Graduate Diploma of Counselling (GDCN) - GradDipCouns   New Ne

- Child, Youth and Family Therapy
- Clinical Supervision
- Mental Health Counselling
- Foundations of Practice*

* The Foundations of Practice courses are embedded in all of the Graduate Diploma of Counselling streams. The Foundations of Practice specialisation has greater versatility in that it allows for students to choose approved courses from any of the streams if they meet the course pre-requisites.

Program objectives

On completion of the award, students will be able to:

(1) Demonstrate understanding of theories and models fundamental to fields associated with counselling
(2) Demonstrate advanced interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills
(3) Demonstrate ability to apply critical reasoning, judgment and problem solving to a range of professional, legal, and ethical practice issues
(4) Demonstrate ability to contextualise knowledge within a counselling context.
(5) Demonstrate ability to apply discipline knowledge and professional practice skills in formative development as a counselling practitioner and demonstrate autonomy, expert judgment, adaptability and responsibility as a practitioner or learner.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

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International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the Course Fee Finder.

Program structure

Foundations of Practice specialisation

The Graduate Diploma of Counselling (Foundations of Practice) consists of five Level 5 compulsory courses and three Level 5 approved courses.

Mental Health Counselling specialisation

The Graduate Diploma of Counselling (Mental Health Counselling) consists of seven Level 5 compulsory courses and one Level 5 approved course.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU5009 Counselling Skills and Applications[#]	1	EXT
COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics[#]	1	EXT
COU5010 Counselling Frameworks[#]	2	EXT
COU5007 Counselling Issues and Contexts[#]	2	EXT
COU5012 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU5004 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU5005 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
Choose one of the following two courses below: COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision	2 1,2	ONL ONL

Footnotes

\#   This course has a compulsory 5 day residential school.

Program completion requirements

Students must have successfully completed the core and approved courses (as applicable) to successfully complete the program.

Required time limits

Minimum time to complete is one year. Students have a maximum of three years to complete this program.

IT requirements

Students should visit the USQ minimum computing standards to check that their computers are capable of running the appropriate software and versions of Internet web browsers and to check the minimum and recommended standards for software.

Residential schools

The attendance requirement of residential schools within this degree is indicated by the following letters: V = Voluntary; O = Optional; C = Compulsory; R = Recommended; HR = Highly Recommended; M = Mandatory. Further information is available here and in the Policy and Procedure Library

There are compulsory residential schools, held at the Ipswich Campus for COU5006, COU5007, COU5009 and COU5010.

Articulation

A student successfully completing all courses in the Graduate Diploma of Counselling may apply to articulate into the Master of Counselling provided the student has not graduated from the Graduate Diploma. Entry into the Master of Counselling is not automatic and students will need to meet additional requirements including completion of the Graduate Diploma of Counselling with a GPA of at least 5.0, and an application which is supported by two referees as well as a structured interview (refer Master of Counselling handbook entry).

A student articulating into a higher degree will only receive the award of the higher degree that they complete. Such students will be given full credit for all courses completed whilst studying the Graduate Diploma. Students must advise the Faculty in writing of their intention to articulate and this must occur prior to completion of the Graduate Diploma of Counselling.

Related programs

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