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

QTAC code (Australian and New Zealand applicants): External: GCCO02; Online: GCCO03

You are currently viewing the 2023 Handbook. For study in 2024, please refer to the 2024 UniSQ Handbook.

# **Program objectives**

On completion of the award, students should 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) 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.

### **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-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, external or online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the Course Fee Schedules.

# **Program structure**

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling has four specialisations. Students may also complete a Graduate Certificate of Counselling with a general specialisation, which allows them to choose any four courses. The requirements for each of these options are listed below:

# Foundations of Practice specialisation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Foundations of Practice) consists of four level 8 compulsory courses.

Core Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications#	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics#	1	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks#	2	EXT
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts#	2	EXT

#### **Footnotes**

## Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Alcohol and Drug Studies) consists of four level 8 courses.

Core Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL

### Child, Youth and Family Therapy specialisation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Child, Youth and Family Therapy) consists of two level 8 core courses, one level 5 core course and one approved course.

<sup>#</sup> This course has a mandatory 4—day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.

### Footnotes

In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 Novs) OffvFootnotesv

## **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) 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 pr

# Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

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Year 1 / Semester 1 entry																
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse					1	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO									
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs					1	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO									
COU8014 Relapse Prevention					1	2	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO									
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing					1	1	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO									

# Child, Youth and Family Therapy specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

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Consult the Handbook on the Web at <a href="https://www.unisq.edu.au/handbook/current">https://www.unisq.edu.au/handbook/current</a> for any updates that may occur during the year. Graduate Certificate of Counselling (GCCO) - GradCertCouns (2023)

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COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the fol lowing Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO

### **Footnotes**

 <sup>\*</sup> Mandatory Residential Schools.