



Charles Sturt
University

Social work and human services

Get qualified to change lives
→ csu.edu.au/social-work



Social work and human services careers

Our social work and human services degrees are a path to a highly rewarding career. You'll work with people from different backgrounds, resolve social problems, and empower individuals and communities. Our courses are ideal if you're committed to social justice, giving you the advanced skills and industry knowledge to lead in practice, research and policy. Qualifications in this field create opportunities to work in a wide range of social welfare and social work agencies in areas such as:

- aged care services
- case management
- child protection
- community services
- corrections
- disability and rehabilitation
- group and community work
- health
- individual and family counselling.

You can also pursue a career working with specific community groups, such as children or older people, or with those affected by domestic violence, drug and alcohol abuse or mental illness. Whichever profession you choose, our qualifications will equip you with the knowledge and skills for success. Many also offer a pathway to admission to further research and study.

Social work and human services study will make you a more skilled, reflective and ethical practitioner. Our students graduate with a commitment to lifelong learning, First Nations cultural competence, sustainable practices and global citizenship.

What's the difference between social work and human services?

Both are people-centred careers that involve helping individuals, families and communities – but there are a few differences to consider when deciding on the right qualification for you.

Our human services degree is shorter with specialisation options and 400 hours of work-integrated learning. It tends to be a faster route to a career. It's also one of the few human services programs that is accredited by Community Work Australia – giving graduates a nationally recognised qualification.

Our social work degree is a bit longer, involving 1,000 hours of supervised work-integrated learning. Balancing out that extra study time is a broader range of career opportunities – including generalist practice and accreditation with the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW).

Graduates may pursue mental health accreditation after meeting further requirements set by the AASW. Mental health accredited social workers can provide Medicare-rebated services.



“Charles Sturt was definitely my first choice when it came to doing my master's. I had studied there before, and they offered online learning. I needed flexibility as I had small kids and worked full-time. Charles Sturt gave me that and ensured I was supported throughout. Doing my master's led me to change roles and change my trajectory in ways I didn't imagine possible. I am living proof that hard work pays off.”

Amanda Anning
Master of Social Work
(Professional Qualifying)



A degree in social work and human services gives you the opportunity to make a real difference to the lives of individuals, families, social groups and communities. Charles Sturt has a rich history of providing high-quality tertiary education in the field.

Undergraduate certificate

Undergraduate Certificate in Human Services

Make a difference in your community with a career in human services or social work. Our new Undergraduate Certificate in Human Services gives you the skills and knowledge to start a rewarding career – or continue your studies with credit towards a full bachelor's degree.

This course equips you to support individuals and communities across a range of human services roles while keeping your options open for further study in a caring profession.

Bachelor's degrees

Bachelor of Human Services

Help achieve social justice and a society where people have access to life-changing services and opportunities. Our Bachelor of Human Services is one of Australia's longest standing degrees, with a legacy of more than 50 years. Accredited by Community Work Australia, this degree provides a specialised focus of practice, empowering you to make a difference in the human services field.

This online course will lead you to a rich and rewarding career in social welfare and human services. You can choose from a wide range of majors, including:

- Australian Indigenous communities and culture
- child, youth and family practice
- disability
- gerontology and healthy ageing
- human services
- mental health and addiction
- multicultural welfare.

Already have a Diploma of Community Services or similar? You could fast-track your studies – and graduate sooner.

→ study.csu.edu.au/human-services

Bachelor of Social Work

Be an agent of change in your community when you study social work with Charles Sturt. We have over 25 years of experience teaching social work and strengthening our local towns, cities and regions.

Accredited with AASW, this degree allows you to tap into our extensive experience providing social work education in Australia. With 1,000 hours of supported workplace learning, you'll gain the hands-on practical experience you need to launch a lifelong career in this field. You'll be equipped with the knowledge and skills to make a valuable contribution to social welfare and social work agencies, whether in rural areas, metropolitan settings or overseas. You'll also be able to work in policy, research or advocacy.

If you choose to study at our Dubbo or Port Macquarie campuses, your degree will be integrated with TAFE NSW. This means you can attain a Diploma of Community Services after two years of study. You'll get credit for the diploma as you undertake the second half of your bachelor's – and graduate with two qualifications in the same time it typically takes to gain a degree. You'll also be well-placed to acquire paid employment in the sector as you complete your studies.

→ study.csu.edu.au/social-work



The Bachelor of Social Work is an AASW-accredited qualification. It is an entry qualification into the social work profession and has been determined to meet the Australian Social Work Education and Accreditation Standards.



“To anyone considering this path I would say, never give up. If you’re a First Nations person, you have a wealth of knowledge and support from your ancestors, so push on and your degree will assist towards helping eradicate ignorance by educating people. If you are a non-First Nations person, the course is a moorditj (strong) step towards reconciliation in your personal and professional lives, and it can help you to work respectfully and in an informed manner when walking alongside mob.”

Kylie Taylor
Bachelor of Human Services



Graduate certificates

A graduate certificate allows you to build on the knowledge gained during your career or undergraduate program while also providing extra vocational skills to broaden your employment options. You can undertake a graduate certificate after completing a bachelor's or if you've worked in the social work and human services sector for five years or more.

Graduate certificates can be a pathway to master's study with either credit or articulated pathways. With our range of flexible graduate certificates, you can complete your course in as little as six months of supported online study or take up to a year. Best of all, you can study anywhere, at any time that suits you.

Graduate Certificate in Ageing and Health

Build on your existing knowledge and apply the most up-to-date and innovative practice to your workplace with the Graduate Certificate in Ageing and Health. Advance your qualifications and career when you gain the skills and knowledge to deliver exceptional outcomes and foster the wellbeing of older people. Once you've completed four subjects, you can continue study with the Master of Ageing and Health.

→ study.csu.edu.au/gc-ageing-health

Graduate Certificate in Human Services

Increase your knowledge and build on your experience in human services with the Graduate Certificate in Human Services. Develop your skill set in social welfare and human services, developmental and social psychology, and your choice of electives that align with your interests and career goals. Progress onto master's study with the Master of Human Services, if you choose.

→ study.csu.edu.au/gc-human-services

Graduate Certificate in Leadership in Human Services

Already working in human services or social work? Enhance your clinical skills and take on a role in leadership, management or administration. Or start a career in management, in the ageing or disability sectors, and add a deeper knowledge of the human services context to your skill set.

→ study.csu.edu.au/gc-leadership-human-services

Graduate Certificate in Case Management and Coordinated Care

Gain the skills and knowledge to become a case management and coordinated care specialist. You'll graduate with a breadth of knowledge across many sectors, which is important for delivery of services to regional and remote areas. This online course will give you the expertise you need to thrive in today's multidisciplinary community care roles.

Our industry and academic experts will show you how to build lasting and rewarding relationships with your clients. Discover how to communicate, negotiate and advocate on your client's behalf across a broad range of practice areas.

→ study.csu.edu.au/gc-case-management-care

Graduate Certificate in Intersectionality, Diversity and Inclusion

Join our unique course to build the knowledge, skills and practices to drive change and build more inclusive and just organisations, communities and societies.

Become an influential leader for change and enhance your organisation's performance by building a more inclusive work environment. You'll practice, reflect upon and critically review information related to intersectionality, diversity and inclusion.

Upskill your knowledge and qualifications to be more effective at engaging, communicating and working with people – whether they're customers at the service level, leaders in organisations, policy developers or diversity specialists.

→ study.csu.edu.au/gc-intersectionality

Graduate Certificate in Research

Build on your existing qualifications and step confidently into research with our Graduate Certificate in Research – a postgraduate pathway designed for those without prior research experience.

Delivered online, this innovative degree supports both First Nations and non-Indigenous methodologies, allowing you to tailor your research with guidance from expert supervisors. Whether you're seeking to make a real difference in the world or to explore new knowledge, this course is your first step toward transformative research.

→ study.csu.edu.au/grad-cert-research

Master's degrees

A master's consists of coursework, independent research or a combination of the two, and will prepare you to become a leader in your field. A master's usually takes up to two years full-time or four years part-time to complete.

Master of Social Work (Professional Qualifying)

Do you have a undergraduate degree in another discipline and aspire to become a qualified social worker? Steer your career in a new direction and gain the skills and knowledge you need to advance social justice and human rights in Australia and overseas.

Offered with all the flexibility of online learning so you can manage your work, study and family commitments, this degree leads to professional accreditation with the AASW.

Gain experience in social work through 1,000 hours of supervised work-integrated learning. With a thorough grounding in core social work values and professional practice, you'll be supported by leading educators with extensive industry experience.

→ study.csu.edu.au/master-social-work-professional

Master of Advanced Social Work Practice

Are you working as a social worker? This course is designed just for you. Acquire highly developed knowledge and skills that will enhance the quality of your practice. You'll be prepared for management, policy and practice leadership roles. With flexible options for structuring your research and study, you'll build on your experience to take your career to the next level.

→ study.csu.edu.au/master-advanced-social-work

Master of Ageing and Health

This course enables you to become a leader in one of the world's fastest growing sectors. You'll develop the advanced skills and experience to deliver exceptional health outcomes and ensure the wellbeing of older people across a variety of industry settings. As one of Australia's leading online education providers, we provide the flexibility to apply your learning directly to your work.

→ study.csu.edu.au/master-ageing-health



"The program is very attractive as the subjects in the course focus on contemporary areas of healthy ageing, such as social policy, leadership and professional practice, as well as ways to support people living with dementia, including adaptive technologies. This qualification has been the cornerstone for me to advocate for people living with dementia, and to provide education to front-line carers as well as interdisciplinary team members."

Ella Critchley
Master of Ageing and Health



Master of Ethics and Legal Studies

Make a difference in people's lives by gaining a greater understanding of human rights and making responsible and ethically sound recommendations.

You'll also learn about key issues of concern to the First Nations peoples of Australia, including a core subject on ethics, identity and colonisation.

This unique course offers recognition of prior learning where you can undertake a master's without having to previously complete a full undergraduate degree. And with the flexibility of online learning, you can choose when – and how – you study.

→ study.csu.edu.au/master-ethics-legal-studies



"I did this course to advance my career, and I'm so glad I did. The combination of both legal and ethics subjects is quite unique to Charles Sturt. I can't wait for the next chapter as I begin my PhD."

Thiery Willa
Master of Ethics and Legal Studies

Master of Leadership in Human Services (with specialisations)

This advanced degree will establish you as a leader in the human services field, focusing on high-level critical analysis skills to explore either practice research or policy. Choose subjects that interest you professionally and allow you to explore in-depth research about a topic relevant to you and your work.

This online course is suitable for practitioners from across the broad field of the human services sector. Whether you're on the frontline of service delivery or managing a program, working in policy or undertaking research, in the public sector or for a non-government organisation, this course is for you.

Specialisations

Child, youth and family practice

Build on your experience and deepen your knowledge of working with children, young people and their families. Move beyond the process of assessment and the skills around intervening and be able to make critical evaluations and intentional decisions.

Management

Working in human services and found yourself managing staff and programs? This specialisation will equip you with the knowledge and skills needed to perform your leadership or managerial role best. Use the practical experience gained in this qualification to balance the diverse needs of your clients, staff and organisation.

Ecological and social change

Climate change impacts upon all of us – but vulnerable people and communities are more likely to be adversely affected. Explore the ramifications of environmental change and how they'll influence service delivery, now and into the future. Delve into how to build individuals', communities' and service providers' capacity to respond to change.

→ study.csu.edu.au/master-leadership-human-services

Doctorate

Doctor of Social Work

This course provides unique opportunities to undertake advanced and critical reflection on professional social work practice. As one of the highest levels of qualification available, this course enables you to conduct research that makes an original and significant contribution to knowledge in the discipline. Under the guidance of an experienced academic supervisor, you'll develop an advanced understanding of human service research methods, conduct an original research investigation and present your findings in a dissertation.

Collaborate with our academic staff who use extensive industry experience and the latest research to inform their teaching. You'll experience the benefits of group-based learning and forge professional connections extending well beyond your studies. Doctoral students are also offered regular networking opportunities, ongoing support through optional seminars and an exclusive online peer support site.

→ study.csu.edu.au/doctor-social-work





Scholarships

A university qualification is an investment in your future – and we provide more than 250 scholarships to help. From course, campus, sport and academic scholarships to those for First Nations students, and those from rural areas or who are experiencing financial hardship – our scholarships make studying accessible.

Explore your options.

→ study.csu.edu.au/scholarships

Alumni fee discount

Find out more about the benefits available if you are one of our alumni, including a 10 per cent discount on fee-paying postgraduate courses.

→ alumni.csu.edu.au/benefits



→ csu.edu.au/social-work



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+61 1800 275 278 (callers outside Australia)



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