. These schools join an impressive list of universities and schools from around the world, all of which are providing free education content.

(ENDS)

**Media contact:** Carmen Carter (08) 9264 5723