



THE UNIVERSITY
OF QUEENSLAND
AUSTRALIA

MASTER OF COUNSELLING

Educating for creative
and integrative practice



Many people working within the human service professions (social workers, psychologists, medical practitioners, nurses, educators, the clergy, physical therapists, and others) consider incidental or informal counselling to be an important part of the work that they do.

In addition, the number of full-time, and part-time professional counsellors working in more formal therapeutic roles is increasing. Counsellors are employed in many areas such as non-government organisations, government services, schools, general practice and community health settings as well as in private practice.

The School of Social Work and Human Services and the School of Psychology offer a Master of Counselling to provide you with an in-depth knowledge base and the practical skills of professional counselling.

The program aims to ensure the quality and competence of counselling graduates who will serve individuals, couples, families, and

groups in our community. We also seek to promote the professional status, identity, and visibility of counsellors within our community, and support the ongoing professional and personal growth and development of our counselling graduates.

The program is accredited by both major Australian professional counselling associations: PACFA (Psychotherapist and Counsellor Federation of Australia) and ACA (Australian Counselling Association).



Why study Counselling at UQ?

- Our program is jointly run by the School of Psychology and the School of Social Work and Human Services. As such, it brings together the depth and breadth of both disciplines into a counselling framework.
- It is a multi-disciplinary program that is based on holistic care and the development and use of integrative theoretical approaches to counselling.

- Our program is taught by lecturers and tutors who also work as practitioners and/or maintain very strong connections to the broader community in a professional capacity.
- The program seeks to develop a strong sense of community among its students and provides a supportive atmosphere for students.
- Our program recognises and seeks to develop not only skills, but actively encourages personal reflection and understanding of the person as counsellor.
- Our program seeks to develop practical skills used by counsellors in their working lives beyond only one-on-one interview techniques.
- You can study full-time or part-time to suit your lifestyle and career plans.
- Our program offers a comprehensive list of courses that will equip you to work among varying groups and in varying situations.

What will I study?

The program consists of 16 courses (or 32 units of study). It is comprised of two main sections.

You will study a number of foundation courses that introduce you to counselling in general. These include theoretical, skills development and ethics courses as well as offering practicum experience.

Core Foundation Courses include:

- Interpersonal Skills in Counselling 1
- Interpersonal Skills and Processes in Counselling Among Diverse Groups
- Theories of Counselling
- Ethics and Professional Practice Issues in Counselling
- Counselling Practicums 1 and 2

You will then build on these theoretical and practical foundations through studying courses that add knowledge and skills in counselling for specific concerns or populations.

- Crisis Counselling
- Relationship Counselling
- Counselling and Mental Health
- Counselling and Violence Issues
- Counselling Children and Young People
- Understanding and Caring for those Affected by Loss
- Counselling for Health and Capacity Challenges
- Applied Gerontology
- Family Therapy Traditions: Basic Concepts and Skills

In addition, one course (two units) is chosen from a selection of relevant elective courses that allows you to extend your knowledge and skills in a particular area of interest.

* All courses in the program offered are of one semester duration and are two units in value.

“Making the decision to study the Master of Counselling at UQ was the best decision I’ve ever made.

The program itself and the whole “Australian” experience has transformed me as a person. Before embarking on this program, I was an introvert who preferred solitary activities. However, by the end of my studies, I could be described as an extrovert with “bag-loads” of confidence. The dynamics of my class was wonderful and we had a great mixture of personalities and people from various parts of the world that made social events an absolute joy. Till this day, some of the best friends that I have ever made were either from the program or are other UQ students.”



SUNIL
SELVARAJAN

MASTER OF
COUNSELLING
GRADUATE

What job can I get?

The Master of Counselling provides career opportunities in human service and educational settings such as health, welfare, community services, schools and universities, human resources and personnel management and private practice. Work may be in many different fields and circumstances, such as health management and promotion, loss and grief issues, mental health and wellbeing, domestic violence, sexual abuse, and drug and alcohol issues, relationship issues and others.

You can find yourself in roles such as a Counsellor, Welfare Officer, Family Support Worker, NGO Coordinator, Case Officer, School Counsellor, Drug and Alcohol Support Worker, Therapist, Community Youth Support Worker, Family Therapist, and Youth Worker to name a few.

Entry requirements

Students who have already completed a relevant undergraduate degree are encouraged to apply for this two year full-time (or four year part-time) program, which combines advanced theory,

skill-based training, and supervised practice. Students who have completed an undergraduate degree in the following areas are encouraged to apply:

- Social Work
- Psychology
- Social Welfare
- Behavioural Studies
- Human Services
- Education
- Nursing
- The Therapies
- Medicine
- Chaplaincy

Or other appropriate fields.

Applications

Applicants are required to complete a written application as well as supply a certified copy of their university academic transcripts, a copy of their curriculum vitae and provide two reports from appropriate referees.

Applicants are also required to undertake an interview with staff of the program.

Entry to the program is determined on the basis of all aspects of the application process.

Application and Referee Report forms can be found at: www.uq.edu.au/swahs

International student applications should be lodged through UQ International, email: study@uq.edu.au

Domestic Students:

Applications should be lodged through the School of Social Work and Human Services, with the closing date of November 20 of the previous year. Late application may be considered.

Closing date for International Students:

Applications should be lodged through UQ International, The University of Queensland. Visit www.uq.edu.au/international for more information. Application closing date is September 30 of the previous year.

More information

School of Social Work and Human Services
The University of Queensland
St Lucia Qld 4072

Tel: +61 7 3365 2068

Fax: +61 7 3365 1788

Web: www.uq.edu.au/swahs

Email: swahs@social.uq.edu.au