

Diploma of Social Studies Foundations (DSSF) - DipSSF

This program is offered only to continuing students. No new admissions will be accepted. Students who are interested in this study area should consider the [FDUS Foundation Diploma of University Studies](#) which will be offered from Semester 2, 2016.

	Online #^
Start:	No new admissions
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 Human Services ; Bachelor of Social Science ; Bachelor of Science

Notes:

The discipline-specific courses are available on-campus and by distance education. Details on these offerings can be found from the [undergraduate Arts programs](#).

The Sciences courses may also be available on-campus and in distance mode. Details on these offerings can be obtained from the [undergraduate Science programs](#).

The number of units of credit towards the ; [Bachelor of Human Services](#) and ; [Bachelor of Social Science](#) 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.

^ Students can only articulate into the Psychology major of the Bachelor of Science.

Contact us

	Current students
	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program aims

This is a generalist and collaborative program offered by the Open Access College and the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences. 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 Health, Engineering and Sciences provide an introduction to studying social science related courses at first year level.

Program objectives

On the successful completion of the Diploma of Social Studies Foundations graduates will have:

- demonstrated an ability to successfully pursue an undergraduate program of study in the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences
- acquired sufficient knowledge about human services programs of study to make an informed choice about further undergraduate study in the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences
- developed an enhanced awareness of the nature of study in the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences
- developed foundation knowledge, skills and competencies in a series of first year undergraduate human services courses

Admission requirements

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

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 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](#).

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

Commonwealth supported place

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of a students' higher education and students pay a [student contribution amount](#), which varies depending on the courses undertaken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedules](#).

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. 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, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Schedules](#).

Program structure

The Program consists of four core courses followed by four foundation courses in the social sciences. Students must successfully complete the four compulsory core courses before they will be enrolled in the four foundation social science courses.

Core courses

There are four compulsory courses:

- [DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society](#)
- [DIP1001 Academic and Professional English](#)
- [DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study](#)
- [DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy](#)

[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 [DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy](#) 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 Social Science courses

After completing the four compulsory courses students can select four courses from the following selection:

- [CDS1000 Community Welfare and Development](#)
- [CDS1001 Human Relations and Communications](#)
- [CDS2000 Ethical Issues and Human Rights in the Human Services](#)
- [PSY1010 Foundation Psychology A](#)
- [PSY1020 Foundation Psychology B](#)
- [PSY1030 Cross-Cultural and Indigenous Psychology](#)
- [SOC1000 Introduction to Social Justice](#)
- [ANT1001 Cultural Diversity: an Introduction to Anthropology](#)

Program completion requirements

To successfully complete the Diploma of Social Studies Foundations students must successfully complete the four compulsory core courses, and also the four social science foundation courses.

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 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.

Students undertaking the Diploma of Social Science Foundations must complete the four compulsory courses first. The recommended enrolment pattern for the four compulsory core courses is as follows:

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society					1	1,2,3	
DIP1001 Academic and Professional English					1	1,2,3	
DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study					1	1,2,3	
DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy					1	1,2,3	
Plus the four Social Studies courses referred to in the Program Structure.							