



Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)



What is the Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)?

The Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying) is a postgraduate social work program studied by distance education. In combination with an undergraduate degree, commonly in Social Science, the Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying) provides entry level Social Work qualifications.

The Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying) aims to produce graduates who are committed to advancing social justice and human rights.

On completion, graduates will be able to:

- critically assess key aspects of society, including historical, social, political and economic arrangements
- analyse behaviours of individuals, groups, communities and organisations
- have competence in theories and practice of social work and in social policy analysis
- employ professional methods of intervention and practice skills in a variety of human service and social work settings
- understand the contexts of social work practice at local, national and international levels
- exercise skills of critical thinking, reflection and judgement
- recognise, think through and reflect upon ethical issues arising in practice, including the AASW Code of Ethics
- articulate the principles of social justice, human rights and non-oppressive practice
- demonstrate commitment to personal and professional self-development.

Admission requirements

Students with a completed undergraduate degree will be eligible to apply for the Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying).

Applicants without any social science background will need to complete foundation subjects in psychology, sociology, politics/policy and research methods.

Some reasons for studying the Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying):

- distance education provides the flexibility for students to study at their own pace
- graduates will be equipped with skills and knowledge to become ethical, competent professionals dedicated to social justice and human rights
- workplace learning provides a chance to apply skills developed during the course in a range of settings.





Rhonda Emonson Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)

"CSU Social Work staff helped me fulfill a dream to complete an international placement as part of my Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying).

"Three months of living and experiencing social work in a developing country has created a yearning to work with those who have so few resources, and struggle to survive from day to day as a result of poverty and lack of infrastructure."

What will I study?

The course consists of 10 core subjects, completed over two years full-time or four years part-time.

Students will complete four 16-point subjects in Social Work Theory and Practice, as well as two subjects incorporating professional experience. Social policy, ethics, human rights and law for human services will also be covered during the course.

How will I study?

This course is studied by distance education. As a leading distance education provider, Charles Sturt University has a well-developed network of online resources to support students throughout their studies. Distance education also offers students the flexibility of studying at their own pace, and in their own time, without having to commit to attending classes on campus.

Residential schools

There are four one-week residential schools that involve interactive experiential learning of basic skills in a safe environment. They provide lectures, discussion and clarification of key concepts and processes, individual and group activities.

Workplace learning

Students complete two 70-day field education placements under the supervision of qualified social workers. Learning objectives are individually negotiated by the student, supervisor and CSU staff. There is a minimum of three liaison contacts with CSU staff, including one on-site visit. Candidates with relevant experience may be eligible for recognition of prior learning (RPL) for a proportion of the field education requirement.

Financial support

This course includes both Commonwealth supported and fee-paying places, so students may be able to defer their fees with a HECS-HELP loan, or pay upfront to receive a 20% discount.

The Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) also offers access to student income support for students enrolled in a number of professionally oriented Master by coursework degrees. Students undertaking approved courses may be able to access Youth Allowance, Austudy or Abstudy.

Internet access

CSU is a leader in the provision of online services, particularly in the support of distance education students. CSU assumes all students have access to an internet-connected computer capable of communicating with CSU online systems.

GRADUATE PROFILE



David Duffy Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)

"The Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying) was a journey where I learnt about myself, others, and the broader society.

"The flexibility of the course allowed me to pursue my studies despite family and work commitments; when my first child arrived the lecturers were understanding and assisted me to plan subjects and field placements."

For more information about courses and how to apply, please contact info.csu:

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www.csu.edu.au

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University