

Master of Counselling (MCCO) - MCouns

	External
Start:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Residential school:	Ipswich campus — mandatory
Standard duration:	2 years full-time, 4 years part-time
Program articulation:	From: Graduate Diploma of Counselling To: Doctor of Philosophy

Contact us

The second stream is called the Master of Counselling (Advanced Practice) and is designed to advance knowledge, research, and practice for applicants who are already registered professionals in counselling or related disciplines and thus are not required to meet initial registration requirements. This program does not require students to undertake foundational courses, residential schools, or a practicum. In place of these students can select courses from within the specialisations. This stream offers suitably qualified professionals maximum choices, flexibility, and a simpler admission process.

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 assessment and treatment.
- (2) Employ advanced interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills appropriate to the context and format.
- (3) Apply critical reasoning, judgment and problem solving to a range of professional, legal, and ethical practice issues.
- (4) Translate and contextualise knowledge within a counselling context.
- (5) Demonstrate ability to apply discipline knowledge, ethics, boundaries, and professional practice skills within a counselling role.
- (6) Identify, interpret and apply research methodologies, including their application to a research question relevant to their area of specialisation by designing and implementing a research project or significant scholarly activity within a selected discipline area.

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 09. Graduates at this level will have specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice 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).
- Completion of the [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) at USQ with a GPA of 5 or above.
- Provide two satisfactory Referee Reports and a report to address the [Selection Criteria](#) indicating the applicant's abilities to successfully undertake

Program structure

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USQ counselling programs prioritise high quality, research-informed, client-focussed, transferrable counselling knowledge and skills to ensure maximum versatility and responsiveness to client diversity. The programs emphasise respecting client dignity throughout treatment, and emphasise collaboratively designing and adapting treatment to fit client goals, values, strengths, preferences, and treatment response.

Foundations of Practice specialisation

This specialisation is completed as part of the [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#), which is a pre-requisite to enrolment in the Master of Counselling. The Master of Counselling (Foundations of Practice) consists of 12 units of compulsory courses and 4 approved courses. Three of the compulsory courses are 2 units each. Students will be required to attend mandatory residential school workshops and mandatory online tutorials for five courses ([COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision](#), [COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics](#), [COU5007 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#), [COU5009 Counselling Skills and Applications](#) and [COU5010 Counselling Frameworks](#)). Students will also be required to take a counselling practicum as part of the Masters of Counselling program.

The Master of Counselling (Alcohol and Drug Studies) consists of 13 compulsory courses. Three of the compulsory courses are two units each.

COU8001 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{*^}	1,2	EXT
Choose one of the following two courses:		
COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice	2	ONL
PSY5020 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL

Footnotes

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

* Two units

