



# LEE GRAS CV

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APPLICATION FOR MASTER OF TEACHING (SECONDARY)  
ENGLISH (MAJOR) · MEDIA (MINOR)  
DUAL DUTCH/AUSTRALIAN CITIZENSHIP | RELOCATING  
TO MELBOURNE JANUARY 2026  
PROFESSIONAL NAME: LEE GRAS  
LEGAL NAME (PASSPORT): HELEN ELIZABETH GRAS

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## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY




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Writer and designer with a background in Artistic Research, specialising in narrative construction, cultural analysis and multimodal communication. My work brings together text, image and theory to explore representation, identity and the ways meaning is made across media. I have extensive experience developing creative, conceptual and research-driven projects. I am now transitioning into English and Media teaching, building on the analytical, interpretive and literacy skills that have shaped my practice from the start.

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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- Dual Dutch/Australian citizenship
- Relocating to Melbourne in January 2026
- Eligible for future Permission to Teach (PTT) in Victoria (upon enrolment completion)
- Interests: English pedagogy, Media Studies, identity formation, digital behaviour

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## RELEVANT TEACHING & EDUCATION EXPERIENCE

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### Managing Assistant & Project Coordinator

*Lukida, Amsterdam | Jan 2022 – June 2025*

- Supported delivery of creative learning programs in school settings (ages 4–12), collaborating with teachers and facilitators.
- Prepared instructional materials and planning documents supporting structured learning.
- Contributed to digital-literacy sessions by refining materials and supporting program evaluation.
- Observed learning engagement and student meaning-making; developed insight into how narrative, media, and representation influence understanding—transferable to adolescent English/Media contexts.

### Co-Founder & Facilitator — Open Youri

*Amsterdam · 2023 - 2025*

- Co-developed digital-literacy tools that strengthened critical thinking and reflective media use.
- Worked with teachers to test classroom applications and integrate tools into learning sequences.
- Delivered workshops to educators on digital behaviour, attention, and media awareness—directly relevant to Media Studies pedagogy.

## TEACHING PHILOSOPHY

I aim to teach English and Media through a balance of structure, clarity and reflective dialogue. My work in design and digital culture has shown me how strongly narrative, language and media shape adolescent identity, thinking and behaviour. In the classroom, I focus on helping students understand how texts are constructed and why certain choices influence their thinking and response.

I value a calm, relational environment that supports literacy growth, critical media awareness and independent judgement. My approach emphasises explicit teaching, scaffolded analysis, and guiding students to make meaning from texts in ways that build confidence and resilience in increasingly complex digital environments.

## SKILLS

### Teaching & Learning:

Lesson design · Literacy development · Assessment for learning · Differentiation · Student engagement · Reflective dialogue

### Adolescent Development:

Identity formation · Attention & regulation · Narrative thinking · Digital behaviour

### Digital & Media Literacy:

Critical media analysis · Multimodal literacy · Visual & narrative interpretation

### Professional:

Communication · Project coordination · Cross-cultural collaboration · Organisation & planning



## EDUCATION

### Master of Arts (Artistic Research)

*Validated by the Open University UK · Utrecht School of the Arts, Netherlands · 2008*

Full-time one-year research program centred on a single major project integrating writing, cultural theory, scenario development, narrative exploration, film, photography and design.

### Bachelor of Design University of the Arts Utrecht

*Utrecht School of the Arts (HKU), NL 2008*

Major projects in visual communication, concept development and narrative-driven design.

### Propeduse in Cultural and Social Education (Undergraduate Certificate, HBO)

*Hogeschool van Amsterdam 2001*

Foundational study in pedagogy, psychology and the social dimensions of education.



## CREATIVE INDUSTRY EXPERIENCE

### Art Director / Social Design Projects

*Hello Helen Here, Amsterdam NL | 2008 – 2015*

- Developed narrative and visual concepts exploring identity, representation and cultural meaning; built strong skills in analysing how visual and written choices shape audience interpretation.

### Trend Researcher & Art Director

*Fashion Snoops, NYC Amsterdam | 2007 – 2009*

- Conducted global cultural and media research; built advanced skills in textual interpretation, meaning-making and narrative analysis.

### Designer (Fashion & Graphics) –

*Various clients, NL | 2010 – 2013*

- Produced communication materials shaped by audience and narrative purpose, reinforcing understanding of multimodal texts.



## REFEREES

Referees available on request