

# MASTER OF HIV, STIs and SEXUAL HEALTH (COUNSELLING)



SYDNEY MEDICAL SCHOOL

The HIV, STIs and Sexual Health Program provides high levels of knowledge and skills in the understanding and control of HIV, STIs and other sexual health issues.

Our comprehensive Program will give you an opportunity to develop your skills in a multidisciplinary, research-rich environment.



THE UNIVERSITY OF SYDNEY

The Master of HIV, STIs and Sexual Health (MHSSH) is a global first in the provision of an inter-professional, multidisciplinary, research-intensive coursework degree that meets the needs of Australian and international students working in a range of disciplines related to HIV, STIs and sexual health, including sexual health counsellors, physicians, sex therapists, nurses, public health professionals and laboratory personnel. The Program provides a seamless pathway to research candidature via the Master of Philosophy component.

The Program is offered by the Western Sydney Sexual Health Centre (WSSHC), part of Sydney Medical School, at the University of Sydney.

The learning environment and pedagogic structures provide an environment where students across various professions, cultures and countries come together to solve complex problems in a cross-disciplinary team environment. An inbuilt streaming of learning pathways provides generic competencies, as well as the flexibility of choice for specific professional needs and specialisations.

Further details may be found at the Sydney Medical School website:

<http://sydney.edu.au/courses/Master-of-HIV,-STIs-and-Sexual-Health-Counselling>

## LEARNING PATHWAYS

Students may enrol in one of the following:

- Master of HIV, STIs and Sexual Health (Counselling) – (48 Credit Points)
- Graduate Diploma in HIV, STIs and Sexual Health (Counselling) – (36 Credit Points)
- A double degree of the MHSSH with a Master of Philosophy (MPhil). Please note that this is only available to AusAID-funded students
- Students who successfully complete the MHSSH degree with a Credit grade (or higher) may apply for consideration to enrol in an intercalated MPhil degree program.
- Those who successfully complete their MPhil may use this as a one year contribution towards a three year Doctor of Philosophy program

## MODES OF DELIVERY

**Full-time:** 1 year  
(Full-time candidature is encouraged)  
**Part-time:** 1.5 – 6 years

The course commences in Semester 1 (early March). Or Semester 2 (late July). There are two intakes of students per year.  
The course may be completed in on-campus (full-time) or distance (full- or part-time) modes. The Program is delivered in a blended format, that is, it has a mixture of both face-to-face and online components. Attendance at face-to-face components is mandatory.

The face-to-face component of the core units in the Counselling stream will be offered in two on-campus Intensives of approximately 2 weeks duration. These will be scheduled in May/June and October of each year.

Some elective units of study are entirely online; many have one or more short, intensive, on-campus sessions; and some units require weekly attendance during semester. The face-to-face components of most blended electives are timetabled to occur at times to enable students to complete all their face-to-face components sequentially. However, students are advised to check this prior to enrolment.

### Application

Application can be made online at:  
<http://sydney.edu.au/courses/Master-of-HIV,-STIs-and-Sexual-Health-Counselling>

### Application Closing Dates

31 January for Semester 1 of the same year. 30 April for Semester 2 of the same year. Late applications may be considered.

### Fees

Fee structures can be found at:  
<http://sydney.edu.au/future-students/domestic/postgraduate/coursework/costs-scholarships/>

## TARGET AUDIENCES

- Recent graduates in psychology, counselling, education, occupational therapy, rehabilitation therapy and social work who are interested in pursuing a career in HIV, STIs and Sexual Health counselling and therapy.
- More established professionals (such as nurses, therapists, counsellors, social workers, teachers, general practitioners) wishing to gain greater knowledge and understanding in these areas.
- Professionals who deal with HIV, STIs and Sexual Health issues as part of their professional roles (such as marriage and relationship counsellors, clergy, journalists, occupational therapists, rehabilitation counsellors) and who wish to gain greater knowledge and understanding in these areas.

### FULL-TIME LEARNING PATHWAY FOR MASTER OF HIV, STIS AND SEXUAL HEALTH (COUNSELLING)

SEMESTER 1 Unit of Study	Credit Points	Code	Attendance Requirements
Introduction to HIV, STIs and Sexual Health	6	SEXH5401	Wholly online
Counselling in Sexual Health 1	6	SEXH5402	Online with intensive in Week 12: 4 days on-campus
Variations in Sexual Function	6	SEXH5404	Online with intensive in Week 11: 4 days on-campus
Elective	6	Various	Various

SEMESTER 2 Unit of Study	Credit Points	Code	Attendance Requirements
Counselling in Sexual Health 2	6	SEXH5403	Online with intensive in Week 11: 4 days on-campus
Sex Gender and Sexuality	6	SEXH5407	Online with intensive in Week 12: 4 days on-campus
Professional Placement	6	SEXH5406	Ongoing placements with intensive in Week 13: 3 days
Elective	6	Various	Various

### ELECTIVE UNITS OF STUDY

SEMESTER 1 Unit of Study	Credit Points	Code	Attendance Requirements
Epidemiological Methods and Uses	6	PUBH5010	Online with voluntary attendance at lectures and tutorials
Introductory Biostatistics	6	PUBH5018	Wholly online with voluntary attendance at lectures and tutorials
Adult Sexual Assault	6	SEXH5409	Online with intensive in Week 10: 2 days
Sexual Health Promotion 1	6	SEXH5410	Online with intensive in Week 10: 3 days
Sexual Health and Relationships Education	6	SEXH5412	Online with intensive in Week 13: 4 days

SEMESTER 2 Unit of Study	Credit Points	Code	Attendance Requirements
Global Perspectives of HIV/AIDS*	4	MIPH5118	Semester 2b: Wholly online or 4 days intensive
Sex and Society	2	SEXH5008	Semester 2a: Wholly online with voluntary attendance at lectures
Public Health Aspects of STDs	2	SEXH5101	Semester 2a: Wholly online with voluntary attendance at lectures
Public Health Aspects of HIV/AIDS	2	SEXH5102	Semester 2a: Wholly online with voluntary attendance at lectures
Advanced Adolescent Sexual Health	6	SEXH5205	Wholly online
Contraception & Reproductive Health	6	SEXH5405	Online with intensive in Week 12: 3 days
HIV/STI Program Delivery*	2	SEXH5408	Semester 2a: Online with 4 half-day intensive
Sexual Health Promotion 2	6	SEXH5413	Online with intensive in Week 10: 3 days

\* These 2 units of study must be taken together

## FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT

Western Sydney Sexual Health Centre  
Telephone: +61 2 9762 5390  
Email: [MHSSHenquiries@sydney.edu.au](mailto:MHSSHenquiries@sydney.edu.au)  
Website: [sydney.edu.au/medicine/wsshc](http://sydney.edu.au/medicine/wsshc)

