



Master in Narrative Therapy and Community Work Questions and Answers

Thanks so much for your interest in the Master in Narrative Therapy and Community Work. We're really enjoying this course! Because we have been receiving so many questions about the program, we thought it might be helpful to put together this list of responses to commonly asked questions. If you have further questions, please don't hesitate to ask.

Warmly,
Charlotte England
On behalf of Dulwich Centre

COMMON QUESTIONS

- *I'm not sure if the training I have done in narrative therapy is adequate for me to enter the Masters Program. How do I find out?*

Just write to us (dcp@dulwichcentre.com.au) letting us know what training you have done and we will let you know. If you haven't done the equivalent of a 5 day intensive we will explore possible ways for you to do so (wherever you may be located).

- *Where will the intensive two-week teaching blocks be held?*

At St John's Hall which is located at 379 Halifax Street, Adelaide and in the same building complex as Dulwich Centre.

- *Where can I stay in Adelaide?*

There are lots of options. Here is some information: <http://dulwichcentre.com.au/accommodation-in-adelaide/>

- *I have completed a long-term post graduate degree that included narrative therapy within it, but not one of the Dulwich Centre Graduate Certificate programs. How can I find out if I will be eligible for recognition of prior learning?*

Please send an email to us (dcp@dulwichcentre.com.au) and include:

- An outline of the course that you have studied, with a particular emphasis on the number of hours and the content that was dedicated to narrative practice skills
- The assessment tasks
- Who taught you
- The contact details of the key lecturer/teacher/professor whom we could contact if we have any questions.
- *How can I apply for the Anita Morawetz scholarship?*
Information and an enrolment form is available at:
<https://mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/study/scholarships/n/anita-morawetz-scholarship>

- *Is the course covered by FEE-HELP?*

Yes, the course is covered by FEE-HELP which is a loan scheme that assists eligible students pay all or part of their tuition fees. You need to be an Australian Citizen, Permanent Resident, holding a permanent humanitarian visa or a New Zealand Special Category Visa holder to be eligible. If you're unsure if you qualify, please see the Study Assist website: <https://www.studyassist.gov.au/help-loans-and-csps/fee-help>

- *Can I have a breakdown of the cost per subject?*

The cost of each subject is below ... these are the 2019 prices and are subject to annual increase.

- Advanced Narrative Skills Development: AUD\$5,184
- Narrative Practice and Research Synthesis: AUD\$10,369
- The Art of Narrative Practice: AUD\$5,184

PART-TIME STUDY

- *What are the options for part-time study?*

There is an option to complete the program over 2 years. In this option, in the first year, you attend a two-week face-to-face teaching block in March and then a one-week face-to-face teaching block October. You complete the subjects Advanced Narrative Skills Development and Art of Narrative Practice in the first 12 months. And you complete the final subject Narrative Practice and Research Synthesis in the second year. This involves one face-to-face teaching block for one-week in November of the second year.

- *Is there a fee difference between full-time and part-time students for the Master program?*

No. The price is the same for full-time and part-time students as both complete exactly the same program, just over a different timeline.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

- *If I complete the Masters will it be recognised in my country?*

Yes. The program adheres to internationally accepted AQF standards. The University of Melbourne is ranked the #1 Australian University and #28 in the world.

- *Is the fee the same for international students?*

Yes.

- *As an international student, do I stay in Australia between teaching blocks? Or do I return home?*

We suggest you return home because you need to be putting narrative ideas into practice in your work during the course.

- *What are the visa requirements for international students?*

Here is the Australian Government website which offers information on visa requirements for international students: <http://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>

- *Can international students apply for the Anita Morawetz Scholarship?*

Yes, this scholarship is open to international applicants. The scholarship is open for award to students whose project within the Masters Program will 'contribute to the clinical practice of family therapy in Australia'. The work does not have to take place within Australia. More information is available at: <https://mdhs.unimelb.edu.au/study/scholarships/n/anita-morawetz-scholarship>

- *I see that if my previous tertiary study was not taught in English that I need to fulfil the University of Melbourne's English language requirements (6.5 on IELTS). Is the only way to do this by completing a IELTS test?*

Completing an IELTS test is the most straight forward way but there are a number of ways of demonstrating the required English language competencies. For more information see:

<http://futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/admissions/entry-requirements/language-requirements>

THE ON-LINE APPLICATION

- *How do I apply?*

You can now apply for the course at: <https://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/graduate/master-of-narrative-therapy-and-community-work/how-to-apply/>

- *How can I determine if my undergraduate degree will be accepted as a cognate discipline or equivalent?*

If you are unsure about this, please email us with details of your undergraduate degree and we will let you know.

- *What should I include in my 500 word statement?*

Please include:

- why you are interested in the course
- the training you have done
- the opportunities for putting the ideas into practice during the course
- something about the ways you are currently using narrative ideas in your work,
- any particular areas of practice skills that you particularly want to improve/develop

- *Is there a standard format for the professional referee report? Should this, for example, be a written letter by my chosen references? Is there a limit to how many I should include?*

There is a referee report template supplied on the application website. There is no limit to the amount of references you may include. A work reference can confirm the work that you have done, your ability to carry out the work and your interactions with your colleagues. A personal reference would concentrate more on your character and what you are like as a person. In this instance, a professional reference would relate more to someone whom you work with currently who can vouch for you on a professional level.

OTHER QUESTIONS

- *Will completing the Masters entitle me to membership in the Australian Association of Social Workers or the Australian Psychological Society?*

No it won't.

- *How much time should I expect to put aside each week for the course?*

Apart from the teaching blocks, the course takes place on-line and there is considerable flexibility for participants. The following estimates will therefore vary considerably for individuals! In addition to the face-to-face teaching blocks, the total course will require approximately 1020 hours of student work (this includes 5 hours per week of putting the ideas into practice which will usually happen in your regular work context). If you choose to study full-time (3rd Feb – 19th December: 47 weeks) this works out at approximately 2 days of study per week (plus 5 hours of putting the ideas into practice). If you choose to study part-time (over two years) this works out to 1 day of study per week (plus 5 hours of putting the ideas into practice). Of course, everyone works at their own pace so these estimates are just approximate!

- *What counts as 5 hours of practice per week?*

It's really important during the Masters that you are putting narrative ideas into practice *at least* five hours per week. This can occur in many different contexts – paid or unpaid. It can be in one-on-one counselling work, and/or with families, and/or with groups, and/or with communities. It can happen

face-to-face or even online (via Skype/Zoom). There is considerable flexibility. But what is important is that you are directly applying narrative practices. Teaching *about* narrative practice does not count. What counts are using narrative practices in direct work with people. If you have any questions about your particular context, please write to us.

I think that's all for now. Thanks again for your interest in this practice-based Masters Program in Narrative Therapy and Community Work! We are really looking forward to it and hope you will be part of it.

Warmly,
Charlotte
on behalf of Dulwich Centre