# Master of Counselling (PY12)

**Year offered:** 2012  
**Admissions:** Yes  
**Course duration (part-time):** 6 semesters  
**Domestic Fees (indicative):** 2012: $4,000 (indicative) per Semester  
**Domestic Entry:** February  
**Total credit points:** 144  
**Course coordinator:** Enquiries to psychology@qut.edu.au or 07 3138 4520  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove

### International Student Entry
This course is not available to international students.

### Further Information
For more information about this course, please contact the School of Psychology and Counselling on +61 7 3138 4520 or email psychology@qut.edu.au

### Course structure

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**Potential Careers:**  
Counsellor, Guidance Officer, Public Servant, School Counsellor, Youth Worker.

### UNIT SYNOPSES

#### PYN000 COUNSELLING STUDIES 1
This unit provides the student with an initial overview of the field of counselling, before focusing on the theory and practice of one contemporary perspective called ‘Constructive’ or ‘Time-Effective’ Therapy. It is an approach based largely in social constructionist principles and promotes a view of counselling as a unique conversational process which attempts to validate the client’s experience, while pursuing possibilities for desired change. It also suggests a time-effective perspective, emphasising the possibility of working briefly and effectively with clients. Selected ideas and practices from several related approaches including solution focused therapy, possibility therapy and narrative therapy will be integrated.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1

#### PYN001 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 1
This is an introduction to the professional study of counselling and the ‘common factors’ present in most counselling approaches. These factors, which include the working relationship, the focus on client resources, and the instillation of hope, contribute greatly to the counselling outcome. In order to respond appropriately and therapeutically to the needs of their clients, counsellors must have a clear understanding of the social and interactive processes that occur in counselling. Verbal, nonverbal, social, emotional, gender, psychological and cultural dimensions are all present in the counselling process. Consideration of these dimensions enables counsellors to develop effective, functional and client-focussed relationships.  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1

#### PYN002 COUNSELLING STUDIES 2
The historical development of psychoanalysis and analytic therapy is examined as well as the utilisation of concepts derived from these approaches and from Process/Experiential work. Understanding the differences between neurotic and psychotic behaviour, and of the need for appropriate referral, is highlighted.  
**Prerequisites:** PYN000  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-2

#### PYN003 GROUP STUDIES
This unit provides the development of skills and approaches in organising and facilitating group work, in the context of personal support and therapeutic groups. It addresses the following: establishing group norms; facilitating stages of group development; responding to member behaviour and developing facilitator interventions; planning, implementing and evaluating ethical group work practices; dealing with defensiveness and hidden agendas; applying brief solutions-focused and reflecting team processes to groups; examining the motion of the therapeutic milieu.

**Prerequisites:** PYN001  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-2

**PYN004 COUNSELLING STUDIES 3**
This unit is designed to provide both an experiential and skills-based approach to specific approaches. The unit is taught in two complementary strands. One strand is largely experiential which focuses on students' exploration of their own family of origin and family dynamics. The second strand extends the process into specific theoretical perspectives and skill development. The approaches build on some of the major orientations and skill areas covered in previous units: constructive therapies (ie solution-focused therapy and narrative therapy), psychodynamic approaches, and reflecting team work.

**Prerequisites:** PYN000  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1

**PYN006 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 2**
This unit provides an experiential introduction to the process of professional supervision. Supervision processes, roles, responsibilities, content, approaches and theories are reviewed. Professional issues commonly addressed in supervision such as power, gender, culture, consent, duty of care etc are reviewed.

**Prerequisites:** PYN001  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1

**PYN007 PROFESSIONAL STUDIES 3**
This unit provides an experiential introduction to the process of providing supervision to counsellors. Supervision processes, roles, responsibilities, content, approaches and theories are reviewed.

**Prerequisites:** PYN006  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1

**PYN008 PROJECT (PART 1)**
Students undertake an individual project of theoretical and/or empirical research in a selected area of counselling. The project is supervised by a member of the teaching staff and progressive work is presented to other students. The completed project is to be presented in the form of a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words. Opportunity may be provided to work in the Family Therapy and Counselling Clinic as a way of achieving project requirements.

**Prerequisites:** PYN014 and PYN006  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1 and 2012 SEM-2

**PYN008 PROJECT (PART 2)**
Students undertake an individual project of theoretical and/or empirical research in a selected area of counselling. The project is supervised by a member of the teaching staff and progressive work is presented to other students. The completed project is to be presented in the form of a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words. Opportunity may be provided to work in the Family Therapy and Counselling Clinic as a way of achieving project requirements.

**Prerequisites:** PYN014 and PYN006  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1 and 2012 SEM-2

**PYN008 PROJECT (PART 3)**
Students undertake an individual project of theoretical and/or empirical research in a selected area of counselling. The project is supervised by a member of the teaching staff and progressive work is presented to other students. The completed project is to be presented in the form of a dissertation of not more than 15,000 words. Opportunity may be provided to work in the Family Therapy and Counselling Clinic as a way of achieving project requirements.

**Prerequisites:** PYN014 and PYN006  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-1 and 2012 SEM-2

**PYN013 ADVANCED COUNSELLING STUDIES**
This elective unit is designed to allow students to build on these skills by pursuing counselling studies in two or more specialised areas. Students select studies in two modules. Areas from which selections can be made might include: experiential therapy, family therapy, narrative therapy, relationship counselling, depression, loss and grief and group work. Students may also complete one or both modules through approved forms of independent study (eg completion of approved workshops, courses or special areas of alternative study).

**Prerequisites:** PYN004  
**Credit points:** 12  
**Contact hours:** 3 per week  
**Campus:** Kelvin Grove  
**Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-2

**PYN014 RESEARCH FOR COUNSELLING PRACTICE**
This unit aims to prepare students for the reflecting team counselling practice in the Family Therapy and Counselling Clinic in the third year project units. The unit also prepares students for applied counselling project work in professional
practice settings.

**Prerequisites:** PYN001  **Credit points:** 12  **Contact hours:** 3 per week  **Campus:** Kelvin Grove  **Teaching period:** 2012 SEM-2