



## **GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COUNSELLING**

### **AWARD SUMMARY**

**CRICOS: 114819J**

**Nomenclature: GradCertCouns**

**AQF Level 8 Graduate Certificate**

**Entry Requirements** Satisfactorily completed an AQF 7 Bachelor (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board; OR Hold a three-year AQF 7 Counselling award (or equivalent), such as the Australian University College of Divinity Bachelor of Counselling; OR qualify for professional entry on the basis of their work, life and ministry experience; AND Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

**Duration:** Six months full-time or 2 years (maximum) part-time.

**Attendance Type:** Full-time, part-time.

**Delivery Mode:** Online, face-to-face, or multi-modal

**Structure:** 36 credit points (4 units), the selection of which is dependent upon admission criteria.

### **English Proficiency:**

Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 7.0 with no score less than 6.5 in all bands of the test.

### **Enrolment**

Contact the Registrar of the Member Institution with whom you intend to study for enrolment and fee details.

### **Graduate Profile and Rationale**

The Graduate Certificate in Counselling is designed for those who hold an undergraduate AQF 7 qualification in counselling or related disciplines, who wish to pursue a graduate qualification in counselling to enhance their professional work. Graduates will be equipped with advanced theoretical knowledge and practice based counselling skills. Graduates will have added particular transferable knowledge and skills in counselling to enhance their work in Christian ministry and mission.

## **Course Outcomes**

### **Knowledge**

Graduates will have:

- specialised theoretical and technical knowledge related to the practice of counselling which are transferable to a variety of complex client contexts;
- an understanding of the principles of inquiry and methods applicable to counselling theory and their application to real-world counselling practice.

### **Skills**

Graduates will demonstrate specialised cognitive and technical skills in counselling, so that they are able independently to:

- review and synthesize counselling information and identify and reflect on complex client contexts;
- think critically and evaluate complex ideas related to the care of clients
- demonstrate an understanding of theoretical concepts in the Pastoral Counselling sub-discipline;
- transmit counselling knowledge, skills and ideas to a variety of audiences.

### **Applications of Knowledge and Skills**

Graduates will have the ability to:

- make high level, independent judgments related to a range of issues pertaining to counselling theory and practice.

## **Academic regulations for the Graduate Certificate in Counselling**

### **1 Admission to Candidature**

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Graduate Certificate in Counselling shall:
- 1.1.1 hold a three year AQF Counselling award (or equivalent), such as the Australian University College of Divinity Bachelor of Counselling; OR
  - 1.1.2 hold a three-year AQF 7 award in any discipline; OR
  - 1.1.3 qualify for professional entry as determined by the Academic Board: AND
  - 1.1.4 Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.
- 1.2 Notwithstanding the provisions of this regulation the Student Support and Administration Committee may require an applicant to demonstrate fitness for admission as a candidate for this degree by carrying out such work and/or sitting for such examinations as the Student Support and Administration Committee may determine
- 1.3 In exceptional cases an applicant may be admitted as a candidate for a Graduate Certificate in Counselling if the applicant submits evidence of other academic and professional attainments to the Student Support and Administration Committee.
- 1.4 A candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Counselling shall be designated as full-time or part-time. A candidate is designated as a full-time if enrolled in 27 credit points or more in a semester or part-time if enrolled in less than 27 credit points per semester.
- 1.5 In general, no candidate for the Graduate Certificate in Counselling may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the University College or any other tertiary institution unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
- 1.6 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by:
- 1.6.1 achieving an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 7.0 with no score below 6.5 in all bands of the test.
- 1.7 Application for enrolment in the Graduate Certificate in Counselling is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

### **2 Course Structure**

- 2.1 The Graduate Certificate in Counselling requires the completion of 36 credit points (4 units).
- 2.1.1 Where an applicant enters the award under provision 1.1.1 the applicant shall complete four units selected from the approved list of units in Schedule A.
  - 2.1.2 Where an applicant enters the award under provisions 1.1.2 or 1.1.3:

- 2.1.1 C8100 Introduction to Counselling Skills;
- 2.1.2 C8105 Counselling Theories and Practice;
- 2.1.3 C8106 Fundamentals of Psychology;
- 2.1.4 One unit (9 credit points) from Schedule B below.

### **3 Period of Candidature**

- 3.1 The period of candidature for the Graduate Certificate in Counselling shall normally be 6 months (1 semester) full time and up to 2 years (4 semesters) part-time.
- 3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Support and Administration Committee may grant course extensions.

### **4 Leave of Absence**

- 4.1 The Student Support and Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Graduate Certificate in Counselling. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the award.
- 4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or will be required to complete candidature.

### **5 Assessment**

- 5.1 The assessment of units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the University College's established guidelines for assessment packages.
- 5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.
- 5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised in accordance with the Policies and Regulations of the University College, whose stipulations are severe.

### **6 Credit**

- 6.1 A candidate may seek credit up to a maximum of 18 credit points from an institution approved by the Academic Board in the Graduate Certificate in Counselling.
- 6.2 Specified Credit may be granted for units that are from an equivalent award or institution and have outcomes, content, demand hours, and assessment equivalent to that of units in the Graduate Certificate in Counselling. Application for Unspecified Credit may be considered for elective (non-compulsory) units only.

6.3 Credit for Recognised Prior Learning may be granted subject to a successful application.

## **7 Progress to Further Awards**

7.1 Students who complete the Graduate Certificate in Counselling may articulate into the following awards of the University College:

Graduate Diploma of Counselling ; Master of Counselling

## **8 Saving Clause**

8.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the University College may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with, or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the University College.

### Schedule A

(For students entering award under Provision 1.1.1)

C8101 Human Development and Counselling  
C8105 Counselling Theories and Practice  
C8106 Fundamentals of Psychology  
C8143 Addictions Counselling  
C8145 Pastoral Counselling: Grief, Loss and Trauma  
C8150 Child and Adolescent Counselling  
C8154 Relationship Counselling  
C8156 Family Counselling  
C8166 Wellbeing and Resilience for People Helpers  
C8153 Human Sexuality in the Helping Professions  
C9222 Solution Focused Brief Therapy (SFBT) and Positive Psychology (PP)  
C9223 Cognitive Behavioural Therapy and Dialectical Behaviour Therapy  
C9229 Ethical and Professional Issues in Pastoral Counselling

### Schedule B

(For Students entering award under Provision 1.1.2 or 1.1.3)

C8154 Relationship Counselling  
C8143 Addictions Counselling  
C8101 Human Development and Counselling

Version	Date and Governance	Changes
1.0	7/12/2022 Academic Board	Approved
2.0	29/10/2023 Academic Board	Approved for CRICOS (CRICOS approval date 23/1/2024)
3.0	9/10/2023 Academic Board	Unit Changes in Schedules
3.0	4/3/2024 Academic Board	IELTS admission requirements update