

Master of Social Work (Qualifying) (SCM501.1)

Please note these are the 2026 details for this course

Domestic students

Selection rank	
Delivery mode	Online Plus
Location	UC - Canberra, Online
Duration	3.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Social Work
UAC code	
English language requirements	<p>To be eligible you must have a minimum overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

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> <p>View UC's academic entry requirements</p>
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Delivery mode	
Location	
Duration	3.0 years
Faculty	Faculty of Health
Discipline	Discipline of Social Work
CRICOS code	
English language requirements	<p>To be eligible you must have a minimum overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0</p> <p>View IELTS equivalences</p>

About this course

Social work provides you with a lifelong career in the human services. It is a profession committed to social justice, professional and personal integrity and working collaboratively with people and communities. This course builds upon each person's unique strengths and lived experiences and engages each person in a journey to empower them to achieve their full potential. It builds collaborative partnerships to overcome structural barriers and work for a more equitable, inclusive, and just society. The Master of Social Work (Qualifying) is an exciting and innovative course, designed to allow flexibility of study. This course will prepare graduates to work in a variety of human services settings such as aged care, disability, family and child wellbeing and protection, justice, hospital and health care, mental health, school and educational settings, research, and social policy. With field education placements of a total of 1000 hours, students familiarise themselves with, and develop the knowledge and skills necessary, for beginning practice.

100% Online

Enrol in the University of Canberra's online Master of Social Work (Qualifying) and become a professional social worker. Our online course provides you with the specialised knowledge and experience to actively enhance the quality of life for those facing disadvantage. Kick-start your meaningful career with the skills to improve, advocate for and safeguard the health, wellbeing and

safety of individuals and communities.

Enquire Now

Professional accreditation

Undergoing provisional accreditation with Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW)

Admission requirements

To be eligible for the Master of Social Work (Qualifying), applicants must meet the following criteria:

1. Completion of an Australian bachelor's degree, or equivalent, in a related field and completed at least one year of full-time study, or part-time equivalent, at a minimum of AQF Level 7 in social sciences and human behaviour.

Examples of related fields of study in social sciences and human behaviour include:

- Psychology, research, and policy studies
- Allied health, including midwifery, occupational therapy, nursing, audiology, health promotion, physiotherapy, and pharmacy
- Counselling and therapeutic studies including play therapy, rehabilitation, drug and alcohol work, counselling, art therapy, music therapy, and disability and inclusion
- Social Science, Sociology and Humanities
- Clinical areas such as child development, medicine, emergency services, and working with older people
- Education and teaching
- Indigenous studies, culture and human diversity, media, gender studies, social theory and population studies
- Human resource management and marketing studies, including diversity, inclusion and wellbeing, leadership and coaching, managing people and change management, negotiation, regulations and ethics
- History, human geography and art.

Additional admission requirements

To be eligible you must have a minimum overall IELTS Academic score (or equivalent) of 7.0, with no band score below 7.0.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Applicants who have completed a three-year Bachelor of Social Welfare or Bachelor of Community Services may be eligible to receive credit for up to 25% of the Master of Social Work (Qualifying), which is the equivalent of four units. Recognition of Prior Learning applications will be assessed on a case-by-case basis by the course convener.

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

Master of Social Work (Qualifying) (SCM501) | 48 credit points

Required - Must pass 48 credit points as follows

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

[Social Work in Global, Regional and Local contexts PG \(12012\) | 3 credit points – Level P](#)

[Working with Diverse Communities PG \(12013\) | 3 credit points – Level P](#)

Psychosocial Health Across the Lifecycle PG (12014) | 3 credit points – Level P

Ethical and Legal Contexts of Social Work Practice PG (12015) | 3 credit points – Level P

Theoretical Approaches to Social Work Practice PG (12016) | 3 credit points – Level P

Research and Evaluation in Social Work Practice PG (12017) | 3 credit points – Level P

Policy Development, Leadership and Organisational Practice PG (12018) | 3 credit points – Level P

Trauma Informed Social Work Practice PG (12019) | 3 credit points – Level P

Working with Families, Children and Young People PG (12020) | 3 credit points – Level P

Groupwork Practice in Social Work PG (12021) | 3 credit points – Level P

Field Education Placement 1 PG (12022) | 9 credit points – Level P

Field Education Placement 2 PG (12023) | 9 credit points – Level P

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 three years (16 Study Blocks). The maximum duration is six years.

Learning outcomes

Learning outcomes	Related graduate attributes
Demonstrate the autonomy, expert judgment, and adaptability necessary for leadership roles and a lifelong career in human services.	<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; work collaboratively as part of a team, negotiate, and resolve conflict; 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; behave ethically and sustainably in their professional and personal lives.</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; evaluate and adopt new technology.

UC graduates are able to demonstrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being and doing: Communicate and engage with Indigenous Australians in ethical and culturally respectful ways; apply their knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.

Assess, design, and reflect on complex social work engagement strategies at an individual, group, community, and societal level.

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; take pride in their professional and personal integrity.

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Plan, design and undertake social work research and evaluation.

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UC graduates are global citizens: Adopt an informed and balanced approach across professional and international boundaries; understand issues in their profession from

the perspective of other cultures.

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

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Evaluate decision-making processes and professional judgements within social work's code of ethics.

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Analyse intersectionality and the forms of oppression that influence lived experiences and the implications for social work practice.

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Critically reflect on social work's engagement with and understanding of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and ways of knowing, being and doing.

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knowledge to working with Indigenous Australians in socially just ways.

Demonstrate and articulate social work knowledges, theoretical frameworks, and values in working with diversity and difference.

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Synthesise knowledge of social, economic, and ecological justice for application in social work practice.

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Placements requirements

Students will be required to undertake 1000 hours in field education. Students may be required to undertake field education outside their city of residence.

Awards

Award	Official abbreviation
Master of Social Work (Qualifying)	MSWQ

Honours

None.

Alternative exits

HLC002 Graduate Certificate in Health Studies

Social Work in Global, Regional and Local Contexts (12012) | 3 credit points - Level PG

Working with Socially Diverse Communities (12013) | 3 credit points - Level PG

Psychosocial Health Across the Lifecycle (12014) | 3 credit points - Level PG

Ethical and Legal Contexts of Social Work (12015) | 3 credit points - Level PG

Enquiries

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

Download your course guide



Scholarships

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CRICOS 00212K

TEQSA Provider ID: PRV12003 (Australian University)

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.