

POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Lecturer, Social Work		
Organisational Unit	Faculty of Health Sciences		
Functional Unit	Social Work (Strathfield)		
Nominated Supervisor	Assistant Deputy Head, School of Allied Health Strathfield		
Career Pathway	Teaching and Research		
Classification	Academic Level B		
CDF Level	CDF1	Position Number	10600279
Attendance Type	Full Time	Date reviewed	16-APR-2025

ABOUT AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement: *Within the Catholic intellectual tradition and acting in Truth and Love, Australian Catholic University is committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.*

An ACU education builds on the Catholic understanding of faith and reason working together in pursuit of knowledge and promotion of human dignity and the common good.

An ACU education seeks to transform lives and communities. Students are challenged to look beyond the classroom, solve real-world problems, develop their own search for meaning and cultivate strong professional ethics. They are invited to stand up for people in need and causes that matter.

ACU is open to all. As is common with great Catholic institutions the world over, the university is inclusive and supportive of everyone, every day – regardless of their faith or tradition.

ACU is a young university making a serious impact. Ranked in the top two per cent of universities worldwide and in the top 10 Catholic universities, we're also a leader in employability with 94 per cent of our graduates employed. The university has seven campuses around Australia, a campus in Rome, Italy, and an online campus – ACU Online.

ACU has four faculties, and several research institutes and directorates. We believe our number one asset is our people. It's the character, enthusiasm and dedication of our staff that make this a university like no other. All our staff contribute to the achievement of our goals set out in ACU's Vision 2033 and aim to provide high-quality services with a strong focus on service excellence.

To be agents of change in the world, we all need to see life through the eyes of others. We believe that our role as a university is to inspire and equip people to make a difference – and that means cultivating their ability to act and think empathetically.

The structure to support this complex and national university consists of:

- Vice-Chancellor and President
- Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
- Chief Operating Officer
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)
- Vice President and Director (Mission and Identity)

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The Faculty of Health Sciences comprises three schools:

- Allied Health
- Behavioural and Health Sciences
- Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine

There are currently approximately 14,000 students (EFTSL) and 520 (FTE) staff in the faculty under the disciplines: occupational therapy, speech pathology, social work, exercise science, exercise physiology, nutrition science, biomedical science, nursing, midwifery, paramedicine, physiotherapy, psychology and public health. The Faculty is represented across seven ACU campuses.

The Faculty's current research priorities focus on Cardiovascular Disease and Metabolism, Health Services Research, Nutrition, Sports Performance and Rehabilitation, Psychology and Mental Health.

An expanding portfolio of postgraduate courses is also available in coursework and research. Many postgraduate courses within the Faculty have been developed in conjunction with industries in order to meet specific needs of the professions and industry. Some postgraduate units are offered in flexible learning mode by online study. All students have professional and clinical experience that is supervised by specially qualified practitioners. Catholic hospitals and other public, private and specialty organisations, as well as schools and the health and sports industry, are involved with preparing for promoting and offering this valued and essential experience.

The goals of the Faculty are closely linked to and emanate from the Mission of the University. The areas of achievement by the Faculty include the key areas of teaching and learning, research and scholarship, community engagement in addition to specific objectives regarding internationalisation, quality and resource management. It has well-established procedures for evaluating performance and ensuring quality which involve students and representatives of the various statutory registration authorities and professional organisations, as well as recent graduates and employers.

Further information about the Faculty can be found at:

<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/faculties-directorates-and-staff/faculty-of-health-sciences>

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH

The National School of Allied Health is located on six of the University's campuses: Brisbane, Strathfield, North Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Ballarat and is responsible for delivery of programs in four professional disciplines:

- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Physiotherapy
- Social Work / Human Services

Further information about the School can be found at: <https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/faculties-directorates-and-staff/faculty-of-health-sciences/school-of-allied-health>.

The School welcomes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, students, and community perspectives in our commitment to culturally responsive classrooms and culturally safe environments. Substantial work has been undertaken over the last 10 years to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being, and doing in curricula, as well as to build cultural capability and responsiveness in staff. Our aim is to create sustained working and teaching environments where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, cultural mentors and academics can thrive. Underpinning this work is a strong ongoing focus on community engagement both within and external to ACU to truly privilege the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People within co-design, delivery, and evaluation of all of the School's activities. Support to undertake cultural activities is available and encouraged within the school, faculty and university for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants.

ABOUT SOCIAL WORK

The Social Work Program at ACU offers a Bachelor of Social Work (Pass and Honours) at the Canberra and Strathfield campuses. The program also offers a Master of Social Work (Qualifying) on campus at Canberra and Strathfield and an online program with intensives. These programs are accredited by the Australian Association of Social Workers.

POSITION PURPOSE

The Lecturer in Social Work will contribute to the implementation of the Bachelor and Master of Social Work programs including Field Education. The Lecturer in Social Work will also assist in the management of the Field Education program for the Strathfield campus, in consultation with the National Professional Practice Lead and Head of Discipline. This position will also contribute to excellence in teaching and curriculum development and scholarship of learning and teaching.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Introduction

A number of frameworks and standards express the University's expectations of the conduct, capability, participation and contribution of staff. These are listed below:

- [ACU's Vision 2033](#)
- [Catholic Identity and Mission](#)
- [Code of Conduct for all staff](#)
- [ACU Capability Development Framework](#)
- [Higher Education Standards Framework](#)
- [ACU Staff Enterprise Agreement 2022-2025](#)
- [ACU Staff Reconciliation Action Plan](#)

The following two frameworks are important in understanding the expectations of an academic position and the required qualifications and capability of a position holder:

- The [Academic Performance Matrices and Evidence Framework](#) which describes the performance standards in areas of academic activity.
- The [Capability Development Framework](#) which describes the core competencies needed in all ACU staff to achieve the University's strategy and supports its mission.

All academic staff are allocated workload comprising a range of academic duties/activities that fall within the following three broad areas of academic activity in line with the relevant Academic Career Pathway and Academic Level.

- Teaching
- Curriculum Development and Scholarship of Teaching
- Research
- Academic Leadership/Service

Responsibility	Broad Area of Academic Activity
Undertake teaching and curriculum development in both undergraduate and postgraduate social work courses	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Undertake administrative roles appropriate to a Level B academic position including contributing to the Core curriculum if required.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Research and Scholarship undertaking social work research and/or scholarship through collaborative partnership with colleagues and the professional community	Research

Responsibility	Broad Area of Academic Activity
Build relationships with community, government and professional organisations and groups in order to strategically develop a range of student placement opportunities and support the practicum needs of the school.	Academic Leadership and Service
Liaise and collaborate with the other field education lecturers and the National Professional Practice Coordinator (Social Work) to develop policy, learning and teaching programs, and systems for field education, including assessment procedures, manuals, online resources and records for the Discipline of Social Work.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Administer the necessary contacts and reviews with placement agencies as part of students' practicum, consistent with the guidelines of the Australian Social Work Education and Accreditation Standards, Australian Social Work Practice Standards and Code of Ethics.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Manage the recruitment and provide professional development and support for field educators and liaison staff.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Prepare students for field education placements.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Provide student field education supervision and conduct liaison visits.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications, skills, knowledge and experience:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Qualification - A PhD qualification in Social Work or related discipline, or a Social Work degree with evidence of enrolment towards a higher degree or evidence which demonstrates equivalence with appropriate qualifications. Full membership, or eligibility for full membership, of the Australian Association of Social Work. • Experience - Extensive experience in Social Work practice (five years or more) including supervision of social work students on placement. • Experience - Prior experience in teaching either at a university level or experience in offering workshops, training programs. • Knowledge - Understanding of a variety of teaching approaches, including student-centred approaches, enquiry-based learning, flipped classroom and asynchronous learning • Knowledge - Demonstrated capacity to undertake research and/or scholarship that contributes to high quality publications and to supervise honours research projects. • Knowledge - Understanding of evidence-based assessment in field education
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Skill - Ability to engage and maintain effective relationships with field education provider agencies, field educators and liaison staff. • Skill - Ability to work collaboratively with internal and external stakeholders
Core Competencies:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Demonstrate confidence and courage in achieving ACU's Mission, Vision and Values by connecting the purpose of one's work to ACU's Mission, Vision and Values. • Keep stakeholder interest at the core of ACU business decisions and ACU service excellence as a top priority. • Work collaboratively internally and externally to ACU to capitalise on all available expertise in pursuit of excellence. • Communicate with purpose. Gain the support of others for actions that benefit ACU. Negotiate for mutually beneficial outcomes that are aligned with the Mission, Vision and Values of the University. • Coach and develop self and others through setting clear expectations, managing performance and developing required capabilities to establish a culture of learning and improvement.
Essential Attributes:	Demonstrated commitment to cultural diversity and ethical practice principles and demonstrated knowledge of equal employment opportunity and workplace health and safety, appropriate to the level of the appointment.
Working with children and vulnerable adults check	Evidence of the ability to work with children and/or vulnerable adults, and contribute to and protect their safety and wellbeing. The successful applicant of this position will be required to hold a valid working with children clearance for the State or Territory in which the position is located.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

For further information about the structure of the University, refer to the Organisation Chart
<https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/leadership-and-governance/leadership/organisational-structure>

