

POSITION DESCRIPTION – ACADEMIC

POSITION INFORMATION

Position Title	Senior Lecturer in Social Work		
Faculty	Faculty of Health Sciences		
School	School of Allied Health		
Nominated Supervisor	Deputy Head of School, Brisbane	Campus/Location	Brisbane
Academic Level	Level C	Academic Career Pathway	Teaching and Research
CDF Achievement Level	2 Management (Line)	Work Area Position Code	
Employment Type	Full-time, Continuing	Date reviewed	20/11/2017

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.

Australian Catholic University (ACU) is both a Catholic University and a public institution within the Australian higher education sector. ACU is an inclusive community which welcomes students and staff of all beliefs. The University is committed to a strong Catholic ethos and seeks to foster and promote teaching and learning, research and scholarship, and community engagement in the Christian tradition. As valued members of our community, all staff members are expected to have an understanding of ACU's [Mission](#) and values and to demonstrate an active contribution to them.

The University shares with universities worldwide a commitment to quality in teaching, research and service. It aspires to be a community characterised by free enquiry and academic integrity.

The University chooses to focus on areas of teaching and research that are closely connected with its particular character as a University that is Catholic, public and national. The focus areas are Theology and Philosophy, Health, Education, and the Common Good and Social Justice.

ACU has over 2,500 staff supporting more than 34,000 students across seven campuses – Adelaide, Ballarat, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, North Sydney and Strathfield.

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

- Provost
- Chief Operating Officer & Deputy Vice-Chancellor
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Research
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor, Students, Learning and Teaching

Each portfolio consists of a number of Faculties, Research Institutes or Directorates. The Directorate of Identity and Mission drives both the Identity and the [Mission](#) of the University. In addition, five Associate Vice-Chancellors and Campus Deans focus on the University's local presence and development of the University at the local 'campus' level.

The University pursues performance excellence and offers an environment where staff are valued and rewarded. Staff are expected to demonstrate a commitment to continuous improvement and to participate fully in

resolving issues to achieve and maintain quality standards relevant to role. Further information about a career with ACU is available at www.acu.edu.au. ACU is committed to diversity and social inclusion in its employment practices. Applications from Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, people with disabilities and people from culturally diverse groups are encouraged.

Faculty of Health Sciences

The Faculty of Health Sciences is located across five campuses of Australian Catholic University and is one of the largest faculties of Health Sciences in Australia. The Faculty is structured into six Schools and there are three University priority research centers based in the Faculty:

The Schools are:

School of Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine (National)

School of Exercise Science (National)

School of Physiotherapy (National)

School of Allied Health (National)

School of Science (National)

School of Psychology (National)

The University is committed to quality research in the following areas:

- common good and social justice – cross-disciplinary research in the liberal arts and social sciences that enhances the social and cultural well-being of communities
- health – research that progresses the quality of health care, especially for the vulnerable
- education – research concerned with quality, equity and diversity in education with emphases on leadership, numeracy, literacy, Indigenous and religious education
- theology and philosophy – research concerned with the elucidation, development and expression of Catholic intellectual thought.

The Faculty's courses are developed within the Catholic intellectual tradition with the goal of preparing graduates in health with an emphasis on social justice and equity, and sustainability.

School of Allied Health

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

- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Public Health
- Social Work

POSITION PURPOSE

A Senior Lecturer in Social Work is expected to make significant contributions to the development and implementation of Social Work degree programs at the Australian Catholic University by providing technical, clinical and industry advice. The Senior Lecturer in Social Work will consult with the Discipline Lead in Social Work, Deputy Head of School, Course Coordinators of Social Work and other staff as required ensuring that the implementation of Social Work is comprehensively managed.

POSITION 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 Strategic Plan 2015-2020
- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Learning For Life Framework 2014-2017
- ACU Teaching Criteria and Standards Framework
- Research Quality Standards
- Academic Performance Matrices and Evidence Framework
- ACU Capability Development Framework
- Minimum Standards for Academic Levels (MSALs)
- Higher Education Standards Framework
- ACU Service Principles
- ACU Staff Enterprise Agreement including provisions in relation to Performance Excellence and Academic Career Pathways.

The following two frameworks in particular 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.

Key responsibilities

Broad area of academic activity	Key responsibilities specific to this position	Relevant Core Competencies (Capability Development Framework)
Teaching, curriculum development and scholarship of teaching	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Teach at undergraduate and postgraduate levels as appropriate; • Assess students enrolled in social work degree programs; • Contribute to academic planning and development, rationalisation of courses and coordination of programs; • Actively contribute in the accreditation and review of existing programs, and curriculum development; • Provide, as needed, supervision to social work students undertaking field placements • Participate in School, Faculty and University committees and related activities as appropriate; • Be actively involved in professional proceedings within the Faculty and the University; and; • Maintain professional competency in social work 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate Effectively • Communicate with Impact. • Coach and Develop. • Deliver Stakeholder Centric Service • Be Responsible and Accountable for Achieving Excellence.
Research	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide academic leadership in Social Work research and scholarship and in building relationships within the professional community to support student professional practice experiences; • Supervise research students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coach and develop • Collaborate effectively
'Academic Leadership and Service'	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Academic leadership in course and unit review and development in a range of teaching modes; • Provide leadership in learning and teaching, including initiatives to enhance the student experience; • Developing and maintaining relationships with external organisations and community engagement partnerships. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Collaborate Effectively • Be Responsible and Accountable for Achieving Excellence • Know ACU Work Processes and Systems • Deliver Stakeholder Centric Service

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications and Capability		Selection Criteria
Qualifications and other credentials		
1.	A social work professional qualification and a post-qualification higher degree (Doctor of Philosophy / Clinical Doctorate or equivalent) in Social Work or closely related field.	Yes

Qualifications and Capability		Selection Criteria
2.	Full membership or eligibility for full membership of the Australian Association of Social Work.	Yes
3.	Demonstrated professional experience (at least 5 years) of social work practice in human service organizations.	Yes
Teaching, curriculum development and scholarship of teaching		
4.	Demonstrated capacity to implement effective teaching and learning at the higher education level. Evidence of initiative or innovation in practice which contributes to supporting students and creating supportive, inclusive learning environments.	Yes
5.	Demonstrated understanding of the nexus between teaching and research in approaches to teaching and learning, and to research and scholarship.	Yes
Research		
6.	Demonstrated excellence in academic teaching and a strong research profile in higher education.	Yes
7.	Ability to supervise research students.	Yes
Academic leadership/service		
8.	Demonstrated ability to work collaboratively with stakeholders internal and external to the organisation to capitalise on all available expertise in pursuit of excellence.	Yes
9.	An ability to take personal accountability for achieving the high quality outcomes through an understanding of organisational context, self-reflection, and aspiring to and striving for excellence.	Yes
Other attributes		
10.	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.	Yes
11.	Demonstrated high level of skills in written and oral communication and information literacy;	Yes
12.	Evidence of ability to work with children, and contribute to and protect their safety and wellbeing. The successful applicant will be required to hold a valid working with children clearance for the State or Territory in which the position is located.	Yes