The Master of Social Work prepares students for practice as professional social workers. This is an Australian Association of Social Workers (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 (ASWEAS).

The Master of Social Work is a vibrant and challenging program that encourages students to build on their existing knowledge and experience as well as providing a sound understanding of social work values and practice approaches. Throughout the course there is an emphasis on social justice, human rights, and on achieving the best possible outcomes for the most marginalised and disadvantaged members of our community.

Students will be taught by leading social work practitioners and academics and there is a strong focus on experiential learning throughout the course.

COURSE STRUCTURE
The Master of Social Work is a two (2) year full-time (or equivalent part-time) taught across four 4) academic semesters at the ACU Brisbane, Canberra and Strathfield (Sydney) campuses.

APPLICATION DETAILS
For eligibility for the Master of Social Work program, an applicant must have completed a three year undergraduate degree and produce academic transcripts that include at least eight units covering studies in the “understanding of society” and “knowledge of the individual in society”.

Applicants must also submit with their application:
- a 500 word piece which states the applicant’s motivation to undertake studies in social work, e.g. “What experiences have inspired you to study social work?”
- their curriculum vitae

International students must have completed the above prerequisites AND demonstrate an overall academic IELTS of 7.0 or above (with an individual score of 7.0 or above in writing, speaking, listening and reading).

GRADUATE OUTCOMES
Graduate of the ACU Master of Social Work are regarded by employers as ‘ready’ to begin social work practice in a variety of areas such as community development, group work, family work, case management and individual casework, administration, policy analysis and development, research, social action, program planning. Social workers may also specialise in different areas of practice such as:
- Family work
- Youth and child welfare services
- Medical and health services
- Disability services
- Psychiatric and general mental health services
- Community services
- Aged care
- Income support
- Mediation
- Research

"EMPHASIS IS ON THE IMPORTANCE OF PROFESSIONALISM AND ETHICAL DECISION-MAKING BY FOCUSSING ON SOCIAL WORK VALUES.”

YOUNA KIM
MASTER OF SOCIAL WORK
## SAMPLE PROGRAM MAP - SHOWING FULL TIME ENROLMENT

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>YEAR 1</th>
<th>YEAR 2</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>SEMESTER 1</strong></td>
<td><strong>SEMESTER 2</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWTP620 Social Work Theory and Ethics (36hrs) (10cp)</td>
<td>SWTP625 Field Practicum 1 (500hrs) (36hrs – 24hrs of Organisational practice &amp; 12hrs integration seminars) 30cp</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWTP622 Social Work with Individuals (48hrs) (10cp)</td>
<td>SWTP626 Social Work with Groups (36hrs) (10cp)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SWTP623 Legal Systems &amp; Mental Health (48hrs) (10cp)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

## WHAT OUR STUDENTS SAY

“Social work is an exciting and rewarding profession...ACU's program provides a strong theoretical and practical foundation thus enabling fresh graduates to develop their knowledge, skills and abilities to effectively contribute to the lives of vulnerable and marginalised individuals and communities.”

**JAMIL AHMAD**

“ACU's Master of Social Work emphasises the importance of professionalism and probity by focusing on social work values and the Australian Association of Social Workers (AASW) Code of Conduct. The best aspect of the course has been the placement opportunities.”

**YOUNA KIM**

## INDUSTRY TESTIMONIAL

“I have supervised a number of ACU social work students over the past few years and have found it an interesting time. Students learn and I learn – so we create a learning environment together. Generally the students have been keen to embrace the opportunities to learn about social work practice and particularly the chance to put theory to practice and see how social work operates in the real world.”

**ANN O’ BRIEN**

DIRECTOR - MARRIAGE SUPPORT AND SPECIALIST SERVICES, CATHOLIC CARE SOCIAL SERVICES, DIOCESE OF PARRAMATTA.