

## Graduate Certificate of Counselling (GCCO) - GradCertCouns

	External	Online*
<b>Semester intake:</b>	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
<b>Fees:</b>	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
<b>Residential school:</b>	Ipswich campus — Mandatory	
<b>Standard duration:</b>	1 year part-time	
<b>Program articulation:</b>	To: <a href="#">Graduate Diploma of Counselling</a>	

### Footnotes

\* The Alcohol and Drug, Child, Youth and Family Therapy and Mental Health Counselling specialisations can be fully studied online.

### Contact us

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

### Professional accreditation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Mental Health Counselling) is designed to meet the [PACFA Mental Health Practitioner Mental Health Competencies](#). Clinical Members of PACFA who have completed this qualification may apply to be registered as Mental Health Practitioners. For those seeking registration as a counsellor, please refer to the Graduate Diploma of Counselling and Master of Counselling degrees.

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Foundations of Practice) is designed to address many of the training standards in the [PACFA Training Standards 2018](#). There is a four day mandatory residential school for each of the four Foundations of Practice courses.

### Program aims

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling is available to graduates of human services, counselling, health, nursing, psychology and other allied health disciplines. The Graduate Certificate of Counselling is a program that allows students and professionals to develop knowledge and expertise in one of four counselling areas or choose an unspecified option:

- Alcohol and Drug Studies
- Child, Youth and Family Therapy
- Mental Health Counselling
- Foundations of Practice
- Unspecified

### Program objectives

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

- (1) Demonstrate understanding of theories and models fundamental to fields associated with counselling
- (2) Demonstrate advanced interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills
- (3) Demonstrate ability to apply critical reasoning, judgment and problem solving to a range of professional, legal, and ethical practice issues
- (4) Demonstrate ability to contextualise knowledge within a counselling context.

## Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 08. Graduates at this level will have advanced knowledge and skills for professional or highly skilled work and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting [www.aqf.edu.au](http://www.aqf.edu.au).

## Admission requirements

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

All specialisations

- Completion of an Australian university three year Bachelor degree in any area or equivalent.
- English Language Proficiency requirements for Category 3.

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

### 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 of Counselling has four specialisations. Students may also complete a Graduate Certificate of Counselling without a specialisation. The requirements for each of these options are listed below:

### Foundations of Practice specialisation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Foundations of Practice) consists of four level 5 compulsory courses.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">COU5009 Counselling Skills and Applications</a> <sup>#</sup>	1	EXT
<a href="#">COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics</a> <sup>#</sup>	1	EXT
<a href="#">COU5010 Counselling Frameworks</a> <sup>#</sup>	2	EXT
<a href="#">COU5007 Counselling Issues and Contexts</a> <sup>#</sup>	2	EXT

**Footnotes**

# This course has a mandatory 4–day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.

**Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation**

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Alcohol and Drug Studies) consists of four level 5 courses, including three core courses and one approved course.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">PSY5010 Assessment for Substance Misuse</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">PSY5030 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs</a>	2	ONL
<a href="#">PSY5040 Relapse Prevention</a>	2	ONL
<b>Choose one of the courses below:</b>		
<a href="#">PSY5020 Motivational Interviewing</a> <b>OR</b>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision</a> <sup>#</sup>	1	EXT

**Footnotes**

# This course has a mandatory 4–day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.

**Child, Youth and Family Therapy specialisation**

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Child, Youth and Family Therapy) consists of three level 5 compulsory courses and one choice between two level 5 approved courses.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU5001 Couple and Family Counselling</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU5002 Child and Youth Counselling</a>	2	ONL
<b>Choose one of the courses below:</b>		
<a href="#">COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice</a> <b>OR</b>	2	ONL
<a href="#">COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision</a> <sup>#</sup>	1	EXT

**Footnotes**

# This course has a mandatory 4–day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.

**Mental Health Counselling specialisation**

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling (Mental Health Counselling) consists of three level 5 compulsory courses and one choice between two level 5 approved courses.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
<a href="#">COU5012 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU5004 Mental Health Practice 1</a>	1	ONL
<a href="#">COU5005 Mental Health Practice 2</a>	2	ONL

<b>Choose one of the courses below:</b>		
<a href="#">COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice</a> <b>OR</b>	2	ONL
<a href="#">COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision</a> <sup>#</sup>	1	EXT

#### Footnotes

# This course has a mandatory 4– day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.

### Unspecified specialisation

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling without a specialisation can be attained after completing four courses from within any of the Graduate Certificate of Counselling specialisations and may include other graduate courses related to counselling as approved by the Program Coordinator.

### Program completion requirements

Students must have successfully completed the core and approved courses (as applicable) to successfully complete the program.

### 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.

### Residential schools

The attendance requirement of residential schools within this degree is indicated by the following letters: V = Voluntary; O = Optional; C = Compulsory; R = Recommended; HR = Highly Recommended; M = Mandatory. To find out more about [residential schools](#), visit the [Residential School Schedule](#) to view specific dates for your degree, or visit the [Policy and Procedure Library](#).

There are mandatory residential schools held at Ipswich, Springfield or Toowoomba campuses, and mandatory synchronous online tutorials for:

- [COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision](#)
- [COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics](#)
- [COU5007 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#)
- [COU5009 Counselling Skills and Applications](#)
- [COU5010 Counselling Frameworks](#)

### Articulation

A student successfully completing all courses in the Graduate Certificate of Counselling will receive full credit towards the [Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) in the same major area. Students who exited with an unspecified specialisation can enter the Graduate Diploma (Foundations of Practice). Students intending to continue with the Graduate Diploma must apply for separate admission and may EITHER Graduate with a Graduate Certificate and receive full credit as exemptions into the Graduate Diploma, OR choose not to graduate with the Graduate Certificate, in order to transfer their grades, maintain their GPA and articulate into the Graduate Diploma and ultimately qualify for this higher award only. Students who wish to transfer their grades and maintain their GPA into the Graduate Diploma, must advise the Faculty in writing ([usq.support@usq.edu.au](mailto:usq.support@usq.edu.au)) of their intention to articulate and this must occur prior to completion of the Graduate Certificate of Counselling. Entry into the [Master of Counselling](#) requires completion of the [Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) with a GPA of at least 5.0, and an application which is supported by two referees as well as a structured interview.

## Related programs

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling is nested in the Graduate Diploma of Counselling and Master of Counselling.

## Credit

Exemptions/credit will be assessed based on the [USQ Credit and Exemption Procedure](#).

## Foundations of Practice specialisation 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.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<b>Year 1 / Semester 1 entry</b>								
<a href="#">COU5009 Counselling Skills and Applications</a>			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5006 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity, and Ethics</a>			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5010 Counselling Frameworks</a>			1	2			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5007 Counselling Issues and Contexts</a>			1	2			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH

## Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation 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.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<b>Year 1 / Semester 1 entry</b>								
<a href="#">PSY5010 Assessment for Substance Misuse</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
<a href="#">PSY5030 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or GCCO or MCCO or MPPS

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<a href="#">PSY5040 Relapse Prevention</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or GCCO or MCCO or MPPS
<b>Choose one of the following courses:</b>								
<a href="#">PSY5020 Motivational Interviewing</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or GCCO or MCCO or MPPS
<a href="#">COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision</a>			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH

### Child, Youth and Family Therapy specialisation 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.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<b>Year 1 / Semester 1 entry</b>								
<a href="#">EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention</a>					1	1		
<a href="#">COU5001 Couple and Family Counselling</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5002 Child and Youth Counselling</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<b>Choose one of the following courses:</b>								
<a href="#">COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision</a>			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH

## Mental Health Counselling specialisation 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.

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Residential school	Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)			
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem		
<b>Year 1 / Semester 1 entry</b>								
<a href="#">COU5012 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5004 Mental Health Practice 1</a>					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5005 Mental Health Practice 2</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<b>Choose one of the following courses:</b>								
<a href="#">COU5008 Group Counselling Processes and Practice</a>					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
<a href="#">COU5003 Introduction to Clinical Supervision</a>			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH