Diploma of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundations (DISF) - DipISF

<table>
<thead>
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<th><strong>Online</strong>#</th>
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| **Semester intake:** Semester 1 (February)  
Semester 2 (July) |
| **Fees:** Commonwealth supported place  
Domestic full fee paying place  
International full fee paying place |
| **Standard duration:** 1 year full-time, 3 years part-time |
| **Program articulation:** To: Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Science, Bachelor of General Studies |

**Notes:**
The Faculty of Arts courses may also be available on-campus and by distance education. Details on these faculty-specific offerings can be found from the undergraduate Arts programs.

The number of units of credit towards the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Science and Bachelor of General Studies will depend on the major and courses studied with a maximum of eight credits being available.

**Footnotes**
# The first four courses are compulsory and are only available online.

**Contact us**

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<tr>
<th><strong>Future Australian and New Zealand students</strong></th>
<th><strong>Future International students</strong></th>
<th><strong>Current students</strong></th>
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| Ask a question  
Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500  
Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315  
Email: study@usq.edu.au | Ask a question  
Phone: +61 7 4631 5543  
Email: international@usq.edu.au | Ask a question  
Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252  
Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285  
Email usq.support@usq.edu.au |

**Program focus**
The Diploma of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundations equips students with the necessary skills to successfully respond to the numeracy, literacy, and e-literacy demands of both higher education studies and the professional workplace, as well as assisting students to successfully manage the complexities of life/work balance. The diploma program then provides students with a basic introduction to the skills, issues, principles and theoretical frameworks needed by those considering work in various discipline areas such as Education, Nursing and Social Sciences. The program should appeal to those who want to enhance and develop their broad study skills prior to sampling a range of Social Science and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies related courses and determining whether to embark on a more specialized degree program in the Faculty of Arts.

**Career opportunities**
This program enables graduates to transition into university studies directly, and is particularly geared towards the Bachelor of Arts, Bachelor of Social Science and the Bachelor of General Studies.

**Program aims**
This is a generalist and collaborative program offered by the Open Access College, the Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledges (CAIK) and the Faculty of Arts. The first four courses provide students with the
necessary skills and knowledge that are essential for success at the university level of study. The remaining courses from the Faculty of Arts and the Centre for Australian Indigenous Knowledges provide an introduction to studying a range of courses at first year level.

Program objectives
On the successful completion of the Diploma of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders Foundations graduates will have:

- demonstrated an ability to successfully pursue an undergraduate program of study in the Faculty of Arts
- acquired sufficient knowledge about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander studies to make an informed choice about further undergraduate study in the Faculty of Arts
- developed an enhanced awareness of the nature of study in the Faculty of Arts
- developed foundation knowledge, skills and competencies in a series of first year undergraduate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander courses.

Admission requirements
International applicants must have a minimum entry level of IELTS 6.0 or equivalent.

There is no specified minimum educational achievement entrance standard.

Normally, to be eligible for enrolment in the program a person will have attained an age of at least 18 years in the year of the proposed enrolment.

Students will need to complete the online application form for entry to the Diploma Programs. All applicants are also required to complete online diagnostic tests in Mathematics, e-literacy, and English Communication Skills. Applicants will then be given advice detailing whether the Diploma Program is the most appropriate pathway for them to undertake. Some students may be advised to undertake the Tertiary Preparation Program.

How to apply
Domestic students
Application for the Foundation Diplomas may be made directly to USQ.

International students
This program is available to international students. An international student is a person who is not an Australian or New Zealand citizen and not an Australian permanent resident. Please refer to USQ International for information about entry requirements, visa arrangements and how to apply.

Program fees
Commonwealth supported place
A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of your higher education and you as a student pay a student contribution amount, which varies depending on the courses undertaken. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the Course Fee Finder. Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called HECS-HELP.

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. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the Course Fee Finder.

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, via distance education/online. You are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the Course Fee Finder.

Program structure
This program consists of four core courses followed by four courses in Aboriginal, or Torres Strait Islander Studies and/or Introductory Anthropology, Cross-Cultural and Indigenous Psychology courses. Students must successfully complete the four core courses before they will be enrolled in the four courses of specialisation.

Core courses
There are four compulsory courses:

- DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society
- DIP1001 Academic and Professional English
- DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study
- DIP1003 Essential Mathematics

DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society and DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study are co-requisites: they must be studied together, and they must be the first courses undertaken.

For part-time students, DIP1001 Academic and Professional English and DIP1003 Essential Mathematics must be studied after DIP1000 and DIP1002. All four courses can be taken in a single semester for those pursuing full-time studies.

Foundation studies in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander courses
After completing the four compulsory courses students must select four courses from the following selection, including two from KNL1001, KNL1002 and KNL2001:

- CDS2000 Ethical Issues and Human Rights in the Human Services
- HIS1001 Introduction to Australian History
- HMT1000 History of Western Ideas
- KNL1001 Indigenous Cultural Identity
- KNL1002 Torres Strait Islander Studies
- KNL2001 Indigenous Knowledge and Australian Heritage
- PSY1030 Cross-Cultural and Indigenous Psychology
- ANT1001 Introductory Anthropology

Program completion requirements
To successfully complete the Diploma of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundations students must successfully complete the four compulsory core courses, and also four courses of specialisation.

Required time limits
Students have a maximum of three years to complete this program.
IT requirements

Students must have reliable and ready access to email and the Internet. Broadband access is required for the four compulsory core courses. Students should have access to a scanner for DIP1003 Essential Mathematics. For information technology requirements, please see the minimum computing standards.

Students undertaking the Diploma of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Foundations must complete the four compulsory courses first. The recommended enrolment pattern for the four compulsory core courses is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied</th>
<th>Enrolment requirements</th>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On-campus (ONC) Year Sem</td>
<td>External (EXT) Year Sem</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society</td>
<td>1 1,2</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIP1001 Academic and Professional English</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study</td>
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<tr>
<td>DIP1003 Essential Mathematics</td>
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Plus the four from the following:

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<tr>
<td>KNL1001 Indigenous Cultural Identity</td>
<td>1 1</td>
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<tr>
<td>KNL1002 Torres Strait Islander Studies</td>
<td>2 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>KNL2001 Indigenous Knowledge and Australian Heritage</td>
<td>2 2</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>CDS2000 Ethical Issues and Human Rights in the Human Services</td>
<td>1 1</td>
<td>Pre-requisite/Co-requisite: CMS1000 or CMS1009</td>
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<tr>
<td>HIS1001 Introduction to Australian History</td>
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<tr>
<td>HMT1000 History of Western Ideas</td>
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<tr>
<td>PSY1030 Cross-Cultural and Indigenous Psychology</td>
<td>2 2, 3</td>
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