The Master of Psychotherapy and Counselling is a cross-disciplinary pathway into a career in helping people in distress. Through counselling and psychotherapy, clients gain self-understanding, expand interpersonal capacities and become more able to change through a dedicated helping relationship.

**WHAT YOU’LL STUDY**
This fully accredited course focuses on the process of creating a therapeutic environment for clients and on cultivating the high levels of skill, sensitivity, self-knowledge and ethical conduct required of the counselling and psychotherapy professional. Theories and approaches are taught and critically examined in the light of their contribution to a contemporary relational understanding and practice of counselling and psychotherapy, including trauma-focussed interpersonal therapy.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**
Psychotherapists and counsellors provide in-depth support for people struggling with emotional issues and life difficulties. Successful graduates work with a wide range of client groups and problems across the spectrum, including grief and loss, relationship and family issues, life-stage issues, parenting, the effects of social and economic disadvantage and racism, family violence, sexual assault, problem gambling, and alcohol and other drug dependency.
## MASTER OF PSYCHOTHERAPY AND COUNSELLING

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<td>Intakes</td>
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### Admission

Applicants must have successfully completed an undergraduate degree or higher in any discipline and submission of a Statement of Intent and CV detailing voluntary and paid work, relevant life experiences, education and training, and interests, to the satisfaction of the School of Social Sciences and Psychology

AND

achieve an interview score of 70% or above in a group applicant interview

OR

have achieved a GPA of 5.5 (high credit) or above in the University’s Graduate Diploma in Counselling.

### ACCREDITATION

The Master of Psychotherapy and Counselling is accredited by the Australian Counselling Association (ACA). Graduates are able to apply for full membership and registration with ACA.

**Key:**

F = Full-time; P = Part-time.

**Note:** Part-time refers to study load, not to timetabling of evening classes.
Counselling is a cross-disciplinary pathway into a career in helping people in distress. In counselling, clients learn self-knowledge and become able to change through a dedicated helping relationship, in which high levels of skill, sensitivity, self-knowledge and ethical conduct are required of the helper.

In contrast to some of the longer established helping professions, counselling, as taught in this program, places greater emphasis on the creation of a therapeutic environment for the client than on specific techniques or the application of particular theoretical models.

**WHAT YOU’LL STUDY**

The fully accredited Graduate Diploma program is aimed specifically at graduates in any discipline who can demonstrate the personal qualities required for this demanding profession.

The Graduate Diploma and Certificate courses focus on the process of creating a therapeutic environment for clients and on cultivating high levels of skill, sensitivity, self-knowledge and ethical conduct. Theories and approaches are taught and critically examined in the light of their contribution to a contemporary relational understanding and practice of counselling.

The Graduate Diploma program includes field placement and is aimed specifically at graduates in any discipline who can demonstrate the personal qualities required for this demanding profession.

Students who wish to meet professional training standards through an accredited program are advised to enrol in the Graduate Diploma in Counselling.

**CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**

Counsellors provide assistance to people struggling with emotional issues and life difficulties. Successful graduates work with a wide range of client groups and presenting problems across the spectrum, including grief and loss, sense of self, relationship and family issues, life-stage issues, parenting, the effects of social and economic disadvantage and racism, family violence, sexual assault, problem gambling, and alcohol and other drug dependency.
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<tr>
<td>Accreditation</td>
<td>The Graduate Diploma in Counselling is accredited by the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA). The course is also accredited by the Australian Counselling Association (ACA). Graduates are able to apply for full membership and registration with ACA.</td>
<td>The Graduate Certificate in Counselling is not accredited by the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA).</td>
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</tbody>
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**Key:** P = Part-time.

**Note:** Part-time refers to study load, not to timetabling of evening classes.
WHY POSTGRADUATE STUDY AT WESTERN SYDNEY?

You’ve come a long way. Go further.

Located in the heart of one of Australia’s fastest growing economic regions, Western Sydney University offers unlimited potential to postgraduate students with the drive, ambition and will to succeed.

Ranked amongst the top two per cent of universities on the globe, Western Sydney is a world-class university with a growing international reach and reputation for academic excellence and impact-driven research.

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And we continue to challenge traditional notions of what a university ‘should’ be by pushing the boundaries of how knowledge is exchanged.

We equip our postgrads with the means to do more than just advance their careers. We are unlocking the potential of the next generation of global citizens, leaders and change-makers.

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APPLICATION INFORMATION

ENGLISH PROFICIENCY REQUIREMENTS
If you have undertaken studies overseas you may need to provide proof of proficiency in English. Minimum English proficiency requirements and acceptable proof are found on the UAC website at uac.edu.au.

Overseas qualifications must be deemed equivalent by the Australian Education International – National Office of Overseas Skills Recognition (AEI-NOOSR) – in order to be considered by UAC and Western Sydney University.

For information about studying at Western Sydney University, including courses, tuition fees, English requirements, intakes, assessment methods, accommodation options, and living in Australia, visit westernsydney.edu.au/international.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING
You may be granted special equivalence or advance standing for academic, professional and/or any other qualifications you hold on the basis of evidence submitted at the time of application.

HOW TO APPLY
All Australian citizens, permanent residents and New Zealand citizens can apply direct to Western using our Universities Admissions Centre (UAC)-hosted application site. Visit westernsydney.uac.edu.au/ws. These applicants can also apply through UAC at uac.edu.au/postgraduate. Applications made direct to Western do not have an application fee.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
International students need to apply direct to Western Sydney University. Part-time mode for these courses is not available to international students due to Australian student visa regulations. Application forms and information on admissions are available at westernsydney.edu.au/international/admissions.

POSTGRADUATE INFORMATION SESSIONS
Postgraduate Information Sessions are held throughout the year, and give you the opportunity to meet academic and professional staff, and to ask questions about courses, admission, fees and more. At these sessions, you will gain a better understanding of course content, what you can expect from the program and possible career paths. To register for a Postgraduate Information Session, visit westernsydney.edu.au/postgraduatesessions.

To view the full range of postgraduate courses available visit westernsydney.edu.au/postgraduate.

CONTACT US
To discuss your study goals and career options, contact the Course Information Centre on 1300 897 669 or email postgraduATESTudy@westernsydney.edu.au.

DISCLAIMER
Western Sydney University reserves the right to withdraw or vary courses listed within this publication. In the event that the course or courses are to be changed, or in the event of cancellation, applicants will be advised by mail to the address specified on their application.

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