

Why study Counselling with us?

A unique approach to counselling training

At ALC and UD we seek to attract a diverse range of students who can gift insights from their lived experience to their classmates and to their clients later on. In fact, a 'wounded healer' model of training is often the best as students come with empathy and knowledge that can't be learnt from textbooks.

Our curriculum is designed to help you to live your life well and so, in turn, help your future clients to do the same. We therefore don't just focus on counselling skills but also on virtues such as **hope**, **courage**, and **compassion**. We want you to engage the human condition in all its messiness and beauty.

We also want to meet the challenges of the mid-21st century. You will also learn about artificial intelligence in mental health and basic business skills amongst other interesting topics. As a graduate, you'll be well prepared for the workplace and for future client needs.

Our academic associates have significant crossover experience between professional practice and academia. Under their guidance, you will learn critical thinking, evidence-based practice and develop empathy allowing you to work to effectively with a range of clients.

The University of Divinity has been voted the **best university** in Australia 5 times in the last 8 years for student experience.



AUSTRALIAN LUTHERAN COLLEGE
LEARNING FOR LIFE

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Bachelor of Counselling



What do I need to know?

The University of Divinity (UD) is a collegiate university with colleges spread across many Australian cities. It delivers a range of professional, as well as theology and ministry, programs. One of the colleges, Australian Lutheran College (ALC), administers the Bachelor of Counselling on behalf of UD.

Duration

3 years full-time, or up to 9 years part-time.
Delivered in 4 x 8-week terms across the year.

Delivery modes

All Counselling units use blended learning to enable flexibility around work/life commitments. Blended learning means a mix of online and face-to-face components.

Learning materials will be available through online modules for students to access at any time 24/7 during the unit.

Online seminars are scheduled outside normal working hours to permit flexibility.

Intensives (2-day compulsory face-to-face) have an experiential focus and are a great way to meet your fellow classmates in person. Note that all intensives are generally held in **Melbourne**. In some circumstances it may be possible for interstate students to attend via live-stream.

Recognition of Prior Learning

Students who have already completed a Diploma in Counselling may be eligible for **credit on up to 8 units** (equivalent to one year's full-time study).

Industry accreditation and memberships

- The Bachelor of Counselling is accredited by the **Australian Counselling Association (ACA)** and endorsed by the **Christian Counsellors Association of Australia (CCAA)**.
- The University of Divinity is a member of the **National Heads of Counselling and Psychotherapy Education** network.

Bachelor of Counselling (BCouns)

This course is available to **Australian domestic** students only.

BCouns learning outcomes

Graduates of the Bachelor of Counselling:

- Have gained broad, coherent and integrated understanding of various counselling approaches relevant to a diversity of clients, their contexts and traditions.
- Are able to compare and contrast the relative merits of different innovative therapeutic approaches and so apply the appropriate approach depending on their own personal strengths/ vulnerabilities and the client's needs.
- Have developed cognitive, technical, communication, professional, and basic business skills so as to practice in an impactful way that both enhances client outcomes and minimises risk in multiple counselling contexts.
- Have developed clinical, ethical and cultural judgement leading to an integrated awareness informing professional and collegiate practice.
- Have gained personal and professional insight through critical reflection on self, the profession, and how society (including religion) impacts and shapes notions of wellbeing, distress, and marginalisation.

Course structure

The Bachelor of Counselling consists of 432 points, which comprises 20 core units and 4 elective units.

These units are designed to teach you not only how to be a competent practitioner, but will also help you to become

a wise practitioner, equipped for the 21st century. For further unit details go to <https://divinity.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-counselling/>

Admission criteria

Students must have completed an Australian secondary school qualification or equivalent.

Students must also:

- have regular access to a computer that supports video and other standard computing software.
- No later than by the completion of their eighth (final) first year unit, provide (at their own expense):
 - a national police check
 - a Working with Children Check (or equivalent)

Fees

FEE-Help and **Commonwealth supported places** are available for eligible Bachelor of Counselling students. See <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/> for more information.

Fees for 2025 are \$2,109 per standard unit* and are subject to change from year to year. For more information about fees, please visit <https://divinity.edu.au/study/fees/>.

*In year two and three students will undertake on-the-job training placements. These are 3 non-standard units which will include a surcharge for the clinical supervision of students.

Need more details?

Go to <https://divinity.edu.au/study/counselling/> and <https://alc.edu.au/study/courses/bachelor-of-counselling/>.

Email us at enquiries@alc.edu.au.

2026 calendar:

- **Term 1** – enrol by 9 Feb, commences 23 Feb
- **Term 2** – enrol by 10 April, commences 28 April
- **Term 3** – enrol by 17 July, commences 28 July
- **Term 4** – commences 28 September

