

Approved by AC on 30/06/2022

Course: M1143 - Master of Counselling

Credit points: 48

Academic Chair: Dr Ben Mullings (ben.mullings@murdoch.edu.au)

The **Master of Counselling** is a 48-credit point course which can be completed within 2 years of full-time study or part-time across 3-4 years. This course is suitable for students who wish to attain qualifications for entry to the profession of counselling recognised by both the Australian Counselling Association (ACA) and PACFA. Entry to the Master of Counselling requires successful completion of the Graduate Diploma in Counselling. Applicants must provide an up to date CV and a brief written statement of up to 750 words (available online at <https://mu-publishing-blob.azureedge.net/mu-publishing/mu-docs/librariesprovider4/default-document-library/personal-statement-template.pdf>). Our selection panel then interviews applicants to assess their suitability and readiness to commence with our training. Places in the Master of Counselling are limited.

Our recommended course plan comprises all units from the Graduate Diploma in Counselling in Year 1. Commencing the Master of Counselling from mid-year is not recommended as it limits training options for the student within a 1+1 training framework. That is, students commencing the Master of Counselling from mid-year are required to enrol in CSL620 Counselling Research Project if they wish to complete the course within 2 years. Given that this is a 9-credit point unit spanning 12 months, the student will not have the optional elective to enrol in CSL674 Trauma Counselling. Students commencing the Master of Counselling from mid-year should understand the CSL620 is a solo research project intended to demonstrate their capacity to carry out independent research, required to apply for PhD studies.

Semester 1 Intake - Standard Recommended Course Plan

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
Year 1	CSL582 Principles of Counselling 1 CSL581 Experiential Learning in Group Counselling CSL566 Case Conceptualisation and Assessment in Counselling 12 points total	6 3 3	CSL576 Introduction to Creative Arts Therapies in Counselling CSL583 Counselling Adults CSL578 Counselling Children and Adolescents SHP632 Applied Health Research Methods: From Research to Practice (Internal/external) 12 points total	3 3 3 3
Year 2	CSL679 Counselling Placement & Supervision Group 1 CSL674 Trauma Counselling (if doing CSL677) CSL620/677 Counselling Research Project 10.5 or 12 points total	6 3 4.5/3	CSL621 Counselling Placement & Supervision Group 2 CSL684 Principles of Counselling 2 CSL620/677 Counselling Research Project 13.5 or 12 points total	6 3 4.5/3

Mid-Year Intake (**not recommended**) as pre-requisites must be waived for CSL566 and CSL576)

NOTE: The structure of the Mid-Year Intake model is for international students only. All domestic students must successfully complete CSL582 as a pre-requisite for enrolment to CSL576. The decision to waive pre-requisites is not automatic and is at the discretion of the Academic Chair.

	Semester 1	Semester 2
Year 1		CSL566 Case Conceptualisation and Assessment in Counselling CSL576 Introduction to Creative Arts Therapies in Counselling CSL583 Counselling Adults CSL578 Counselling Children and Adolescents 12 points total

Students should note that if unit prerequisites are required, this may extend the duration of your course.

Disclaimer: This course plan is a sample only and must be read in conjunction with the full course structure, unit prerequisites and enrolment options as per the online [Handbook](#).

Sample Course Plans 2022

Approved by AC on 30/06/2022

Year 2	CSL582 Principles of Counselling 1 CSL581 Experiential Learning in Group Counselling SHP632 Applied Health Research Methods: From Research to Practice (Internal/external) 12 points total	6 3 3	CSL679 Counselling Placement and Supervision Group 1 CSL684 Principles of Counselling 2 CSL620 Counselling Research Project 13.5 points total	6 3 4.5
Year 3	CSL621 Counselling placement & supervision Group 2 CSL620 Counselling Research Project 10.5 points total	6 4.5		

Semester 1 Intake – Part Time Option 1

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
Year 1	CSL582 Principles of Counselling 1 6 points total	6	CSL566 Case Conceptualisation and Assessment in Counselling CSL583 Counselling Adults 6 points total	3 3
Year 2	CSL581 Experiential Learning in Group Counselling SHP632 Applied Health Research Methods: From Research to Practice (Internal/external) 6 points total	3 3	CSL578 Counselling Children and Adolescents CSL576 Introduction to Creative Arts Therapies in Counselling 6 points total	3 3
Year 3	CSL679 Counselling Placement & Supervision Group 1 677 Counselling Research Project 9 points total	6 3	CSL684 Principles of Counselling 2 677 Counselling Research Project 6 points total	3 3
Year 4	CSL621 Counselling Placement & Supervision Group 2 CSL674 Trauma Counselling 9 points total	6 3		

Semester 1 Intake – Part Time Option 2

	Semester 1		Semester 2	
Year 1	CSL582 Principles of Counselling 1 6 points total	6	CSL566 Case Conceptualisation and Assessment in Counselling CSL583 Counselling Adults 6 points total	3 3
Year 2	CSL581 Experiential Learning in Group Counselling SHP632 Applied Health Research Methods: From Research to Practice (Internal/external) 6 points total	3 3	CSL578 Counselling Children and Adolescents CSL576 Introduction to Creative Arts Therapies in Counselling 6 points total	3 3

Students should note that if unit prerequisites are required, this may extend the duration of your course.

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Year 3	620 Counselling Research Project CSL679 Counselling Placement & Supervision Group 1 10.5 points total	4.5 6	620 Counselling Research Project CSL684 Principles of Counselling 2 7.5 points total	4.5 3
Year 4	CSL621 Counselling Placement & Supervision Group 2 6 points total	6		

Other variations to the above course plans are possible. Students need to be aware of the following parameters:

- CSL684 Principles of Counselling 2 is offered in S2 only and CSL679 is a pre-requisite for this unit.
- CSL674 Trauma Counselling is offered in S1 only. This is an elective unit only available if enrolled in CSL677.
- CSL677 Counselling Research Project is a year-long group research project commencing from S1 to S2 only.
- CSL620 Counselling Research Project is a year-long solo research project which may be commenced in S2.

All units can be found in the [handbook](#), under the structure.

Students should note that if unit prerequisites are required, this may extend the duration of your course.

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