



THE UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME AUSTRALIA

Program Code: 6300

CRICOS Code: 074299G

PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS:

Doctor of Counselling DCouns

Responsible Owner:	Director
Responsible Office:	Research Office
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Effective Date:	1 January 2023



THE UNIVERSITY OF
NOTRE DAME
A U S T R A L I A

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2 AMENDMENTS

Amendments to these requirements will be made in accordance with the General Regulations.

Version	Date Amended	Amendment Details	Approved by
1	November 2006	Amendments to program regulations	PVC, Research
2	December 2013	Regulations transferred to new template	PVC, Research
3	July 2016	Amendments to program regulations	PVC, Research
4	September 2017	New course codes assigned	PVC-A
5	November 2017	Amendments to nomenclature	PVC-A
6	November 2018	Regulations transferred to new template	PVC, Research
7	November 2021	Amendments to program learning outcomes	Director, Research
8	January 2023	Amendment to minimum candidature periods Amended from regulations to requirements	RDSC

3 PURPOSE

These Program Requirements set out the approved requirements for the Doctor of Counselling.

4 OVERVIEW

4.1 Campus Availability

The Doctor of Counselling has been approved for delivery on the Fremantle Campus.

4.2 Student Availability

The Doctor of Counselling is available for enrolment to domestic Students and international Students with a student visa.

4.3 Australian Qualifications Framework

The Doctor of Counselling is accredited by the University as a Level 10 AQF qualification.

4.4 Duration

The Volume of Learning for the Doctor of Counselling is three (3) years of equivalent full-time study.

An option to complete this Program Part-time is available.

An accelerated option to complete the Program is not available.

The minimum period of time within which a student is permitted to complete the Doctor of Counselling Award is three (3) years full time, or six (6) years part-time, excluding periods of approved leave of absence (unless determined otherwise by Pro Vice Chancellor-Research or Research Degrees and Scholarships Committee). Where this minimum period is reduced, it must not be less than 12 months of full-time enrolment.

4.5 Maximum Duration

The maximum period of time within which a student is permitted to complete the Doctor of Counselling Award is four (4) years full time, or eight (8) years part-time, excluding periods of approved leave of absence.

4.6 Study Mode

The Doctor of Counselling is offered in Internal and External Study mode.

4.7 Professional Accreditation

There are no professional accreditation requirements applicable to this Program.

5 ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

5.1 University Admission Requirements

To be eligible for admission to The University of Notre Dame Australia, all applicants must meet the [University's minimum requirements for admission](#). The requirements for admission are detailed in the University's Policy: *Admissions*.

5.2 Specific Program Requirements for Admission

To be eligible for admission to the Doctor of Counselling applicants must also meet the following specific requirements.

5.2.1 The Pro Vice Chancellor-Research, on the advice of the National Head of School, determines admission to the Doctor of Counselling Award.

5.2.2 Applicants to the Doctor of Counselling Award are expected to satisfy the following criteria:

- 5.2.2.1 Possession of a research Masters degree by thesis or dissertation appropriate to the professional field of the applicant; or
- 5.2.2.2 Possession of a Masters degree by coursework appropriate to the professional field of the applicant completed at a superior standard; or
- 5.2.2.3 Possession of a Bachelor's degree with Honours (typically 1st Class or Class 2A Honours level or equivalent); or
- 5.2.2.4 Possession of a Master of Philosophy; or
- 5.2.2.5 In exceptional circumstances, an equivalent academic or professional background that is considered by the National Head of School to be an appropriate preparation for independent study and research work at Doctoral level.
- 5.2.3 In addition to the academic criteria listed in 5.2.2, applicants are normally expected to satisfy the following:
 - 5.2.3.1 have a minimum of 3 years of relevant professional practice;
 - 5.2.3.2 have the support of an industry or professional mentor.

6 PRACTICUM OR INTERNSHIP REQUIREMENTS

- 6.1** There are no Practicum or Internship requirements in this Award.

7 PROGRAM REQUIREMENTS

7.1 Program Learning Outcomes

Upon successful completion of the Doctor of Counselling graduates will be able to:

1. Apply expert, specialised cognitive and technical skills in the design and execution of a substantial research project that makes a significant and original contribution to knowledge, professional practice and/or creative practice.
2. Synthesise, evaluate, and critically analyse a substantial and complex body of knowledge and/or practice at the frontier of a field/s of research.
3. Communicate research findings clearly and fluently, to both peers and the community.
4. Apply knowledge of research integrity, ethics and the rights and safety of others in the conduct of research and dissemination of research findings.
5. Conduct research with intellectual independence, creativity, adaptability, responsibility, and accountability.

7.2 Required Courses

To be eligible for the award of Doctor of Counselling students must complete the following compulsory courses:

RSCH7000	Quantitative Research Methods
RSCH7001	Qualitative Research Methods
RSCH7002	Scholarly Reading and Writing
RSCH7003	Developing a Research Proposal
RSCH7059	Supervised Research – Counselling

7.3 Elective Courses

There are no elective courses in the Doctor of Counselling.

7.4 Course substitutions

Course substitutions, where permitted, must be approved by the National Head of School.

7.5 Special Award Requirements

There are no special award requirements in the Doctor of Counselling.

7.6 Alternative Pathways

Students who have been enrolled in a Masters degree and have completed the four Research Methods courses (RSCH7000, RSCH7001, RSCH7002, RSCH7003) with a credit average in each

course may be eligible to gain Units of Credit for the courses in the Doctor of Counselling degree.

7.7 Concurrent Study

A student may, on the determination of the Pro Vice Chancellor - Research after consultation with the National Head of School and the Supervisor/s, be required to undertake courses relevant to the acquisition of required research knowledge and skills.

7.8 Thesis

The thesis component is an original, systematic, and advanced level investigation into a significant question, problem, or phenomenon. The thesis topic must be a substantial and original contribution to knowledge.

8 DEFINITIONS

For the purpose of these Requirements, the following definitions are available in the General Regulations.

- Leave of Absence
- Major
- Units of Credit
- Pre-requisite Course
- Minor
- Elective
- Co-requisite Course
- Specialisation
- General Elective

9 LIST OF APPENDICES

APPENDIX A: Doctor of Counselling: Indicative Award Structure

YEAR ONE						
Semester One				Semester Two		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit		Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
RSCH7000	Quantitative Research Methods	25		RSCH7059	Supervised Research - Counselling	100
RSCH7001	Qualitative Research Methods	25				
RSCH7003	Developing a Research Proposal	25				
RSCH7002	Scholarly Reading and Writing	25				
Total Units of Credit for Y1 S1		100	Total Units of Credit for Y1 S2		100	
Total Units of credit Year One					200	

YEAR TWO						
Semester One				Semester Two		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit		Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
RSCH7059	Supervised Research - Counselling	100		RSCH7059	Supervised Research - Counselling	100
Total Units of Credit for Y2 S1		100	Total Units of Credit for Y2 S2		100	
Total Units of credit Year Two					200	

YEAR THREE						
Semester One				Semester Two		
Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit		Course Code	Course Title	Units of credit
RSCH7059	Supervised Research - Counselling	100		RSCH7059	Supervised Research - Counselling	100
Total Units of Credit for Y3 S1		100	Total Units of Credit for Y3 S2		100	
Total Units of credit Year Three					200	
TOTAL PROGRAM UNITS OF CREDIT:					600	