

Graduate Diploma of Counselling (GDCN) - GradDipCouns

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Program aims

The Graduate Diploma of Counselling is available to graduates of human services, health, nursing, psychology and other allied health disciplines. The Graduate Diploma of Counselling is a program that allows students and professionals to develop knowledge and expertise in one of four counselling areas:

- Alcohol and Drug Studies
- Child, Youth and Family Therapy
- Clinical Supervision (this specialisation will not be available from Semester 2, 2019)
- 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.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 08. Graduates at this level will have advanced knowledge and skills for professional or highly skilled work and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

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- Completion of an Australian university three year Bachelor degree in any area or equivalent.
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 3.

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the program, students will be awarded a Graduate Diploma of Counselling. For more information, contact the Graduate School of Health, Behaviour and Society on 73.196 216.399 or [gsd73.196 216.399](#).

Program fees

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

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.

| 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 |
| COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision [#] | 1 | EXT |
| Approved Courses | | |
| Choose three of the following: | | |
| PSY5010 Assessment for Substance Misuse | 1 | ONL |
| PSY5020 Motivational Interviewing | 1 | ONL |
| PSY5030 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs | 2 | ONL |
| PSY5040 Relapse Prevention | 2 | ONL |
| COU5001 Couple and Family Counselling | 1 | ONL |
| COU5002 Child and Youth Counselling | 2 | ONL |
| COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice | 2 | ONL |
| COU5012 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling | 1 | ONL |
| COU5004 Mental Health Practice 1 | 1 | ONL |
| COU5005 Mental Health Practice 2 | 2 | ONL |

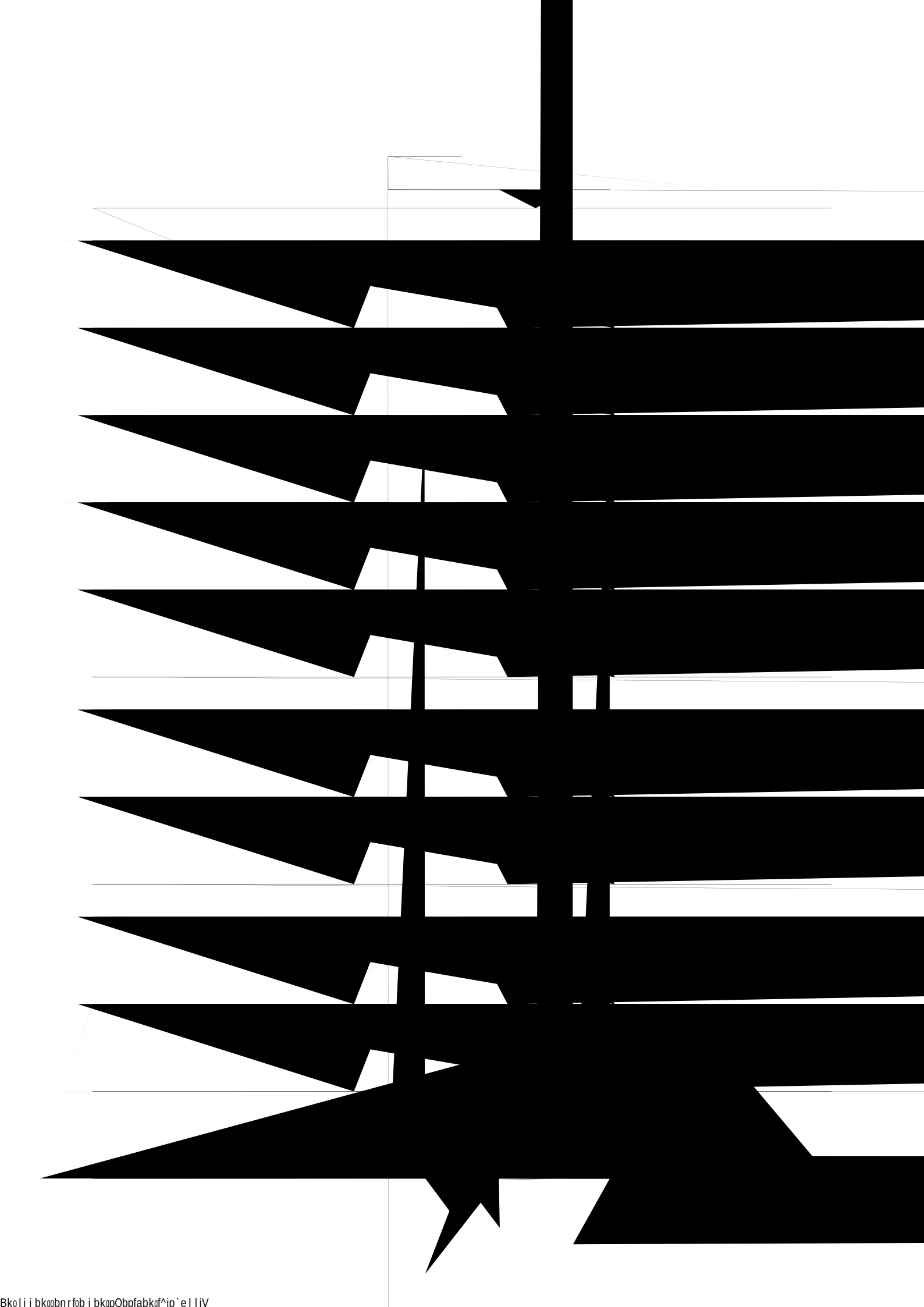
Footnotes

This course has a mandatory 4-day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.

Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation

The Graduate Diploma of Counselling (Alcohol and Drug Studies) consists of seven Level 5 compulsory courses and one Level 5 approved course.

- COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision
- COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics
- COU5007 Counselling Issues and Conte



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Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

