



ASSOCIATE DEGREE OF COUNSELLING

AWARD SUMMARY

CRICOS: 114817M

Nomenclature: AssocDegCouns

AQF Level 6 Associate Degree

Entry Requirements An Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g. OP \leq 16); OR Satisfactorily completed an AQF 5 Diploma of Counselling (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board; (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board; AND Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.

Duration: 1 years full-time or 3 years (maximum) part-time.

Attendance Type: Full-time, part-time.

Delivery Mode: Online, face-to-face, or multi-modal

Structure: 72 credit points (8 units).

English Proficiency:

Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally require a minimum IELTS (or equivalent) score of 6.0 with no score less than 5.5 in all bands of the test.

Enrolment

Contact the Registrar of the Member Institution with whom you intend to study for enrolment and fee details.

Graduate Profile and Rationale

The Associate Degree of Counselling prepares students to work in a multi-disciplinary environment and significantly enhances their counselling, professional and spiritual foundations. Students form a vision of the counsellor that reflects both individual and relational work, supportive and intensive therapies, psychological competence and theological congruence. The course requires a consistent commitment to supervision and personal and professional integration.

Course Outcomes

Knowledge

Graduates will have:

- a deep understanding of themselves as counsellors;
- developing theoretical knowledge in the discipline of counselling;
- an understanding of the theories of ethical counselling;
- an ability to utilise contemporary research in counselling practices.

Skills

Graduates will have:

- well-developed counselling skills to work with clients of low to moderate needs;
- communication skills that build empathic relationships with clients;
- the ability to identify appropriate ways to support clients.

Applications of Knowledge and Skills

Graduates will have the ability to:

- apply client spirituality into the counselling experience from an ethical perspective with a critical understanding of Christian worldviews;
- apply theological and professional reflection to their practice;
- apply professional practice in counselling with diverse people in a range of contexts.

Academic regulations for the Associate Degree of Counselling

1 Admission to Candidature

- 1.1 An applicant for admission to candidature into the Associate Degree in Counselling shall:
- 1.1.1 have an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) of 65, or its equivalent (e.g.OP \leq 16), OR
 - 1.1.2 have satisfactorily completed an AQF 5 Diploma of Counselling (or equivalent) from an institution recognised by the Academic Board, AND
 - 1.1.3 Satisfactorily completes a pre-enrolment interview with a relevant course advisor.
- 1.2 A candidate for the Associate Degree of Counselling shall be designated as full-time or part-time.
- 1.3 No candidate for the Associate Degree of Counselling may be concurrently enrolled in any other undergraduate or postgraduate course within the University College or any other tertiary institution unless approval has been granted by the Academic Board.
- 1.4 Applicants whose entry qualifications were obtained in an institution where English is not the language of instruction normally will be required to demonstrate competency in English by:
- 1.4.1 achieving an IELTS (or equivalent) result of 6.0 with no score below 5.5 in all bands of the test.
- 1.5 Application for enrolment in the Associate Degree of Counselling is made to the Registrar of the appropriate Member Institution offering the course.

2 Course Structure

2.1 The Associate Degree of Counselling requires the completion of 72 credit points (8 units) which shall include:

- 2.1.1 Five units (45 credit points) from the field of Counselling within the discipline of Christian Life and Ministry;
- 2.1.2 at least 9 credit points in the discipline of Biblical Studies OR the sub-discipline of Pastoral Theology;
- 2.1.3 A further 18 credit points (two units) from the University College list of approved units;

2.2 All course units will be taken from University College Schedule of units of study coded within the 6100 series and above.

3 Period of Candidature

3.1 The period of candidature for the Associate Degree of Counselling shall normally be 1 year (2 Semesters) full-time and up to 3 years (6 Semesters) part-time.

3.2 In certain circumstances the Student Support and Administration Committee may grant extensions.

4 Leave of Absence

4.1 The Student Support and Administration Committee may grant leave of absence from the Associate Degree of Counselling. The period of leave shall not be counted as part of the period of candidature for the award.

4.2 The period of leave shall normally be one semester after which a candidate may apply for a further period of one semester or will be required to complete candidature.

5 Assessment

5.1 The assessment of units shall be in the manner approved by the Academic Board in line with the University College's established guidelines for assessment packages.

5.2 Students may be required by the Academic Board to present themselves for oral examination.

5.3 Academic and non-academic misconduct will be penalised in accordance with the Policies and Regulations of the University College, whose stipulations are severe.

6 Credit

- 6.1 Candidates may be granted credit up to a maximum of 36 credit points in the Associate Degree of Counselling.
- 6.2 Credit will be granted for units that are from an equivalent award or institution and have outcomes, content, demand hours, and assessment equivalent to that of units in the Associate Degree of Counselling

7 Progress to Further Awards

- 7.1 Students who complete the Associate Degree of Counselling may articulate into the Bachelor of Counselling of the University College and receive 144 credit points towards the completion of the award.
- 7.2 All units satisfactorily completed in the Associate Degree of Counselling may be credited towards an Australian University College of Divinity Bachelor of Counselling award, on condition that a completed Associate Degree of Counselling will be surrendered prior to graduation in that award.

8 Saving Clause

- 8.1 Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained herein, the Academic Board of the University College may, in any case in which it may deem it appropriate to do so, vary, dispense with, or suspend any requirement or prescription by these regulations, and report forthwith to the Council of the University College.

Version Date	Date and Governance	Changes
1.0	7/12/2022 Academic Board	First approved
2.0	9/10/2023 Academic Board	Approved CRICOS (approval to deliver January 2024)