Some reasons for studying Health Science (Mental Health) at CSU:

This course is specifically designed for Indigenous students.

You will have career opportunities within mainstream and community based mental health services.

This course includes workplace learning, giving you practical experience in mental health care settings.

Why study CSU’s Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health)?

Charles Sturt University’s (CSU’s) Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health) has been designed in collaboration with Aboriginal community based organisations and the mental health industry. This course is specifically for Indigenous mental health clinicians, and will give you a strong understanding of contemporary health issues facing Indigenous people, preparing you to meet the needs of the mental health workforce.

This specialist course will prepare you to work within mental health services with all members of the community, giving you an understanding and appreciation of Indigenous clients, their families and communities. The course places mental health workers within a multi-disciplinary team working alongside Indigenous and non-Indigenous health professionals.

CSU’s course will equip you with skills, knowledge, understanding and attitudes required for employment as a mental health worker within your community and mainstream mental health services. You will develop an understanding of primary health care, cultural safety, equity and socio-cultural aspects of care. The course will enhance your appreciation of clients’ and their families’ experience of emotional and social trauma and mental health problems.

You may choose to exit the course following the successful completion of the first year of study with the Diploma of Health Science (Mental Health), or after completing two years of study with the Associate Degree in Health Science (Mental Health).

National Practice Standards for the Mental Health Workforce 2013

This course’s learning objectives are aligned with the National Practice Standards for the Mental Health Workforce 2013. For more information, visit: [www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

You will be required to demonstrate knowledge, skills and attitudes consistent with the National Practice Standards and subject learning objectives at an appropriate level across the course. These are as follows:

- **first year** - emphasis is placed on developing student awareness
- **second year** - emphasis is on developing student understanding
- **third year** - emphasis shifts to demonstration of skills.
Personal suffering from the loss of a sibling has given me an undeniable strength and a greater insight into the mental anguish numerous people may encounter.

**MY VISION FOR THE FUTURE**

is one in which I am able to use my qualification to improve the mental wellbeing of Indigenous people.

Vincent Strong  
Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health)

---

**Admission requirements**

To apply for this course you must meet the following admission requirements:

- be of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander background; and
- demonstrate an aptitude to undertake this course through previous relevant experiences in the field of mental health and Indigenous issues; and, if required
- have completed a bridging program.

**Course structure**

CSU’s Bachelor of Health Science (Mental Health) includes subjects that cover a range of issues relating to mental health care, such as human development, grief, substance abuse, suicide prevention, sexual assault, violence and family trauma. You will also learn about human development, pharmacology and primary health care. In each session of the course, you will complete subjects that include clinical placement, giving you the chance to apply what you are learning to practical situations straight away.

For more information about specific subjects and the structure of this course, visit the online course brochure at: [www.csu.edu.au/courses/mental-health](http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/mental-health)

---

**About CSU**

CSU is a national university focusing on excellence in education for the professions, strategic and applied research, and flexible delivery of learning and teaching. We work in close association with industry, professions and government to ensure our courses meet and support industry needs, resulting in high graduate employment levels and starting salaries. We attract more than 38,000 students from Australia and around the world and are well-known for our innovative approach to education, offering practical, hands-on courses, supported online to provide our students with accessible, world class education.

---

For more information or to apply, visit: [www.csu.edu.au/courses/mental-health](http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/mental-health)