



Vocational Graduate Diploma in Counselling (69833)

The Graduate Diploma is a two year fulltime course based in humanistic and person-centred values, and provides high quality professional training for students to practice professionally in the role of counsellor.

The Graduate Diploma will introduce students to the diversity of the counselling field, from ethical concepts essential for professional practice, to practical issues of assessment and clinical skills. Clinical placement in second year and working with clients in the student counselling clinic gives students a broader view of how and where counselling is situated in the community, further expands their skills, and allows them to make useful contacts.

The course is designed both for people who wish to practise as counsellors and for those who want to add a major counselling function within another profession. This Course has been designed (with additional supervised practice) to meet the criteria for PACFA – The Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia. Graduates are eligible to apply for articulation into Higher education courses such as Master of Counselling Degree.

Throughout the course, students will:

- achieve a clear theoretical and practice understanding of the humanistic and holistic approaches to counselling.
- increase awareness of personal attitudes and values which might impact the counselling relationship
- the ability to reflect on personal life experience, and what has been learned from that and how that applies to working in the counselling profession.
- develop personal and professional attitudes and skills that facilitate the therapeutic process in counselling relationships.
- learn to utilise the supervision relationship with a personal and group supervisor to create safety for the client and foster the counsellor's personal development.

Our approach to teaching counselling is unique. We do not believe in giving you theories about "other" people. Research continually shows that success in the counselling field is about the counsellor's own ability to be genuine and empathic – and to be psychologically present.

True counselling happens when counsellors themselves face the issues and possibilities of their own lives.

It is from that perspective that we teach counselling. Our objective is for students to have an experiential and theoretical journey; and to develop their personal abilities to be genuine and empathic counsellors.

We invite you on the journey of a lifetime. This is not the air-conditioned bus tour of other people's problems. This is the road less travelled – an adventure through your own story, your own use of self and your own authenticity.

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At South Pacific Private Hospital we offer regular internships to graduates from all colleges. Graduates of the Hammond Institute demonstrate outstanding training, showing greater insight and ability to apply their teachings through practical experiences.

The result is graduates who are much better equipped to make the transition to dealing with 'real' clients.

When looking for new staff at South Pacific Private we actively seek out those with training though the Hammond Institute as they require much less practical training.

My congratulations go to Aurora (Hammond) in running an outstanding teaching facility.

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Lynne Fishwick

Chief Executive Officer
South Pacific Private Hospital

SPP is one of Australia's leading treatment centres – a facility treating people with addictions and emotional disorders.



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COUNSELLING COURSES WITH A DIFFERENCE

Entry Requirements

This is a postgraduate course, so we look for a first degree, and evidence that students understand the requirements of an academic environment and that you can write coherently and thoughtfully. Many of our applicants come from professions such as nursing, teaching, physiotherapy and other “allied health” professions. Applicants with other professional qualifications or who can demonstrate appropriate academic skills will be considered.

Course Structure

The Graduate Diploma is offered at our Artarmon campus. Class sizes are limited to 20 students. The course may be completed over two years of full time study, or longer on a part-time basis. Our academic year is over three terms, which are twelve weeks long. Students will attend three classes per week per term. (each class is 3 hours in duration). In second year students will begin clinical work in the student clinic and work placement in addition to classroom hours.

Graduate Diploma in Counselling **Study Plan**

1st Year

Prerequisite 001 Communication Skills

Term 1		GD002 Counselling Process Skills	GD010 Theories and Models of Counselling
Term 2	GD003 Assessment Skills for Counselling	GD028 Lifecycle Development	GD029 Mental Health Issues
Term 4	GD008 Professional Values and Ethics	GD004 Grief Counselling	GD007 Referrals and Crisis Counselling

2nd Year

Term 1	GD005 Use of Self – Group Process	GD013 Clinical Skills Training	GD033 Undertake Research Activities
Term 2	GD006 Working with Addictive Process	GD032 Reflect and Improve on Counselling Skills	GD033 continued
Term 3	GD016 Practice Holistic Counselling	GD032 continued	GD033 continued

Additional requirements to received the qualification:

150 hours of work experience (50 hours supervision, 60 hours work placement, 40 client sessions)

30 hours of personal counselling

20 hours personal development

8 Skills Training Sessions

Please Note:

in 2nd year students are required to pay additional fees for a supervision group whilst seeing clients in the student clinic.



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