

Responses to Drug Problems

This course will provide an overview of the current approaches to the management of drug problems in the community, including the treatment of drug dependence, population health approaches and the response of the legal system. You will be introduced to the full range of treatments for drug problems, from management of overdoses to psychosocial interventions and withdrawal management. Currently available pharmacotherapies used in the treatment of drug dependence, including substitution treatment and relapse prevention will also be discussed. At the community level, you will examine public health and legal responses to drug problems and look at what prevention and education strategies can be implemented to reduce alcohol and other drug problems in society.

PROGRAM FEES

Fees can be paid in instalments and are for the whole program.

Australian Students (Permanent Residents):
\$7,350

International Students:
\$7,350

TO APPLY

Potential students can apply through [GradStart](#) on the SATAC website. You will also have to provide a personal statement and curriculum vitae to us. The course is only offered as part-time in distance education.

More information on:

www.health.adelaide.edu.au/pharmacology/Programs/.

Applications close: First Friday in December for commencement in the following year.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT

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or visit us at

<http://www.health.adelaide.edu.au/pharmacology/>

GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN ALCOHOL AND DRUG STUDIES

DISTANCE EDUCATION



DISCIPLINE OF PHARMACOLOGY
SCHOOL OF MEDICAL SCIENCES
FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

PROGRAM

The Graduate Certificate in Alcohol and Drug Studies will provide students with a broad educational experience including the scientific basis of drug action and addiction, approaches to treatment and community interventions.

The program is designed to assist a range of professionals to attain an advanced level of understanding of the nature of addiction and current principles of management of alcohol and drug problems.

The programs are the only ones in Australia to offer a syllabus completely focussed on drug and alcohol issues.

As part-time distance education program it is ideally suited to those who wish to study whilst continuing their regular work commitments.

TARGET AUDIENCE

Clinicians, such as medical practitioners, nurses, psychologists, social workers, counsellors and other professionals who want to develop a more in-depth understanding of addiction science to help inform their practice.

Pharmacists, educators, law enforcement officers, project officers and other professionals who seek to attain an advanced level of understanding of the nature of addiction and current principles of management of alcohol and drug problems.

Entry-level workers who wish to develop an understanding of the alcohol and drug field to increase employment opportunities in the field.

PROGRAM DELIVERY

The Graduate Certificate is offered in distance education mode with no requirement to attend classes or examinations at the University. Ours was the first drug and alcohol program in Australia to be offered by distance education which started in 1999 and has been fully online since 2005.

Programs and course handbooks, video recorded lectures, exercises, revision questions and reading for each subject (e.g. journal articles and other resource materials) are provided online. A good internet connection is therefore imperative.

Students communicate with academic staff and administrators via online education services. Students participate in online group discussions with fellow students and lecturers. Students jointly take the program at a set pace.

Knowledge and skills are assessed to keep students motivated and to monitor progress. The teaching staff provides timely feedback that helps guide individual learning.



PROGRAM DURATION

The Graduate Certificate comprises two consecutive courses and is completed part-time over one year.

There will be only one intake each year, with commencement in late February or early March.

ALTERNATIVES

Students who successfully complete the Graduate Certificate can qualify for a Graduate Diploma in Addiction and Mental Health by completing two additional courses. More information about this program can be found on health.adelaide.edu.au/nursing/students/programs.

Students who are looking for a bigger challenge can choose to do the online Master of Science in Addiction Studies instead. This exceptional program is taught with Virginia Commonwealth University (USA) and King's College London (UK). More info on www.adelaide.edu.au/addiction.

SYLLABUS

Drugs and Drug Problems

You will learn how drugs affect the body and behaviour. This will include general principles of drug action, pharmacokinetics and variability in drug response, pharmacology of the major drug classes (opioids, benzodiazepines, alcohol, stimulants, “party drugs”, nicotine, hallucinogens and cannabis) and consequences of their use. You will also be introduced to neurological mechanisms of drug tolerance and dependence and learn why addiction occurs and what aspects of genetics, personality and social circumstances predispose to drug problems.