

Master of Counselling (MCCO) - MCouns

	External
Start:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July)
Fees:	Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Residential school:	Ipswich campus or Toowoomba campus — mandatory
Standard duration:	2 years full-time, 4 years part-time
Program articulation:	From : ; Graduate Diploma of Counselling

Notes:

In 2023 the programs follows the Semester calendar. The [Academic Calendar and Important Dates](#) webpage will allow you to view and download a copy of the important dates for the Semester calendar.

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
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

Professional accreditation

The Alcohol and Drug Studies, Child Youth and Family Therapy, Mental Health Counselling and Foundations of Practice specialisations in the Master of Counselling are accredited by the [Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia \(PACFA\)](#) and the [Australian Counselling Association \(ACA\)](#).

The Master of Counselling (Advanced Practice) is recognised by the Australian Counselling Association as meeting their bridging requirements to meet Level 3 membership under certain conditions. These include if the graduate is a Level Two ACA Member; **or** if the graduate is not a current member but has an ACA Accredited Bachelor qualification; or if the graduate is not a current member but holds an ACA Accredited Graduate Diploma and has evidence of one year's post-qualification supervised Practice, and a post-qualification minimum of 50 hours of supervision.

Program aims

The aim of this program is to equip students with advanced counselling skills. The Master of Counselling prepares students for practice, extends practice into specialist areas, and can be a pathway to a Doctorate. The Master of Counselling has two main pathways, each designed for different purposes. The aim of the qualifying pathway is to enhance students' counselling skills and knowledge and to prepare them for registration as counsellors. Students completing the Master of Counselling in through this pathway will, at completion, have met the training requirements for membership with PACFA and the ACA. This pathway has a choice of four specialisations.

- Alcohol and Drug Studies
- Child, Youth and Family Therapy
- Mental Health Counselling

- Foundations of Practice

This Master of Counselling contains special admission selection requirements, foundational courses, mandatory residential schools and online tutorials, and practicums to ensure that the training standards are of the highest quality. Please note that students must be enrolled in or have completed the UniSQ [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) (or equivalent) prior to applying for the Master of Counselling. The Master of Counselling also includes two research options – a Research Project option that involves completion of a full Research Project, and a Capstone Experience option, that involves completion of a smaller piece of research.

The second pathway is called the Master of Counselling (Advanced Practice) and is designed to advance knowledge, research, and practice for applicants who are already registered professionals in counselling or related disciplines and thus are not required to meet initial registration requirements. This pathway does not require students to undertake foundational courses, residential schools, or a practicum. It offers maximum choices, flexibility, and a simpler admission process. However, it does not lead to registration as a counsellor. The Master of Counselling (Advanced Practice) includes two research options – a Research Project option that involves completion of a full Research Project, and a Capstone Experience option, that involves completion of a smaller piece of research.

The Master of Counselling is available to graduates of human services, health, nursing, psychology and other allied disciplines.

Program objectives

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

- (1) Apply a core body of knowledge, including contemporary theories and models central to counselling assessment, treatment, and clinical supervision.
- (2) Effectively utilise a range of advanced interpersonal, written, oral and digital literacy skills appropriate for communicating with diverse audiences including clients and professionals.
- (3) Apply critical reasoning, problem solving, and professional and ethical judgement with initiative to identify and resolve a range of therapeutic, professional, legal and ethical practice issues.
- (4) Consolidate theory and practice within an integrative framework to effectively provide counselling within diverse cultural and practice contexts and client groups.
- (5) Critically evaluate relevant research literature, methodologies and findings to inform practice development and conduct research.

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 09. Graduates at this level will have specialised knowledge and skills for research, and/or professional practice and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Admission requirements

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

Master of Counselling (Qualifying)

- Completion of an Australian university three-year bachelor degree in any area (or equivalent).
- Completion of at least 50% of the UniSQ [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) with a GPA of 5, or above, or completion of an equivalent qualification at another institution.
- A report that addresses [Selection Criteria](#) including contact details of two referees.

- Participate in an interview with a panel of School staff.
- Category 3 English Language Proficiency.

Master of Counselling (Advanced Practice)

- Completion of an Australian university three-year bachelor's degree in any area (or equivalent).
- Current evidence of full professional membership of a relevant professional body, such as the Australian Psychological Society, Australian Counselling Association (Level 2 and above), Australian Association of Social Workers, or the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia.
- Category 3 English Language Proficiency.

Equivalency or different pathways to admission will need to be assessed by the UniSQ Postgraduate Program Director of Counselling.

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.

Requirements for professional experience placements

Practical and/or clinical experience will be undertaken as part of the program (with the exception of the Advanced Practice stream). Students will negotiate supervised industry placement where they will have to demonstrate competency in those components of the course(s) that require application in a counselling situation.

Students undertaking practical and/or clinical experience are responsible for their own transport to and from their clinical placements and are also responsible for their own safety in organising that transport, whether public or private.

Students must have a Blue Card issued by the Commission of Children and Young People and Child Guardian in Queensland or its respective interstate equivalent, or be a registered health professional who qualifies for a professional exemption, to enrol in [COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#). These courses must be satisfactorily completed in order to graduate from the Master of Counselling.

Information about application requirements for each state can be found below:

- [National](#)
- [Australian Capital Territory](#)
- [Queensland](#)
- [New South Wales](#)
- [Victoria](#)
- [Northern Territory](#)
- [Western Australia](#)
- South Australia (see National requirements) - Organisation's responsibility to conduct criminal check only if regular contact with children)
- Tasmania - none required

Mandatory Documents required prior to commencing ANY clinical placements in the program:

- Blue Card or Working with Children Check
- Australian Police Certificate
- Resume
- UniSQ Student Declaration
- UniSQ Placement Request Form

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

Program structure

- For the qualifying specialisations (Alcohol and Drug Studies; Child, Youth and Family Therapy; Mental Health Counselling; and Foundations of Practice) the program consists of 7 core courses. These specialisations include 5 courses with Residential Schools ([COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#); [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#); [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#); [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)), [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#), a 2-unit Placement Course ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) and a Research Methods Course ([HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#)) as well as 4 specialisation courses that vary depending on specialisation. Students can choose between completing a Research Project Pathway ([MSC6001 Research Project I](#); [MSC6002 Research Project II](#)) or a Research Capstone Project Pathway ([COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project](#)) and can select a number of elective courses depending on their specialisation and the research pathway chosen.
- For the Advanced Practice specialisation, the program consists of 1 compulsory Research Methods course ([HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences](#)). Students can then choose between completing a Research Project Pathway or a Research Capstone Project Pathway and can select a number of elective courses depending on their specialisation and the research pathway chosen.

Program Training Philosophy

UniSQ counselling programs prioritise high quality, research-informed, client-focussed, transferrable counselling knowledge and skills to ensure maximum versatility and responsiveness to client diversity. The programs emphasise respecting client dignity throughout treatment, and emphasise collaboratively designing and adapting treatment to fit client goals, values, strengths, preferences, and treatment response. The focus is on feedback informed therapy, and matching treatment to client needs and preferences.

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 5 years to complete this program.

Foundations of Practice specialisation

This specialisation is completed as part of the [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#), Completion of at least 50% of the [GDCN Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) is a pre-requisite to enrolment in the [MCCO Master of Counselling](#). The [MCCO Master of Counselling](#) (Foundations of Practice) consists of 7 core courses,

one of which ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) is a 2 unit course. Students can then either elect to complete a Research Project (4 units – [MSC6001 Research Project I](#) and [MSC6002 Research Project II](#)) or a Counselling Capstone Course (2 units – [COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project](#)). Students completing the Research Project may select 4 additional units, while students completing the Capstone Course may select 6 additional units. Students will be required to attend mandatory residential school workshops and mandatory online tutorials for five courses, [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#); [COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#); [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#); [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)), [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#). Students will also be required to take a counselling practicum ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) as part of the Master of Counselling program.

Core Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications [#]	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics [#]	1	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks [#]	2	EXT
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts [#]	2	EXT
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice [#]	1	EXT
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences	1,2	ONL
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^ *}	1,2	EXT
For Research Project Option:		
MSC6001 Research Project I [*]	1,2	ONL, ONC
MSC6002 Research Project II [*]	1,2	ONL, ONC
Choose four of the following courses:		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention [£]	1,3	ONL
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents [£]	1,3	ONL
For Capstone Project Option		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project [*]	1,2	ONL
Choose six (6) of the following		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL

COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention [£]	1,3	ONL
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents [£]	1,3	ONL

Footnotes

- # This course has a mandatory 4-day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.
 ^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum
 * Two units
 £ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation

The Master of Counselling (Alcohol and Drug Studies) consists of 11 core courses, one of which ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) is a 2 unit course. Students can then either elect to complete a Research Project (4 units – [MSC6001 Research Project I](#) and [MSC6002 Research Project II](#)) or a Counselling Capstone Course (2 units – [COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project](#)). Students completing the Capstone Course may select 2 additional units. Students will be required to attend mandatory residential school workshops and mandatory online tutorials for five courses, [COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#), [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#), [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#) and [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)) and [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#). Students will also be required to take a counselling practicum ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) as part of the Master of Counselling program

Core Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications [#]	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics [#]	1	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks [#]	2	EXT
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts [#]	2	ONL
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice [#]	1	EXT
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^ *}	1,2	EXT
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences	1,2	ONL
For Research Project Option		
MSC6001 Research Project I [*]	1,2	ONL, ONC
MSC6002 Research Project II [*]	1,2	ONL, ONC
For Capstone Project Option		

COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project *	1,2	ONL
Choose two (2) of the following two courses:		
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £	1,3	ONL

Footnotes

- # This course has a mandatory 4-day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.
^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum
* Two units
£ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Child, Youth and Family Therapy specialisation

The MCCO (Child, Youth and Family Therapy) consists of 10 core courses, one of which ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) is a 2 unit course. Students can then either elect to complete a Research Project (4 units – [MSC6001 Research Project I](#) and [MSC6002 Research Project II](#)) or a Counselling Capstone Course (2 units – [COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project](#)). Students completing the Research Project may select 1 additional unit, while students completing the Capstone Course may select 3 additional units. Students will be required to attend mandatory residential school workshops and mandatory online tutorials for five courses, ([COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#); [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#); [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#); [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)), and [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#). Students will also be required to take a counselling practicum ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) as part of the Master of Counselling program.

Core Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications #	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics #	1	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks #	2	EXT
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts #	2	EXT
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £	1, 3	ONL
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice #	1	EXT
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences	1,2	ONL
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^ *	1,2	EXT
For Research Project Option		
MSC6001 Research Project I *	1,2	ONL, ONC
MSC6002 Research Project II *	1,2	ONL, ONC
Choose one (1) of the following		

COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents [£]	1,3	ONL
For Capstone Project Option:		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project [*]	1,2	ONL
Choose three (3) of the following two courses:		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents [£]	1,3	ONL

Footnotes

- # This course has a mandatory 4-day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.
£ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024
^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum
* Two units

Mental Health Counselling specialisation

The Master of Counselling (Mental Health Counselling) consists of 10 core courses, one of which ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) is a 2 unit course. Students can then either elect to complete a Research Project (4 units – [MSC6001 Research Project I](#) and [MSC6002 Research Project II](#)) or a Counselling Capstone Course (2 units – [COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project](#)). Students completing the Research Project may select 1 additional unit while students completing the Capstone Course may select 3 additional units. Students will be required to attend mandatory residential school workshops and mandatory online tutorials for five courses, [COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#), [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#), [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#) and [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)) and [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#). Students will also be required to take a counselling practicum ([COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum](#)) as part of the Master of Counselling program.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications [#]	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics [#]	1	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks [#]	2	EXT
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts [#]	2	EXT
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL

COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice [#]	1	EXT
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences	1,2	ONL
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^ *}	1,2	EXT
For Research Project Option:		
MSC6001 Research Project I [*]	1,2	ONL, ONC
MSC6002 Research Project II [*]	1,2	ONL, ONC
Choose one (1) of the following two courses:		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention [£]	1,3	ONL
For Capstone Project Option		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project [*]	1,2	ONL
Choose three (3) of the following		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention [£]	1,3	ONL

Footnotes

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

[^] Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum

^{*} Two units

[£] In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Advanced Practice specialisation

The Master of Counselling (Advanced Practice) consists of 1 core course. Students can then either elect to complete a Research Project (4 units – [MSC6001 Research Project I](#) and [MSC6002 Research Project II](#)) or a Counselling Capstone Course (2 units – [COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project](#)). Students completing the Research Project may select 11 additional units, while students completing the Capstone Course may select 13 additional units.

Compulsory Courses	Semester(s) Offered	Mode
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences	1,2	ONL
For Research Project Option		
MSC6001 Research Project I *	1,2	ONL, ONC
MSC6002 Research Project II *	1,2	ONL, ONC
Choose eleven (11) of the following:		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice #	1	EXT
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications #	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics #	1	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks #	2	EXT
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts #	2	EXT
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £	1,3	ONL
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents £	1,3	ONL
For Counselling Capstone Option		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project *	1,2	ONL
Choose thirteen (13) of the following:		
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse	1	ONL
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing	1	ONL
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs	2	ONL
COU8014 Relapse Prevention	2	ONL
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling	1	ONL
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling	2	ONL
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice #	1	EXT
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling	1	ONL
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1	1	ONL
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2	2	ONL
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications #	1	EXT
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics #	1	EXT

COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts [#]	2	EXT
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks [#]	2	EXT
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention [£]	1,3	ONL
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents [£]	1,3	ONL

Footnotes

- * Two units
This course has a mandatory 4-day residential school and 10 hours of mandatory online tutorials.
£ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Research

Students must choose between completing a Research Project Route and a Capstone Counselling Project Option. Students completing the Research Project Option take 4 units (2 courses) of research; while students completing the Capstone Counselling Project Option take 2 units (1 course) of research. Enrolment in the Research Project Option is dependent on the availability of a supervisor who is willing to supervise the research project; topics for the Research Project will be jointly determined by supervisors and students.

IT requirements

For information technology requirements please refer to the [minimum computing standards](#).

Residential schools

The attendance requirement of residential schools within this degree is indicated by the following letters: 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 campus, and synchronous mandatory online tutorials for:

- [COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics](#)
- [COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts](#)
- [COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications](#)
- [COU8104 Counselling Frameworks](#)
- [COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice](#)

Articulation

A student successfully completing Master of Counselling who has taken the Research Project Route may apply for entry to the [Doctor of Philosophy](#).

Related programs

Exit points

Students may exit after four courses with a [Graduate Certificate of Counselling](#) provided they have met the requirements within the program structure of the [Graduate Certificate of Counselling](#). Students may exit after eight courses with a [Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#) provided they have met the requirements within the program structure of the [Graduate Diploma of Counselling](#).

Credit

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

Foundations of Practice specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

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		
Year 1 / Semester 1 entry - Full Time Pattern								
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics			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
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice			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
Approved course								
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
Approved course								
Approved course								
Year 2								
For Research Project Option:								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1		
MSC6001 Research Project I [*]	2	1			2	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: MCTN or MCOP or MCTE or MSCN or MCCO or MADS or have the approval of their program coordinator
Approved course								
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^*}			2	2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
MSC6002 Research Project II [*]	2	2			2	2		Pre-requisite: MSC8001 or MSC6001

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		
For Capstone Project Option:								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project					2	1		Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: HSC8050
Approved course								
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^			2	1				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
Approved course								
Approved course								
Approved Courses								
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse						1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing						1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling						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
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling						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
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 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
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8014 Relapse Prevention						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling						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
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2						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

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		
								lowing Programs: GCCO or GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £						1,3		Enrolment is not permitted in EDU5325 if EDU3325 has been previously completed.
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents £						1,3		Enrolment is not permitted in EDU5335 if EDU3335 has been previously completed.

Footnotes

* Two units

^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to [COU8050](#).

£ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Alcohol and Drug Studies specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

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		
Year 1 / Semester 1 entry - Full Time Pattern								
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics			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
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing					1	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG

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		
COU8014 Relapse Prevention					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs					1	2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
For Research Project Option								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1,2		
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice [#]			2	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
MSC6001 Research Project I [*]	2	1			2	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: MCTN or MCOP or MCTE or MSCN or MCCO or MADS or have the approval of their program coordinator
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^ *}			2	2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
MSC6002 Research Project II [*]	2	2			2	2		Pre-requisite: MSC8001 or MSC6001
For Capstone Project Option								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1,2		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project [*]					2	1		Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: HSC8050
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice [#]			2	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
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^ *}			2	1,2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
Approved course								
Approved course								
Approved Courses								
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling						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

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		
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling						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
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling						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
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 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
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2						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
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £						1,3		Enrolment is not permitted in EDU5325 if EDU3325 has been previously completed.

Footnotes

- # Mandatory Residential Schools
 * Two units
 ^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to [COU8050](#).
 £ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Child, Youth and Family Therapy specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

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		
	Year 1 / Semester 1 entry - Full Time Pattern							
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics			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
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling					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
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £					1	1,3		Enrolment is not permitted in EDU5325 if EDU3325 has been previously completed.

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		
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling					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
Approved course								
For Research Project Option								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1,2		
MSC6001 Research Project I *	2	1			2	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: MCTN or MCOP or MCTE or MSCN or MCCO or MADS or have the approval of their program coordinator
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice #			2	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
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^ *			2	1,2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
MSC6002 Research Project II *	2	2			2	2		Pre-requisite: MSC8001 or MSC6001
For Capstone Project Option								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	2		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project *					2	2		Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: HSC8050
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice #			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
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^ *			2	1,2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
Approved course								
Approved course								

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		
Approved Courses								
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse						1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing						1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs					2	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8014 Relapse Prevention						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling						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
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 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
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2						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
EDU5335 Emotional and Behavioural Problems of Children and Adolescents [£]						1,3		Enrolment is not permitted in EDU5335 if EDU3335 has been previously completed.

Footnotes

- £ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024
- * Two units
- # Mandatory Residential Schools
- ^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to [COU8050](#).

Mental Health Counselling specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

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		
Year 1 / Semester 1 entry - Full Time Pattern								
COU8101 Counselling Skills and Applications			1	1			M	Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCCO or

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		
								GDCN or MCCO or PDEV or GCHH or GDHH or MOHH or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8102 Professional Counselling Practice, Identity and Ethics			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
COU8031 Contexts of Mental Health Counselling					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
COU8032 Mental Health Practice 1					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
COU8104 Counselling Frameworks			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8103 Counselling Issues and Contexts			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 or MNSG or GDNG or GCNG
COU8033 Mental Health Practice 2					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
Approved course								
For Research Project Option								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	1		
MSC6001 Research Project I [*]	2	1			2	1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: MCTN or MCOP or MCTE or MSCN or MCCO or MADS or have the approval of their program coordinator
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice [#]			2	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
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^{^*}			2	1,2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
MSC6002 Research Project II [*]	2	2			2	2		Pre-requisite: MSC8001 or MSC6001

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		
For Capstone Project Option								
HSC8050 Research Methodology for the Human Sciences					2	2		
COU8040 Counselling Capstone Project *					2	2		Pre-requisite or Co-requisite: HSC8050
COU8006 Group Counselling Process and Practice #			2	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
COU8050 Masters Counselling Practicum ^ *			2	1,2				Pre-requisite: COU8101 and COU8102 and COU8103 and COU8104 or equivalent. Students must be enrolled in the following Program: MCCO
Approved course								
Approved course								
Approved Courses								
COU8011 Assessment for Substance Misuse						1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8012 Motivational Interviewing						1		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8013 Introduction to Psychoactive Drugs						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8014 Relapse Prevention						2		Pre-requisite: Students must be enrolled in one of the following Programs: GCAD or GDCN or MPPS or GCCO or MCCO
COU8021 Couple and Family Counselling						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
COU8022 Child and Youth Counselling						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
EDU5325 Child Abuse and Neglect: Intervention, Protection and Prevention £						1,3		Enrolment is not permitted in EDU5325 if EDU3325 has been previously completed.

Footnotes

* Two units

Mandatory Residential Schools.

^ Please refer to section headed "Requirements for professional experience placements" for information pertaining to [COU8050](#).

£ In Semester 3, 2023 this course will be delivered as a Transition (9 week) semester, commencing on 13 November 2023 and concluding on 12 January 2024

Advanced Practice specialisation recommended enrolment pattern

Students should consult the Program Director via usq.support@usq.edu.au.