Bachelor of Human Services (SW03)

Year offered: 2011
Admissions: Yes
CRICOS code: 058285C
Course duration (full-time): 3 years
Course duration (part-time): 6 years
Domestic Fees (indicative): 2011: CSP $2,721 per semester (indicative)
International Fees (indicative): 2011: $11,375 (indicative) per semester
Domestic Entry: February and July
International Entry: February and July
QTAC code: 425071
Past rank cut-off: 74
Past OP cut-off: 13
OP Guarantee: Yes
Total credit points: 288
Standard credit points per full-time semester: 48
Standard credit points per part-time semester: 24
Course coordinator: Enquiries to swhs.enquiries@qut.edu.au or phone 07 3138 4697
Campus: Kelvin Grove

Course Outline
This course has been recoded SW03 from HH02 for commencing students. Continuing students will continue to enrol in HH02 in 2010 and subsequent years.

The Bachelor of Human Services has a strong focus on contemporary social issues and produces competent human services workers who will care for and protect the rights of people, families and communities. You will complete 24 units of study.

You will specialise in at least one service area:
- child and family services
- corrective services
- disability services
- services to young people

You will develop a range of professional skills such as:
- casework and case management
- social policy processes
- team practice and group processes
- community work
- advanced communication
- social research methods
- Indigenous Australia
- child protection intervention
- human dimensions of space

Professional Practice Placements

You will gain hands-on experience in this course through two professional practice placements.

In first semester of your second year you will explore the diversity of practice methods through the Introduction to Practice. You will undertake a total of 140 hours of volunteer placement/s in a human service agency.

Your theoretical and practical studies will culminate in a 36 credit point Advanced Professional Practice placement in second semester of your third year. This placement will generally reflect your specialised service context area. You will develop a learning plan in consultation with your agency supervisor and a university staff member. During this 400-hour supervised placement in a human services agency, you will further develop your assessment and intervention skills and your own practice framework. It may be possible to undertake this 12 week placement with an overseas agency.

These professional practice placements provide many valuable opportunities for networking within the human services industry.

NOTE: Students considering undertaking a placement in a Queensland Health facility should note that a Hepatitis B vaccination is mandatory before commencement of the placement.

Service Contexts

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES
Child and family services units provide you with a firm grounding in theories, practices and processes essential for understanding and intervening in family life. You will be introduced to child and family welfare studies and will focus on approaches to supporting families and promoting change. You will also examine core processes and practice skills associated with interacting with children and parents, assessing family life and encouraging participation in decision making.

CORRECTIVE SERVICES
The Community and Youth Corrections unit provides the legislative framework and structures, processes and principles of the youth and criminal justice system. It explores evidence based interventions and provides practice models and assessment frameworks. It provides theory and practice skills for working with Indigenous people and examines the role of practitioners in youth Justice Services and the Department of Corrective Services. The unit's primary orientation is to provide you with a structured opportunity to analyse and understand the operation of the Queensland community and youth corrections settings with
offenders and those who are at risk of offending.

DISABILITY SERVICES  
Disability services units provide you with a solid foundation for understanding and evaluating the theories, principles, practices and policies underpinning services used by people with disabilities. The aim is to link the social justice, empowerment and human rights issues explored in the more generic units within the degree program to the lives of people with disabilities. You will have the opportunity to explore and evaluate the range of service models relevant to the lifestyles of people with disabilities. The units focus on the quasi-legal and policy aspects of working in disability service organisations, and address some of the ethical dilemmas inherent in human service provision to people with a disability.

SERVICES TO YOUNG PEOPLE  
These units help you understand and identify the various ways youth and adolescence are understood, constructed and portrayed in mainstream media, academic literature and human services. You will critically review the situation of a diverse range of young people and will investigate the knowledge, theory and skills base of a range of contemporary practice arenas, such as juvenile justice and adolescent child protection practice, youth homelessness, youth policy analysis and development.

Professional Recognition  
Graduates are entitled to apply for membership of the Australian Institute of Welfare and Community Workers.

Deferment  
Domestic students can defer their offer in this course for one year. In exceptional circumstances up to 12 months of additional deferment may be granted.

Find out more on deferment.

Other course requirements  
Blue Card  
As required by the Commission for Children and Young People and Child Guardian Act (2000), students must undergo a criminal history check and be issued with a Suitability Card (Blue Card) by the Commission.

As soon as you enter your enrolment program for the course, you must submit your Blue Card application to the QUT Student Centre immediately. You must hold a Blue Card to undertake activities in any unit which involves contact with children, including the required field studies blocks.

If you do not apply for a Blue Card immediately upon enrolment in the course and allow sufficient time for the police check and issuing of the Card, you will be unable to participate in the required activities and may need to be withdrawn from the unit(s) and incur both financial and academic penalty. It may take up to 8 weeks for the Commission to issue the Card. Application form

Hepatitis vaccination
Students considering undertaking a placement in a Queensland Health facility should note that a Hepatitis B vaccination is mandatory before commencement of the placement.

Further information
For further information phone 07 3138 4697 or email swhs.enquiries@qut.edu.au

Potential Careers:
Aged Services Worker, Child Care Professional, Child Protection Officer, Community Corrections Officer, Community Education Officer, Community Health Officer, Community Worker, Disability Services Worker, Family Services Officer, Human Services Practitioner, Youth Worker.