

# Diploma in Counselling 30587QLD



## Distance Education – Enrol Anytime!

This qualification provides balanced training to equip Christians with the effective skills and knowledge to develop as a professional counsellor or develop your relational and people skills for application within any professional environment. The course is distinctively Christian and will equip you to assist others in resolution of relationship and communication issues, stress management, life changes, decision making, personal and spiritual growth, career guidance, grief and loss and substance abuse issues.

### Entry Criteria

This is an open entry program for people working, or who wish to work as a counsellor. Students under 18 years of age must have parental/guardian approval. Your application will be assessed using the following selection criteria:

1. Applicants will need to complete an Interview Questionnaire to ascertain their suitability for counselling work and may be required to obtain a Suitability Card and/or Police Check.
2. Applicants will need a reference from their local Pastor.

### Course Structure

First Year		Second Year	
HCDC1	Philosophy and Principles of Christian Counselling	HCDC5	Interpersonal Skills in Counselling
HCDC2	Counselling Insights	HCDC6	Advanced Counselling Skills
HCDC3	Ethics and Duty of Care	HCDC7	Development of a Professional Counselling Ministry
HCDC4	Christian Counselling Models	HCDC8	Complex Counselling Issues

### List of units of competency included in the course

On successful completion of all counselling subjects student will receive a nationally recognised Diploma including the following units of competency:

CHCCSL601A	Work within a structured counselling process
CHCCSL602A	Facilitate the counselling relationship
CHCCSL603A	Provide support for clients implementing a course of action
CHCCSL604A	Reflect and improve upon counselling skills
CHCCOM3C	Utilise specialist communication skills to build strong relationships
CHCCS402A	Respond holistically to client issues
CHCCWI3B	Work with clients intensively
CHCCM3B	Develop, facilitate & monitor all aspects of case management
CHCCS7C	Coordinate assessment & delivery of services to clients with particular needs
CHCPOL3A	Undertake research activities
CRSCOUNS101A	Apply a Christian counselling framework when working with clients
CRSCOUNS201A	Work with counselling clients to effect change

### Assessment

Exercises, questions, case scenarios, counselling journals and workplace competency.

### On-going Education Options

Completion of this course will provide some Direct Credit Transfer into a Diploma of Community Welfare Work and a range of other nationally recognised qualifications.

## Practical Counselling

In addition to your study time students who are not currently engaged in a suitable counselling environment are required to complete a total of 480 hours (240 hours per year) of volunteer counselling with a church or community based organisation. This volunteer work is called "Vocational Placement". **Simulated counselling situations** are recommended (i.e. counselling friends and/or colleagues with a fictional problem) until the student builds their confidence and skill base to provide counselling in real situations. Counselling opportunities provided for the student must match the progress of the course and the level of skill and experience of the students.

Practical counselling must be performed under supervision – such as a pastor, leader, principal or group trainer. The type of supervision will vary with each organisation, depending upon their requirements, your capacity and experience plus other variables. Supervision may vary from submitting reports through to direct personal observation.

For assessment purposes, a journal must be completed for every real/simulated counselling session. At the end of each subject a journal cover sheet must be completed recording the student's personal evaluation and feedback received. Students submit to Hope College 8 journals in two years. Specialised trainers at Hope College will assess your practical work.

## Current counsellors

In addition to your study time, students who are currently engaged in a suitable counselling environment will need to provide documentation of 480 hours of counselling experience (in most cases this will be completed counselling journals) for assessment purposes.

## Mentors

Students must engage two people as personal mentors for the duration of the course. The role of these mentors is to provide periodic feedback to the student. Mentors do not necessarily have to be professional counsellors however they must demonstrate a high measure of Christian maturity and pastoral care experience.

## Support services

Training support is provided by Hope College staff via phone, email and/or internet for the duration of the course.

## Recognition of Prior Learning

Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) is a process where students may be granted credit towards a qualification in recognition of their prior skills and knowledge gained through work experience, life experience and/or formal training. The process requires students to gather evidence of their skills. Fees apply. Ask Hope College for an RPL application form.

## Centrelink Study Allowance

This course is Centrelink approved. You may qualify for Austudy, Youth Allowance, Abstudy or PES. For information on your eligibility, contact Centrelink <http://www.centrelink.gov.au>

## Workload

Full time: 4 subjects plus 240 hours practical counselling (4 journals) per year  
Part time: Self-paced learning

**Fees** \$2500 (\$100 non-refundable Application Fee plus \$300 for each subject)

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