



Abbreviations and notes:

AASW: Australian Association of Social Workers

[^] For more information about New Generation degrees please see <http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/courses/melbmodel/ugcourses.html>

Master of Social Work CRICOS provider code: 061212E (coursework) 061213D (coursework and research)

Pathways to Social Work – Master of Social Work

Melbourne is one of the oldest established social work schools in Australia and is a leading provider of social work education and research.

MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK

The Master of Social Work is an entry-to-practice degree that prepares graduates for professional practice in a diverse range of fields. It provides students with a nationally and internationally benchmarked course of study in the theory and practice of social work, and the chance to participate in a rigorous and rich interdisciplinary learning environment.

Students have the opportunity to study under the guidance of internationally renowned staff with a strong commitment to community service and social justice. Teaching is informed by a substantial research program and is enhanced by innovative developments in multimedia and experiential learning. Social Work graduates are keenly sought by human service agencies and employment outcomes are exceptional.

WHY GRADUATE SOCIAL WORK?

As a graduate-level social work student you will:

- make an informed decision to study social work having explored a range of options in your bachelor degree
- start your social work studies with a mature, broader perspective of relevant subject areas
- enhance your qualifications by undertaking a Melbourne masters level degree in a fully graduate school
- benefit from the University's strong links to social services, community and professional bodies
- achieve the status of a graduate professional qualification
- be well prepared to work in an ever-changing and complex environment where your skills are in demand

WHAT IS THE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK?

The Master of Social Work is a graduate professional, entry-to-practice social work degree. We offer:

- a curriculum approved by the AASW
- well-qualified, experienced, research-active and accessible teachers, with strong ties to the profession and community services

- mixed teaching methods: lectures; tutorials; seminars; collaborative learning; practice simulations
- a well-developed field education program
- good coverage of particular fields of practice such as: mental health; child and family practice; health; aging; substance abuse
- on-site laboratories to practice and assess your interviewing skills
- excellent student facilities and the backing of a well-resourced major university the excellent employment record for our graduates in a wide range of fields and job descriptions
- a diverse and talented population of students at entry-to-practice, advanced practice and research levels

The Master of Social Work leads to eligibility for membership of the AASW. Membership of the Association is recognised nationally in Australia and in many other countries. Social Work is a portable qualification for those who wish to work locally, nationally or internationally.

SELECTION CRITERIA

Applicants must have a bachelor degree. You must also provide a written statement of your reasons for, and ability to, undertake the Master of Social Work, evidence of relevant paid or volunteer work experience of at least 40 hours over a 3 month duration, and a referee report relating to your relevant work experience. Additional or special circumstances may be taken into account when considering your application if you are eligible for the Graduate Access Melbourne Scheme**

WORK EXPERIENCE REQUIREMENT

If you meet the academic selection criteria but do not meet the work experience requirement you can still apply, as a conditional offer may be made if you anticipate meeting the entry criteria before the commencement of the degree in the year that you wish to enrol. Our students have a range of experience in different sectors of the community. Your work experience should provide evidence of sound interpersonal skills and social awareness. Work

experience may be full- or part-time. If you are not sure what kind of experience you should be seeking please contact the School for advice.

CAREER OUTCOMES

The AASW describes social work as

'...the profession committed to the pursuit of social justice, to the enhancement of quality of life, and to the development of the full potential of each individual, group and community in society. Social workers pursue these goals by working to address the barriers, inequities and injustices that exist in society, and by active involvement in situations of personal distress and crisis. They do this by working with individuals, groups and communities in the pursuit and achievement of equitable access to social, economic and political resources, and by working with individuals towards the realisation of their intellectual, physical and emotional potential. Social workers are committed to working within a stated value position and in accordance with a code of ethics. Social work practice is informed by professional education based on an analysis and understanding of human development and behaviour, and of complex social structures and processes.'

Social Workers are employed in a wide range of government and community service agency settings, such as:

- Children, youth and family
- Health
- Mental health
- Women's services
- Ageing
- Migration
- Justice and correctional services
- Community counselling, advice, support and resource services

They work with people in a variety of ways including:

- Group work – social support, educative, and action groups

- Community work – needs assessment, community
- development, locality and social planning
- Individual and family counselling and social casework
- Program planning – fitting the pieces together to develop strong and responsive human services
- Policy development and advocacy

BEYOND THE MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK?

We offer postgraduate coursework and research degrees to enhance your qualifications and career options.

- The Master of Advanced Social Work (Research) encourages an advanced practice-oriented and theoretical approach to learning as a means of ensuring close links between theory and practice and to support self-directed and life-long learning.
- The Master of Philosophy allows students to demonstrate a critical application of specialist knowledge and make an independent contribution to existing scholarship
- PhD students undertake research that makes a significant and new contribution to the discipline and communicates research findings effectively in the professional arena and in an international context.

MORE INFORMATION

Social Work at Melbourne

T: +61 3 8344 4171

F: +61 3 8344 4188

To make an enquiry fill in an online enquiry form at:

www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au/contact

www.socialwork.unimelb.edu.au

^For more information about The Melbourne Model visit http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/about/m_model/index.html

**For information on the Graduate Access Melbourne Scheme visit <http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/grad/admissions/gam.html>

DISCLAIMER: The University has used its best endeavours to ensure that material contained in this publication was correct at the time of printing. The University gives no warranty and accepts no responsibility for the accuracy or completeness of information. The University reserves the right to make changes without notice at any time at its absolute discretion.

Course CRICOS provider numbers: Coursework: 061212E Coursework and research: 061213D University CRICOS provider code: 00116K

