Bachelor of Social Work

Social workers engage with individuals, families, groups and communities to work towards social justices and facilitate progressive change. They understand how social, political, economic, environmental and cultural factors can impact experiences of disadvantage and wellbeing. They engage in a wide range of practices to respond to social issues including counselling, case management, group work, mediation, advocacy, education, community development and social action.

Social work is incredibly diverse and social workers may be employed in a broad variety of fields including health and mental health, family violence, child abuse and neglect, homelessness, substance use, grief and loss, disability and eco-social work.

Why choose this course?
Social work at QUT is committed to creating a community of engaged learners and practitioners with real-world capacities to advocate social change for a more socially just, democratic and sustainable future.

Graduates will have an understanding of the ways in which personal experiences are shaped by broader societal structures and therefore are committed to working in partnership with people (using a range of practice methods to support them), while simultaneously pursuing social transformation to redress societal injustices.

You can complete elective units in key areas of practice such as working with young people, domestic violence, Indigenous health, child protection and family practice, and international social work practice. You may also be able to complete electives in complementary areas such as public health or psychology and counselling.

You will be taught by passionate social workers and human services professionals who have extensive professional experience in clinical work, political activism, counselling, community development and advocacy, education and social research.

Flexible delivery
You can commence this course in February or July, giving you the ability to start studying as soon as possible. For those students unable to commit to full time study we also offer a flexible learning option to complete the course within 8 years.

Karyna Doolan
Create positive change

My motivations to pursue social work come from the disadvantages I overcame growing up, the positive support I was given, and my spiritual ties to my culture. I see the crucial impact that social workers can have on minority groups and I want to be a part of making positive changes so all people can experience the best lives possible. The social work degree has an emphasis on personal reflections which has enabled me to develop critical thinking and reflect on and analyse my own learnings. I have been able to put those reflecting skills into
Bachelor of Social Work

Assumed knowledge
Before you start this course we assume you have sound knowledge in these areas:
- English, or Literature, or English and Literature Extension, or English as an Additional Language (Units 3 & 4, C)

We assume that you have knowledge equivalent to four semesters at high school level (Years 11 and 12) with sound achievement (4, SA).

Honours pathway
At the end of the second year of study in this course you will have the option to apply for the Bachelor of Social Work (Honours). This allows you to complete an honours research project that extends your knowledge of the professional field, offering a competitive advantage in your career.

Entry to the program is competitive and based on grade point average. On entry to the course you will retain all of the credit you have successfully completed in the Bachelor of Social Work and will complete a further two years of full-time study.

Careers and outcomes
Social workers are employed in hospitals and community health care, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples’ health and social services, disability, child protection, youth work, criminal justice, family support and counselling, employment and legal services, refugee wellbeing, government, and policy and research.

Double degrees
Combine two bachelor degrees into a single course of study. A double degree allows you to specialise in two fields and pursue different interest areas, gaining a broader range of skills and knowledge, and giving you a competitive advantage and greater career flexibility.

Consider a double degree with the Bachelor of Behavioural Science (Psychology) if you would like to work in community services, counselling and family-centred intervention, mental health services, drug and alcohol intervention, or disability services.

Professional recognition
This degree has full accreditation by the Australian Association of Social Workers. It is an entry qualification into the social work profession and has been determined to meet the Australian Social Work Education and Accreditation Standards.

Fees
HECS-HELP
You may be eligible for HECS-HELP, a loan scheme to help you pay your course fees, if you are an Australian citizen or hold an Australian permanent humanitarian visa. For other conditions read the HECS-HELP information.

Student Services and Amenities Fee
You’ll need to pay the student services and amenities fee as part of your course costs. You may be eligible for SA-HELP, a loan scheme to help you pay your student services and amenities fee, if you are an Australian citizen or hold an Australian permanent humanitarian visa. For other conditions read the SA-HELP information.

Additional Costs
There are requirements that you will need to meet as a student in this course. Some of these requirements have associated costs. Information is available from the Additional course requirements and costs website.

Course requirements
There are requirements that you will need to meet as a student in this course. You will need to identify these requirements and ensure you allow sufficient time to meet them. Some of these requirements have associated costs.

Blue card: You must undergo a criminal history check for working with children and be issued with a suitability card (blue card) before commencing clinical placement/practicum in an organisation where they may work with children or young people.

The processing of your application may take several months so you must submit your blue card application to HiQ as early as possible to ensure you have your card before you begin any unit that requires contact with children. There is no charge for student blue cards. Students who already have a blue card must register it with QUT.

Information is available from the Additional course requirements and costs website.

Alternative entry
If you’re worried you won’t have the ATAR or selection rank to get into the course, consider the TAFE QUT dual award, Diploma of Community Services/Bachelor of Social Work. On successful completion of the diploma you will gain automatic entry to the bachelor degree at QUT. The dual award is not available to international students.

If you have already completed a bachelor degree which includes the equivalent of one year (8 units) of full-time studies in social science, the Master of Social Work offers an alternative pathway to becoming a registered social worker.

This information has been prepared for Australian and New Zealand citizens and those with Australian permanent resident status. Some courses are not open to international students, and entry requirements and fee information may be different. For more information and to check if a course is available, international students should visit www.qut.edu.au/international. Last updated on: 16/07/2020. Information contained in this document was correct at the time of printing. The university reserves the right to amend any information, and to cancel, change or relocate any course. CRICOS No.00213J