Master of Counselling

UNDA Course Code 5023
CRICOS Code 055386M

WHY STUDY AT NOTRE DAME?
The University of Notre Dame Australia is proud of its postgraduate coursework offerings and caring community atmosphere. Committed to excellence, social justice and the pastoral care of students and staff, the University offers a uniquely personal approach to teaching and learning. Notre Dame empowers students to build on their knowledge and experience, sharpen their skills and challenge them to succeed in their chosen field. Notre Dame’s academic staff are specialists in their field and provide students with best practice content and a practical approach to teaching and learning.

INTRODUCTION
The Master of Counselling is a postgraduate coursework degree suited to people from a variety of professional backgrounds such as social work, human resources, social welfare, nursing, psychology and education. It provides graduates with theoretical knowledge and practical skills in counselling that can be applied in a variety of human service contexts. Students are taught an integrative approach to counselling practice, with a focus on contemporary and evidence-based approaches, group-work, research skills and counselling across the life-span. In the second year of the course an industry placement is undertaken.

By the end of the Masters degree, students should be able to:

- Work with clients in a variety of settings
- Identify and discuss links between theory, practice and personal awareness.
- Identify, discuss and contrast concepts and issues in various theoretical models.
- Assess and intervene in response to a range of presenting issues
- Use research methods to carry out independent research.

COURSE STRUCTURE

Semester One
- Interpersonal Group Practice
- Counselling Skills
- Theoretical Approaches to Counselling
- Approaches to Mental Health

Semester Two
- Theory and Process of Group Facilitation
- Family Systems and Couples
- Research Methods
- Ethical Issues in Professional Life

Semester Three
- Placement, Supervision and Case Studies A
- Professional Practice
- Research Elective
- Research Elective

Semester Four
- Placement, Supervision and Case Studies B
- Trauma, Loss and Grief Counselling
- Specialised Counselling Approaches
- Research Elective

PRACTICAL COMPONENT
Students complete a minimum of 190 hours on placement, with a minimum of 40 hours clinical contact. Placements will be organised by the Counselling Coordinator and will take place off-campus. Close communication will take place between the Placement and Course Coordinator.

ACCREDITATION
The Master of Counselling is a professionally accredited degree recognised by the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia, which allows graduates to be eligible for registration.

MODE OF STUDY AND ASSESSMENT
Students may undertake study in a part-time or full-time capacity, commencing in Semester One (February) or in Semester Two (July), subject to unit availability. This course is offered by coursework, practical component and dissertation. The assessment of competency in each unit normally consists of tutorial performance, a number of assignments or projects during the semester and a final examination.

ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS
It is generally expected that applicants will have a degree or training in a related area, although each application will be assessed on its own merits.

FURTHER INFORMATION
The information contained in this publication is designed as a basic course description. Further information pertaining to admissions, fees or the University itself can be found in the Notre Dame Course Guide. International students refer to the International Course Guide.

For more information please contact the Prospective Students Office on (08) 9433 0533 or at future@nd.edu.au

Visit the website at www.nd.edu.au

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