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
• Support through scholarships for merit and equity
  • Discover great accommodation options

INTERCULTURAL LEARNING

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

WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION

Study with the top Queensland university for full-time graduate employment and median graduate salary.*

EXPERIENCE HAS NO SUBSTITUTE

Graduate with confidence after completing 1,000 hours of placement.

SUPPORT FOR YOUR SUCCESS

Explore JCU’s range of scholarships, grants and bursaries and discover the right financial assistance to achieve your goals

*CWUR 2017 * Good Universities Guide 2021, UG study area
Why JCU?

Bachelor of Social Work

Learn to guide and support individuals, families and communities to overcome challenges and succeed in their personal and professional lives. Gain practical experience, with a focus on working with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and diverse cultures and communities.

You will study core subjects including human rights, interpersonal practice, group work and community work, social welfare with families and children, and mental health. Benefit from passionate educators, state-of-the-art social research technology and real-world case studies.

Apply your theoretical knowledge to extensive field placements in your third and fourth years. Learn from leading social workers and build effective relationships with diverse cultures, rural and remote communities. You could also participate in field trips to India and Thailand.

COURSE DETAILS:

Locations: Cairns, Townsville
Start Dates: February, July
Duration: 4 years full-time, part-time available
ATAR: 66.5
Prerequisites: English

Please visit the handbook for a detailed outline of the course structure. Note: Information is for domestic students only.
JCU social workers aim to help people thrive in their environment, promote positive relationships and work towards creating a just and equitable society. They are concerned with the wellbeing of individuals, families, groups and communities. This is a professionally accredited course, and includes field placements from your third year.

JCU’s Bachelor of Social Work degree has a distinctive focus on international experience and Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander contexts for practice, and combines topics from a range of study areas, including:

- Social welfare with families and children
- Cross-cultural practice
- Rural and remote practice
- Psychology and mental health.

Our Bachelor of Social Work places a strong emphasis on professional practice experience, and practical skills are integrated from the third year onwards. In your third and final years of study you will have opportunities to participate in field placements. Each placement experience incorporates 500 hours of hands-on training with an accredited social work supervisor (1,000 hours in total).

Further information about placements can be found at Enrolment Policy – Coursework Students.

Successful applicants require a Suitability to Work with Children (Blue Card) before undertaking placement. It is recommended that this requirement is completed by the end of your first semester/teaching period.

HONOURS

The Bachelor of Social Work (Honours) degree is available for high-achieving students. It consists of extra study and the development of a personal research project and thesis. An Honours degree is usually essential for entry to research higher degrees.
“With JCU Social Work, I had the opportunity to travel to Kerala, India, for a student exchange program in 2018. It was a life-changing experience, which created new world views and opinions about working with communities, families and individuals. I made lifelong friends who I still keep in contact with today.”

Leah Nicholls
BACHELOR OF SOCIAL WORK
Career Opportunities

JCU Social Work graduates are equipped to advocate for social justice and change in a broad range of areas.

Graduates can pursue careers in public housing, child welfare, drug and alcohol support, domestic violence, Indigenous health, disability, mental health, and aged care. They can work in government agencies, not-for-profit organisations, education, and private and public hospitals.

You could find employment in many roles, including as a child protection officer, mental health counsellor, health policy officer, health services manager, social worker, aged services worker, youth worker, or school counsellor.

Social workers can be involved in supporting individuals, groups and communities to respond and adapt to a changing climate.

“One of the unique features of JCU Social Work is the incorporation of a lot of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander content into our degree. We are in a location that has a high number of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people and our students will have clients and colleagues who are Indigenous, so it’s very important that our students have this knowledge. We talk about and teach the history of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people in Australia from colonisation so that we can provide that background for our students to then work in an effective, appropriate and respectful manner with communities.”

Dr Vinnitta Mosby
LECTURER
Study and live in some of the most interesting places in the world. Cairns and Townsville are on the doorstep of the Great Barrier Reef, magnificent rainforests, the savannah region and Outback Australia.

Living on-campus is a great way to make the most of your time at JCU. With five different accommodation options at JCU Townsville, housing over 1,200 students, and a new complex for 300 students at JCU Cairns, living on-campus is a great place to make new friends and immerse yourself into the JCU culture. All rooms at our on-campus residences are single board, with a single bed, study desk, chair, fan, air-conditioning and Wi-Fi. Each residence is different in regards to style of living, culture and atmosphere. There are options for fully catered or self-catered housing. Find out more at jcu.edu.au/accommodation
Contact us
Townsville: 07 4781 5255
Cairns: 07 4232 1000
Freecall (within Australia): 1800 246 446
Email: enquiries@jcu.edu.au