

Graduate Certificate in Counselling (SCC401.1)

Please note these are the 2026 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	PG
Delivery mode	Online
Location	UC - Canberra, Online
Duration	0.7 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Counselling
UAC code	

English language requirements	<p>There are non-standard English language requirements for this course. To be eligible you must have an overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0. For alternate/equivalent ways of meeting the English requirements for this course please view the English Proficiency Requirements document on the university website.</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>
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International students

Academic entry requirements	<p>To study at UC, you'll need to meet our academic entry requirements and any admission requirements specific to your course. Please read your course admission requirements below. To find out whether you meet UC's academic entry requirements, visit our academic entry requirements page.</p>
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[View UC's academic entry requirements](#)

Delivery mode	Online
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Duration	0.7 years
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Faculty	Faculty of Health
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Discipline	Discipline of Counselling
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CRICOS code	
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[View IELTS equivalences](#)

About this course

The Graduate Certificate of Counselling is designed to introduce students to the essential knowledge and skills that will prepare them for a helping career or expand on their current understanding and practice to improve their skills for their current work situations. This course will equip students to:

- Provide face to face and online counselling
- Gain practical knowledge of how to apply person-centred approaches to counselling situations
- Work in a culturally responsive and respectful framework with clients and communities - develop reflective practices that lead to self-awareness
- Understand the major counselling theories and their change mechanisms
- React professionally and ethically to challenges in helping professions
- Identify the professional roles and responsibilities of a counsellor and pathways to further qualifications.

100% Online

Guide the way by gaining the foundational skills to practise respectful and inclusive counselling. This course is designed to introduce students to the essential knowledge and skills to expand on or start their career as a counsellor. Click through to download our course brochure to learn more about our online Graduate Certificate in Counselling.

[Enquire Now](#)

Professional accreditation

There is no external accreditation offered for the Graduate Certificate pathway.

Admission requirements

Admission to this course is competitive. Applications will be assessed on the basis of academic merit and the number of available places.

Applicants must have an undergraduate degree or postgraduate degree in any discipline; OR hold an AQF Diploma or Advanced Diploma in a Counselling or Counselling related subject and provide proof of 4 years full time counselling/counselling related experience.

No Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) will be offered for any units included in this course.

Additional admission requirements

Students must complete the four Graduate Certificate units before progressing to either the Graduate Diploma in Counselling (SCG401) or the Master of Counselling (SCM401).

Assumed knowledge

None.

Periods course is open for new admissions

Year	Location	Teaching period	Teaching start date	Domestic	International
2026	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 1	19 January 2026	✓	✓
2026	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 2	16 March 2026	✓	✓
2026	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 3	11 May 2026	✓	✓

2026	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 4	06 July 2026	✓	✓
2026	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 5	31 August 2026	✓	✓
2026	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 6	26 October 2026	✓	✓
2027	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 1	18 January 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 2	15 March 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 3	10 May 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 4	05 July 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 5	30 August 2027	✓	✓
2027	UC - Canberra, Online	Study Block 6	25 October 2027	✓	✓

Credit arrangements

There are currently no formal credit transfer arrangements for entry to this course. Any previous study or work experience will only be considered as part of the application process in accordance with current [course rules and university policy](#).

Course requirements

Graduate Certificate in Counselling (SCC401) | 12 credit points

Required - Must pass 12 credit points as follows

[Expand All](#) | [Collapse All](#)

[Counselling Theory and Approaches G \(11739\) | 3 credit points – Level G](#)

[Core Counselling Skills G \(11740\) | 3 credit points – Level G](#)

[Principles of Ethical Conduct in Counselling G \(11741\) | 3 credit points – Level G](#)

[Diversity Inclusion Respect G \(11742\) | 3 credit points – Level G](#)

In addition to course requirements, in order to successfully complete your course you must meet the inherent requirements. Please refer to the [inherent requirements statement](#) applicable to your course

Typical study pattern

Course information

Course duration

The standard duration for this course is 8 months (4 Study Blocks). The maximum duration is 3 years from date of enrolment to date of course completion.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
Demonstrate discipline specific skill-based practice.	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; and behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; and adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; and apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
Demonstrate ethical awareness and professional conduct in the context of	UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to

<p>the counselling profession and its obligations to diversity, communities and society.</p>	<p>solve theoretical and real-world problems; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; make creative use of technology in their learning and professional lives; and behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; and adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.</p> <p>UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; and apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.</p>
<p>Demonstrate collaborative skills.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.</p>
<p>Evaluate literature in relevant fields to inform professional practice and support pathways to further learning.</p>	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p>

UC graduates are lifelong learners: Adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; and evaluate and adopt new technology.

Apply reflective practice in personal and professional development.	<p>UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and take pride in their professional and personal integrity.</p> <p>UC graduates are global citizens: Understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</p> <p>UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; be self-aware; and adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas.</p>
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Communicate relevant professional knowledge effectively and respectfully to a variety of audiences and in different formats.

UC graduates are professional: Employ up-to-date and relevant knowledge and skills; communicate effectively; use creativity, critical thinking, analysis and research skills to solve theoretical and real-world problems; display initiative and drive, and use their organisational skills to plan and manage their workload; and take pride in their professional and personal integrity.

UC graduates are global citizens: Think globally about issues in their profession; adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from the perspective of other cultures; communicate effectively in diverse cultural and social settings; and behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.

UC graduates are lifelong learners: Reflect on their own practice, updating and adapting their knowledge and skills for continual professional and academic development; adapt to complexity, ambiguity and change by being flexible and keen to engage with new ideas; and evaluate and adopt new technology.

UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Use local Indigenous histories and traditional ecological knowledge to develop and augment understanding of their discipline; communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; and apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Graduate Certificate in Counselling	GradCert Couns

Enrolment data

2023 enrolments for this course by location. Please note that enrolment numbers are indicative only and in no way reflect individual class sizes.

Location	Enrolments
UC - Canberra, Online	176

Enquiries

Student category	Contact details
Prospective Students	Email: study@canberra.edu.au or Phone: 1800 UNI CAN (1800 864 226)

Current and Commencing Students

Email: Health.Student@canberra.edu.au

Download your course guide



Scholarships

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UC acknowledges the Ngunnawal people, traditional custodians of the lands where Bruce campus is situated. We wish to acknowledge and respect their continuing culture and the contribution they make to the life of Canberra and the region. We also acknowledge all other First Nations Peoples on whose lands we gather.