

# **Graduate Certificate of Counselling (GCCO) - GradCertCouns**

QTAC code (Australian and Ne

- (3) Demonstrate ability to apply critical reasoning, judgment and problem solving to a range of professional, legal, and ethical practice issues
- (4) Please note that because there are 4 specialisations, each specialisation has a different final objective:
- **Foundations of Practice:** Consolidate theory and practice within an integrative framework to effectively provide counselling within diverse contexts and client groups, including Indigenous Australians.
  - **Child, Youth and Family Therapy:** Integrate theory and practice to develop counselling interventions for working with children, youth, couples, and families, within diverse contexts and groups.
  - **Mental Health Counselling:** Consolidate theory and practice within an integrate framework to effectively provide counselling to individuals with mental health difficulties.
  - **Alcohol and Drug Studies:** Integrate theory and practice to develop counselling interventions and administer holistic assessment for clients impacted by alcohol and drugs.

## 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](http://www.aqf.edu.au).

## Admission requirements

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

- Completion of an Australian university three-year bachelor degree, or equivalent, in any area.
- 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 English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

## 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 Schedule](#)

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-d](#), and the typ



The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Mental Health Counselling) consists of three level 8 core courses and one choice of an approved course.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2</a>	2	ONL
<b>Choose one of the courses below:</b>		
<a href="#">COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling</a>	2	ONL
<a href="#">COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice<sup>#</sup></a>	1	EXT
<a href="#">COU8012 Motivational Interviewing</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs</a>	2	ONL
<a href="#">COU8014 Relapse Prevention</a>	2	ONL

#### Footnotes

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

### General specialisation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (General) can be attained after completing four courses from within any of the Graduate Certificate of Counselling specialisations and may include other graduate courses related to counselling as approved by the Program Director.

### Program completion requirements

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

### Required time limits

Students have a maximum of 2 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: R = Recommended; HR = Highly Recommended; M = Mandatory. To find out more about [residential schools](#), visit the [Residential School Schedule](#) to view specific dates for your degree, or visit the [Policy and Procedure Library](#).

There are mandatory residential schools held at Ipswich, Springfield or Toowoomba campuses, and mandatory synchronous online tutorials for:

- [COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#)
- [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#)
- [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#)
- [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)
- [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#)

## Articulation

A student successfully completing all courses in the Graduate Certificate of Counselling will receive full credit towards the [Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) in the same major area. Students who exited with a general specialisation can enter the Graduate Diploma (Foundations of Practice). Students intending to continue with the Graduate Diploma must apply for separate admission and may EITHER Graduate with a Graduate Certificate and receive full credit as exemptions into the Graduate Diploma, OR choose not to graduate with the Graduate Certificate, in order to transfer their grades, maintain their GPA and articulate into the Graduate Diploma and ultimately qualify for this higher award only. Students who wish to transfer their grades and maintain their GPA into the Graduate Diploma, must advise the Faculty in writing ([usq.support@usq.edu.au](mailto:usq.support@usq.edu.au)) of their intention to articulate and this must occur prior to completion of the Graduate Certificate of Counselling. Entry into the [Master of Counselling](#) requires completion of at least 50% of the [Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) with a GPA of at least 5.0, and an application that is supported by two referees as well as a structured interview.

## Related programs

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling is nested in the [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) and [MCCO Master of Counselling](#).

## Credit

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the [USQ Credit and Exemption Procedure](#).

## Foundations of Practice 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.

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	Vb^o	Pb j	Vb^o	Pb j	Vb^o	Pb j		
								GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
<a href="#">COU8012 Motivational Interviewing</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
<a href="#">COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO

**Footnotes**

\* Mandatory Residential Schools.

**Mental Health Counselling 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.

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<b>Year 1 / Semester 1 entry</b>								
<a href="#">COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<b>Choose one of the following courses:</b>								
<a href="#">COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling</a>						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice</a> *			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU8014 Relapse Prevention</a>						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO

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