Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)

Ready today for tomorrow
Why JCU?

A STUDENT EXPERIENCE LIKE NO OTHER
- Access to world-class teachers
- Develop skills in state-of-the-art facilities
- Achieve exceptional employment outcomes
  - Benefit from small class sizes
  - Connect with professional networks

INTERCULTURAL LEARNING
Work in collaboration. JCU students are encouraged to engage with, and learn from, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

HAVE FAR-REACHING IMPACT
Be equipped and prepared to work with people and communities in Northern Australia and beyond.

INTEGRATED LEARNING
JCU Social Work students experience ground-breaking social work research activities. JCU lecturers continually integrate research and their interactions with communities into the teaching space.

GAIN PROFESSIONAL SKILLS
Develop the skills to make a positive impact. More than 73 per cent of JCU Social Work postgraduate students positively rated their skills development*. 

*ComparED QILT Student Experience Survey 2017 and 2018
Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)

- Acquire the knowledge and skills you’ll require to help people thrive in their environments, develop positive relationships, and promote a just and equitable society through your study with JCU’s Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying).

- Gain practical experience working with individuals, families, groups and communities. Develop your interpersonal skills to allow you to respectfully and empathically communicate and support individuals, groups and communities through processes of change.

- Investigate, critically analyse and transform complex social systems, institutions, structures, processes, practices and inequities through case studies and real-world experience.

**COURSE DETAILS:**

- **Locations:** Cairns, Townsville
- **Commencing:** February, July
- **Duration:** 2 years full-time, part-time available
- **Prerequisites:** AQF level 7 bachelor degree or equivalent

Please visit the handbook for a detailed outline of the course structure. Note: Information is for domestic students only.
JCU’s Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying) degree gives you valuable opportunities to network and gain practical professional experience in social welfare agencies in Australia and overseas. You’ll be job ready when you graduate.

Studies of local and global issues, and subjects that integrate international perspectives with the perspectives of Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples are integral to this course.

Among the core subjects you’ll study are:

- Postgraduate Research Methods for the Social Sciences
- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Skills and Frameworks for Practice
- Social Welfare Work with Children and Families
- Social Work and Mental Health
- Social Policy Analysis
- Community Development

You may be able to continue to work as you study, as this course offers maximum study flexibility through its mixed attendance study mode. Some subjects are also available on campus in either JCU Cairns or JCU Townsville.

You will be supported through annual compulsory, residential workshops, lecturer support and feedback as well as a range of online materials to direct and augment your learning.

You’ll have opportunities to develop a sense of collegiality and group support with other students studying to become members of the international profession of social work.
“We don’t only study what’s written in the book. They invite guest lecturers from the profession, from the field itself, so it gives us knowledge of what is going on currently in the market. The entire course curriculum is outstanding and that’s the reason I’m here.”

Chandandeep Chirag Patel
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK (PROFESSIONAL QUALIFYING)
Career Opportunities

This Masters degree qualifies you to apply for work in government and non-government organisations throughout Australia or internationally in areas such as:

- Hospital and community health services
- Child protection services
- Youth and family services
- Community work and development roles
- Social policy, research and advocacy roles.

The Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying) enables students with an existing undergraduate degree to undertake study leading to a professionally accredited social work degree, recognised by the Australian Association of Social Workers.

“Social work is a practice-based profession and an academic discipline that promotes social change and development, social cohesion and empowerment and liberation of people. JCU Social Work is grounded on the principles of social justice and human rights. We welcome our students to be connected to the grassroots realities around them. What I’m really passionate about is responding to the call for justice. We need competent, confident, and compassionate social workers and human service professionals in the field. Social work is about working with people, empowering people, it’s about engaging with communities. We can really inspire our students to be agents of change.”

Associate Professor Abraham Francis
Postgraduate coursework applications

Apply directly to JCU, either by a form you download, complete and return, or by using the Online Application Portal.

Your application must reach us before the deadline for your course.

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS
Postgraduate courses will usually require completion of an appropriate undergraduate degree for entry. You’ll need to include certified copies of qualifications and academic records with your application. For some programs, appropriate work experience or equivalent qualifications will be considered.

FURTHER INFORMATION
To find out more, call 1800 246 446 or contact the Student Enquiry Centre.
Contact us
Townsville: 07 4781 5255
Cairns: 07 4232 1000
Freecall (within Australia): 1800 246 446
Email: enquiries@jcu.edu.au