Graduate Certificate of Alcohol and Drug Studies (GCAD) - GradCertAlcDrugSt

This program is only offered to continuing students. No new admissions will be accepted after the Semester 2, 2015 intake. Students who are interested in this area should consider the Graduate Certificate of Counselling.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Semester intake</th>
<th>External</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>No new admissions</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Fees:**
- Commonwealth supported place
- Domestic full fee paying place
- International full fee paying place

**Standard duration:** 1 year part-time, 2 years part-time maximum

**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**

The Graduate Certificate of Alcohol and Drug Studies is available to graduates of medical, nursing, psychology and other allied health disciplines. The program has been designed to provide graduates from medical, allied health (including psychology) and nursing degrees with core skills to respond to substance misuse in a range of health settings, including those which focus on psychological health, mental health nursing, medical practice, social work, occupational therapy, and Indigenous health settings. The primary aim is to improve knowledge and expertise across a range of health disciplines, regardless of location, by improving training access for the rural-remote sector as well as those wishing to study via the distance education mode for other reasons. Because the range of disciplines varies within the allied health cluster, the assessment schemes will offer opportunities for students to develop knowledge and skills pertinent to their practice specialisations.

**Program objectives**

On completion of the award, students will be able to:

- understand the various types and administration routes of psychoactive substances, and the individual and systemic factors that contribute to substance misuse
- conduct a thorough assessment for substance misuse based on generic and discipline specific assessment needs
- conduct an appropriately targeted brief counselling intervention, following evidence-based approaches for the substance using population
- recognise and respond to lapses and manage relapse prevention.

**Admission requirements**

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

- have completed a Bachelor’s degree from a recognised university.

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

**Program structure**

The Graduate Certificate consists of 4 compulsory courses.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Offered</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>PSY5010 Assessment for Substance Misuse</td>
<td>S1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5020 Motivational Interviewing</td>
<td>S1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5030 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs</td>
<td>S2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5040 Relapse Prevention</td>
<td>S2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Required time limits**

Students have a maximum of 2 years to complete this program.

**IT requirements**

Students should visit the USQ minimum computing standards to check that their computers are capable of running the appropriate software and versions of Internet web browsers and to check the minimum and recommended standards for software.

**Other program requirements**

**Credit**

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the USQ Credit and Exemption Procedure.
Recommended enrolment pattern

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.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course</th>
<th>Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied</th>
<th>Enrolment requirements</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>On-campus (ONC)</td>
<td>External (EXT)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Year</td>
<td>Sem</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5010 Assessment for Substance Misuse</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5020 Motivational Interviewing</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5030 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PSY5040 Relapse Prevention</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


(DISCONTINUED) Graduate Certificate of Alcohol and Drug Studies (GCAD) - GradCertAlcDrugSt (2018)