

Graduate Certificate in Human Services (Child Protection)

The following information sheet has been developed to provide prospective applicants with a brief outline of the University of Queensland's Graduate Certificate in Human Services (Child Protection) and the timeframes for each course in the program.

To enrol in the Graduate Certificate in Human Services (Child Protection) a student must:

- (a) hold an approved degree; OR
- (b) satisfy the University Executive Dean that, based on the student's academic record and work experience, the student is qualified for admission.

Full details of the program can be accessed from the UQ Courses and Programs website http://www.uq.edu.au/study/program.html?acad_prog=5367. Information about enrolment procedures can also be accessed from that site.

Should you require further details please contact the University of Queensland School of Social Work and Human Services on (07) 3365 3450.

The Skills Course

For entry into the Graduate Certificate in Human Services (Child Protection), applicants must complete an interpersonal skills course which provides an introduction to skills for engaging with voluntary and involuntary service users in child protection. Skills areas covered include listening skills, giving and receiving feedback, managing conflict, cultural diversity and working with Indigenous families. This course will challenge students to think about and practice communication skills as a purposeful and contextually variable activity. The following four courses in the Graduate Certificate program will build directly on the skills course.

The Graduate Certificate Program

The successful applicants, on passing the skills course, will be eligible to proceed to the graduate certificate program.

SWSP7500 – Key Theoretical Perspectives in Child Protection

This course provides a critical overview of key theoretical perspectives on child abuse and child protection in the Australian context. Students will learn to apply and evaluate theoretical knowledge and skills for practice with particular regard to assessment and decision making. The four modules covered in this course are:

- Module 1: An introduction to child abuse and the management of child protection in Australia;
- Module 2: Theories for practice in child protection;
- Module 3: Balancing a child focused approach with family centred practice; and
- Module 4: Decision making in child protection.

SWSP7501 – The Organisational Context of Child Protection

In this course, child protection practice is examined in relation to its organisational, policy, legal and political contexts. The focus is on broadening students' knowledge and skills for working effectively in these domains, along with skills in inter-agency and inter-disciplinary collaboration, and effective written communication. The four modules covered in this course are:

- Module 1: The legal and political context of child protection practice;
- Module 2: Power and authority in child protection;
- Module 3: Interagency collaboration; and
- Module 4: Professional communication.

SWSP7502 – Practising in Child Protection

This course examines how parental factors, such as mental illness, substance abuse and developmental disability, impact on child welfare, the support needs of families, case planning and management, risk assessment and worker self-management. A best practice perspective is presented as an overarching principle to guide practice. The four modules covered in this course are:

- Module 1: Parental factors in child protection;
- Module 2: Supporting families;
- Module 3: Case planning and management; and
- Module 4: Managing self in the child protection context.

SWSP7503 – Working with Children, Families and Caregivers

This course focuses on direct practice with children and families. Students will gain skills in working with children and parents and managing relationships among parents, care givers and formal agencies. The four modules covered in this course are:

- Module 1: Working with children and young people;
- Module 2: Models of out-of-home care;
- Module 3: Working with parents and caregivers; and
- Module 4: Training and support for caregivers.

Dates

Workshop attendance is a **COMPULSORY** component of every course. The workshops provide a necessary overview of the material in each course, including an opportunity for practical exercises. Students are also expected to spend a substantial amount of time on each course throughout the semester, through reading, on-line participation and preparation of assignments.

All students completing this program are required to attend on the following days:

Skills Course

Monday 23/2/09 9:00am – 3:00pm
Tuesday 24/2/09 9:00am – 3:00pm
Wednesday 25/2/09 9:00am – 3:00pm
Thursday 26/2/09 9:00am – 3:00pm

Students who go on to the Graduate Certificate will complete their University enrolment on **Friday 27 February** and attend a **Library Orientation on 2 March, 2009**.

SWSP7500

Thursday 05/03/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Friday 06/03/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Thursday 23/04/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Friday 24/04/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

SWSP7501

Tuesday 03/03/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Wednesday 04/03/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Tuesday 21/04/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Wednesday 22/04/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

SWSP7502

Tuesday 28/07/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Wednesday 29/07/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Tuesday 15/09/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Wednesday 16/09/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

SWSP7503

Thursday 30/07/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Friday 31/07/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Thursday 17/09/09 9:00am – 5:00pm

Friday 18/09/09 9:00am – 5:00pm