



Australian Institute
of Family Counselling

Course Prospectus

Year 1 Certificate IV in
Christian Counselling

Year 2 Diploma and
Advanced Diploma

Year 3 Vocational Graduate
Certificate in Counselling
and Family Therapy (Christian)

Course Prospectus

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Family Counselling

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80882ACT Certificate IV in Christian Counselling

80883ACT Diploma in Counselling and Family
Therapy (Christian)

80884ACT Advanced Diploma in Counselling
and Family Therapy (Christian)

80896ACT Vocational Graduate Certificate in
Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian)





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From the national directors



Thank you for your interest in becoming a qualified counsellor with the Australian Institute of Family Counsellors (AIFC).

Counselling is regarded as one of the most rewarding and fulfilling careers. The need for properly qualified counsellors has never been greater due to the increasing problems occurring in people's lives arising from the difficult world in which we live. In fact, recent government figures show that the counselling profession is the most rapidly growing industry especially in community services and the health sector.

AIFC offers a post-graduate qualification in counselling, the Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy, which may be obtained within three years. This course is not only nationally recognised training with the Australian Government but is also accredited with the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA), the premier counselling accreditation body in Australia, and the Australian Counselling Association (ACA).

Students may exit at the end of year one and obtain the Certificate in Christian Counselling, or in year two and obtain the Diploma or Advanced Diploma in Counselling and Family Therapy.

However, we strongly recommend that if you are serious about counselling you need to commit to the whole three

year training package. It is generally recognised that a minimum of three years of structured counselling culminating in a bachelor degree or a vocational graduate certificate is necessary to be properly qualified as a counsellor.

The course involves a balanced integration of psychology, theology and spirituality. There is also an emphasis on family counselling.

The competency-based course is a comprehensive, biblical, up-to-date and main-stream presentation of Christian counselling and family therapy and covers a wide range of topics.

Personal growth is a feature of the course. The course enhances your development as an individual and as a Christian, enriches your marriage and family, and helps you in other relationships.

Because we are committed to you succeeding you will be personally mentored throughout the course.

The course is designed with four three-day intensive training sessions and a single day at the end of the year in ten centres throughout Australia for years one and two. There are no seminars for year three. This means minimal disruption of your working schedule and everyday life. Some flexibility in learning is also available.

AIFC is a not-for-profit organisation and offers training at a relatively low cost. It is also a VET Fee-Help approved provider which means the Australian Government pays your tuition fees and you repay the loan through the taxation system if your income exceeds a minimum repayment threshold. This means no up-front fee payments are required and students on low incomes are not required to repay the government and the course is without cost. This will be a great assistance to many students.

AIFC has trained some 5000 counsellors since beginning in 1992, from many different backgrounds—young, middle aged and elderly. Some did the training to become a qualified professional counsellor, a counsellor in a church, a school counsellor, a counsellor in a government department, a school or hospital chaplain, or an adjunct to their primary profession (teaching, nursing, pastoring, church leader, medical work, youth work, etc.).

If you want further information please do not hesitate to contact the AIFC National Office in Canberra (1300 721 397).

Dr Bruce Litchfield
AIFC President

Nellie Litchfield
AIFC Director

Counselling: an excellent career opportunity

There has never been a better time to become a qualified counsellor. The need for counsellors in Australia is enormous. Qualified counsellors have a very fulfilling time addressing the personal and family needs in the community as they witness lives being changed for the better.

The impressive need for counsellors is evidenced by a 2007 Australian Bureau of Statistics Labour Force Survey, which showed that in recent years the counselling profession has grown at a rate of over 28 per cent, outgrowing all other occupations by more than 200 per cent.

The community services and health industries are experiencing unprecedented growth. An ageing population, increasing social pressures affecting many people, depression stress-related illness, increasing support needs of families, sexual problems, increasing alcohol and drug problems and other addictions, are all largely responsible for this. In fact, according to these industry reports, government departments require over 170,000 new positions filled by 2012. It is expected to be the fastest industry growth rate over the next five years accounting for an amazing 24 per cent of all workforce

growth. Counsellors seeking careers in government departments, schools, many churches in most cases will need to have a bachelor degree or a post-graduate degree in counselling. The AIFC Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy more than meets these requirements.

This extraordinary demand for counsellors creates significant career opportunities in this rewarding field. Qualified counsellors can be employed by the government, schools, churches, counselling clinics, as hospital and school chaplains, or work in private practice.

“I personally found the Vocational Graduate Certificate to be the link between the Advanced Diploma and establishing myself as a professional Counsellor. The VGC enabled me to utilise all the information that was imparted over the previous two years in a practical manner. Studying for the VGC gave me the skills and the opportunity to obtain an internship and receive good supervision. I built up a clientele and learned new techniques to add to the model I had become so familiar with. The VGC was a real learning curve that enabled me to establish myself as a professional counsellor.”

Female professional counsellor

About the courses—an overview

The content and presentation of the Counselling and Family Therapy courses established by Bruce and Nellie Litchfield has emerged out of a lifetime of experience. Training includes learning basic counselling skills and a general model of Christian counselling in the first year, and learning a Christian model of family therapy and a supervised therapy practicum in the second year.

Four courses are offered:

- Certificate IV in Christian Counselling— one year
- Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian)—one and a half years
- Advanced Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian)—two years
- Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy— three years.

They are all accredited with the Australian Government and meet the professional training standards of the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA), and the Australian Counselling Association (ACA). They also meet the training requirements for membership of the Christian Counsellors Association of Australia, the Australian Association of Relationship Counsellors, Counsellors and Psychotherapists Association of NSW.

The courses draw from world leaders in Christian counselling such as Mark Yarhouse, Stanton Jones, George

Ohlschlager, Tim Clinton, John Townsend, Larry Crabb, Mark Laaser, Mark McMinn, Archibald Hart, Grant Martin, Sandra Wilson, Gary Collins, Frank Minirth, Paul Meier, Norman Wright, Everett Worthington Jr., Clifford and Joyce Penner, and many others.

Students have three years to complete the Certificate IV in Christian Counselling, three years to complete the units of the Diploma courses (the year two units), and three years to complete the units of the Vocational Graduate Certificate. However each individual unit must be completed within the time specified in the AIFC Handbook for Students. Units must also be completed in the correct sequence.

The AIFC Handbook for Students given out at the start of the course is very comprehensive. It sets out full details of AIFC and its policies, code of ethics, staff, fees, assignments, due dates for assignments, assessment methods, elements of competency and performance criteria, student rights and responsibilities, language/literacy forms, feedback and evaluation forms, and other forms.

Dates, times and venues of training centres, course fees and application for enrolment form are found in a separate attachment to this prospectus and in the handbook.

Students can obtain VET FEE-HELP. Eligible students can obtain Austudy/ Abstudy.

A brief history

The courses started in 1992 as a ministry of Dr Bruce and Nellie Litchfield in response to several requests by church leaders. They were birthed out of much travail, many years of intensive input both in Australia and USA, a deep God-given passion for the health and restoration of the families of the world, and many years of professional marriage and family therapy practice (including addiction therapy and sexual therapy).

In 1994 the courses were brought under the banner of Family Ministries, Youth With A Mission and became accredited as a Certificate IV and Diploma in Christian Counselling and Family Therapy.

In 2001 the courses were taken out of YWAM and began being conducted by the newly formed Australian Institute of Family Counselling Limited. The friendship with YWAM remained. In 2003 the courses were reaccredited and the Diploma was upgraded to an Advanced Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian).

In 2010 a third year was added and those who completed it received the Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian).

Courses are now offered in ten centres: Adelaide, Brisbane, Canberra, Melbourne, Newcastle, Perth, Sydney (in English and Korean), distance education, and Korean distance education.



The organisation: Australian Institute of Family Counselling (AIFC)

“The course is very comprehensive. It has made me more compassionate and less critical ... My family has seen many changes.”

Female small group leader

An integration of theology, psychology and spirituality

The training program is an integration of theology, psychology and spirituality.

Human beings are spirit, soul and body. The fact that human beings have a spiritual (religious) dimension cannot be ignored in counselling if it is to be fully effective.

Therefore balanced and effective counselling requires the integration of theology, psychology and spirituality. Theology involves an accurate awareness of need, psychology involves an accurate awareness of self, and spirituality involves the healing relationship.

The Australian Institute of Family Counselling Limited (AIFC) is a professional training organisation engaged solely in higher education and counselling training. Its primary desire is to offer, as a God-given ministry, counselling training at reasonable cost to the Christian community. As a multi-denominational organisation it is not connected with any specific Christian denomination.

The Company administration is operated through the AIFC National Office in Canberra. AIFC Centres exist in other locations. Intensive teaching seminars are conducted in well-equipped conference centres that provide excellent professional services at corporate training level.

It is an independent public company limited by guarantee registered under the Corporations Act 2001.

AIFC contact details and course venues are listed on page 23.

MISSION STATEMENT

Equipping families to heal the nations

PURPOSE STATEMENT

The principle purpose of AIFC is to provide education in counselling and family therapy in view of the healing and enrichment of the family as a basic unit of society in Australia and elsewhere.

This purpose:

- 1** is implemented through providing excellence in Christian family counselling training in Australia and other nations
- 2** is in obedience to the command of Jesus Christ to ‘Go and make disciples of all nations’ (Matthew 28:19)
- 3** involves both prevention and therapy. Prevention means demonstrating and teaching God’s principles of marriage and family, before breakdown occurs. Family therapy occurs when breakdown has occurred and is a ministry of reconciliation (2 Corinthians 5:18-20). These aspects of the training involve:
 - teaching of biblical principles of marriage and family, so people will no longer call evil good, or good evil, put darkness for light and light for darkness; put bitter for sweet and sweet for bitter (Isaiah 5:20)

- teaching on family systems—how families operate—the functional and the dysfunctional; specialised training in counselling and family therapy, in view of the restoration of broken and hurting individuals and families
- teaching and helping families to become ‘World Christians’ and be involved in the fulfilment of the Great Commission of making disciples of all the nations
- professional counselling training at a minimal cost to the Christian community
- middle-of-the-road, mainstream approaches to counselling drawing from theological, psychological and spiritual perspectives
- multiplying the vision throughout Australia and to other nations, and to make it available to the poor and disadvantaged peoples of the world.

FOUNDATIONAL VALUES

Since the commencement of this counselling training program in 1992, God has emphasised certain biblical core values that have served as its spiritual foundations. The combined strength of these values has strongly influenced the nature, character and growth of AIFC, and will continue to do so into the future.

The following list of foundational values has been compiled by the founders and directors of AIFC.

- 1 AIFC is called to make God known through modelling, training and counselling. All our activities should contribute toward the goal of discipling the nations. Counselling is considered to be a very important part of the process of discipling (Acts 13:2–3, Genesis 12:1–3, Matthew 28:19–20, Romans 10:9–18, 15:18–21).
- 2 AIFC recognizes the Bible to be God’s inspired and authoritative Word and relies upon the Holy Scriptures as the standard for life, teaching and ministry. Obedience to the Word of God is the evidence of our commitment to Jesus’ Lordship (Hebrews 4:12, 2 Timothy 3:16, John 8:31–32, 2 Timothy 2:15).
- 3 AIFC is called to value and respect each individual. We believe that all individuals from all cultures have distinctive contributions and callings (Genesis 1:27, Psalm 139:13–16, Galatians 3:28, 1 Corinthians 12:4–31, Acts 13:1–3, Ephesians 2:19–22, 4:4–7).
- 4 AIFC recognises the value of the family as the basic unit of society. Healthy families make healthy communities. We affirm the importance of fathers, mothers and children all sharing a commitment to serve God and humanity. We support

the necessity for each individual family to be a strong and healthy unit, and a safe and secure place to nurture children. The institution of marriage was intended by God to be a permanent life-long relationship between a man and a woman, regardless of all trials and stresses that may occur. Children are a heritage from God and parents are accountable to God for raising, protecting, shaping and preparing them for a life of service to God. All human life is of great worth and significance in all its aspects from conception to the grave (Deuteronomy 4:9–10, 40, 6:6–7, 32:46, Proverbs 31, 1 Timothy 3:4, Ephesians 5:26–6:2).

- 5 AIFC is multi-denominational, interdenominational and international in its scope. We believe that cultural, racial and theological diversity are positive factors that contribute to its health and growth (Matthew 24:14, Ephesians 4:1–16, Revelation 7:9).
- 6 AIFC recognises both the spiritual (specific) and natural (general) revelation of God. Truth is known not only through God’s word but also through creation, which means we can thankfully draw upon psychology where it does not conflict with the word of God (John 1:18, Luke 10:21–22, Romans 1:20, Psalm 19:1,2, Ecclesiastes 3:11).



- 7 AIFC is committed to doing, then teaching, according to Jesus' example. We affirm the importance of living a concept, theory or belief in personal experience as essential to passing it on to others (Ezra 7:10, Acts 1:1, Philippians 4:8–9, Colossians 3:1–17, 2 Peter 1:5–10, Micah 6:8).
- 8 AIFC affirms the importance of the local church and seeks to serve it, support it, and promote unity among all God's people. We endeavour to work in partnership with other believers, building bridges among Christian leaders, churches and other Christian counselling training organisations for the fulfilment of the Great Commission (Philippians: 3–5, 1 Thessalonians 1:2–10, Ephesians 3:8–10).
- 9 AIFC is called to servant leadership. A servant leader is one who honours the calling of his or her followers and guards their rights and privileges. Just as Jesus served his disciples, we stress the importance of those with leadership responsibilities in AIFC, serving those whom they lead in a similar manner (Luke 17:7–10, John 13:12–17, Mark 10:42–45).
- 10 AIFC is called to practice generosity and to model and teach the spirit of generosity in all we do (Romans 12: 8–13, 1 Timothy 5:17, 6:18, Philippians 4: 17–18, Luke 6:38, Acts 20:35, Psalm 112:5).

WHAT WE BELIEVE (STATEMENT OF FAITH)

- 1 The Bible is the inspired, infallible and authoritative written word of God (2 Timothy 3:16, 2 Peter 1:19–21).
- 2 There is only one God, eternally existent in three persons—God the Father, God the Son, and God the Holy Spirit (Matthew 28:19, 2 Corinthians 13:14).
- 3 We believe in the deity and lordship of Jesus, his perfect humanity, his miracles, his vicarious and atoning death, his bodily resurrection, his ascension to the right hand of the Father, and his personal future return to the earth in power and glory to establish his eternal kingdom.
- 4 God created human beings in his image and his plan for them is to have eternal life through Jesus Christ; and although all have sinned, he has made salvation possible through the death and resurrection of Jesus, and that repentance, faith, love and obedience are fitting responses to his initiative of grace towards them (John 3:16,36, Acts 20:21, 26:17–20).
- 5 God's desire is that every human being be saved and understand the truth (1 Timothy 2:4).
- 6 We believe in the blessed hope—the rapture of the Church at Christ's coming (1 Thessalonians 4:17), in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost, one to everlasting life and the other to everlasting damnation (John 11:25,26, Revelation 21:7–8).
- 7 Regeneration by the Holy Spirit is essential for personal salvation (John 1:13, 3:3, 1 Peter 1:23).
- 8 The fullness of the Holy Spirit is God's will for the Christian (Acts 2:4, Luke 11:13, Ephesians 5:18).
- 9 We believe in the sanctifying power of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to lead a holy life, experience the fruit and gifts of the Spirit, and accomplish Christ's last commandment to "Go therefore and make disciples of all the nations" (Galatians 5:16,22–25, 1 Corinthians 12:8–10, Matthew 28:19).
- 10 We believe in the importance of the church as the body of Christ, and the Christian's involvement in the local church (1 Corinthians 1:2, 12:13, Ephesians 4:11–16).

What the courses involve

The competency-based training program is a balanced, sequential and comprehensive presentation of the latest concepts of Christian counselling and family therapy. The subject matter is highly biblical and integrates psychology. It draws from a wide range of authorities and clinical experience.

The course emphasises personal application and growth, as well as personal equipping—through training, class participation and sharing, demonstrations, small home-group activities, assignments and personal mentoring. Being competency-based, students will be trained in counselling skills and to effectively use a counselling and family therapy model.

For each of the first two years, students attend four intensive training seminars that are scheduled 10 weeks apart. At the end of each 40 weeks of study, students attend a further day for handing in assignments, oral presentations, review and final assessments.

Assignments—which are completed between teaching segments—include weekly journaling, small group counselling skills training reports, counselling skills assignments, written assignments, literature review, and other assignments.

Students are required to attend small home groups each month for skills training and support, and in year one are required to work with a learning partner.

Training includes learning basic counselling skills and a general model of counselling in year one, and learning a model of family therapy in year two. Year three is entirely a practical year involving the application of the two models of counselling in a clinical setting.

Students will be closely monitored and personally mentored by tutors throughout the course (see page 16).

How many hours a week are needed to do the assignments?

This will vary depending on academic ability. Some who do the course are university graduates and others have completed only the School Certificate (plus life experience). However, students need not be too apprehensive about the academic requirements of the course, as it has been found that most committed persons can adequately cope with them.

The course is accredited as a full-time course requiring 20 hours a week, during the 40 weeks of the course, in course contact hours, tutor contact, practical small group sessions, home assignments, supervised practicum, counselling and family therapy. The time required will vary from person to person. Those who have not previously experienced post-secondary training may need to spend more time initially as they develop their reading and study skills.

As students become more familiar with the requirements of the assignments it becomes easier and quicker to complete them. Should the study commitments

prove to be a burden, a safety net can be negotiated in the form of more flexible learning.

Can someone who hasn't studied for 30 years do the course?

Yes—it is certainly possible. Many have satisfactorily completed the course in that situation. The detailed student handbook, which is given out at the start of the course, will explain everything about assignments. AIFC staff will always be available to help with the academic requirements.

Can someone with a very demanding job and a large family finish the course?

Course classroom activities are especially designed so busy participants can also carry on their normal occupation, while being highly committed to attaining counselling competence. Many busy people have managed their family and work commitments while completing the course.

Even so, all students need to allow enough time to do justice to the assignments and should be confident of setting aside some three hours a day to satisfactorily complete the course assignments. Priorities have to be set and maybe some other activities have to be suspended in order to satisfactorily do the course without inflicting stress on self or family. More flexible arrangements can be negotiated for anyone finding themselves overcommitted and unable to maintain the workload.

Course information and content

The four courses offered by AIFC are:

- Certificate IV in Christian Counselling—Code 80664 ACT
- Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian)—Code 80665 ACT
- Advanced Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian)—Code 80668 ACT.
- Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy—Code 80896 ACT.

Eight comprehensive training volumes on Christian Counselling and Family Therapy, compiled over a period of many years by Dr Bruce and Nellie Litchfield, are supplied to each participant. They cover the content of the training program. The course content is set out in the table below, and a fuller description of each unit follows.

More details about the units are in the AIFC Handbook for Students that is provided at the start of the course.

CERTIFICATE IV IN CHRISTIAN COUNSELLING—YEAR ONE

To receive the Certificate IV in Christian Counselling, students must complete to a satisfactory standard all the following units in not more than three years.

Unit name	Topic
AIFC 401B Promote Fruitful Living	Practical Theology—Fruitful Living (Discipleship)
AIFC 402B Analyse and Evaluate Theological and Psychological Theory relevant to Counselling	Theology and Psychology
AIFC 404B Apply Theology in Counselling	Introduction to Biblical Studies
AIFC 405B Evaluate Theories and Models of Psychotherapy	Models of Psychotherapy
AIFC 407B Use Christian Concepts in Counselling	Basic Christian Counselling Concepts
AIFC 410B Evaluate and Apply Basic Counselling Skills	Basic Counselling Skills
AIFC 412B Evaluate and Apply a General Model of Counselling	A General Model of Counselling
AIFC 420B Evaluate and Apply Cognitive Behaviour Therapy	Cognitive Behaviour Therapy
AIFC 430B Apply Redemptive Truth in Counselling Counsel clients from other cultures	The Restoration of the Personality and Cross-Cultural Counselling
AIFC 440B Provide Counselling for Clients with Common Emotional Disorders	Psychopathology I
AIFC 500B Incorporate Principles of Theology, Psychology and Spirituality in Counselling	Theology, Psychology and Spirituality
AIFC 490B Apply Counselling Skills and the General Counselling Model	Counselling Skills Practicum

DIPLOMA OF COUNSELLING AND FAMILY THERAPY (CHRISTIAN)—YEAR TWO

Students are required to complete all units in the Certificate IV in Christian Counselling before starting the Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian). The units are completed within the first two terms of year two (six months).

To receive the Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian), students must satisfactorily complete the units below in not more than three years.

We recommend that students complete the Advanced Diploma, as very important topics relevant to counselling are covered in that course.

“The Diploma has helped me obtain a position as a school counsellor.”

Male School Counsellor

Unit name	Topic
AIFC 510B Incorporate the Principles of Family, Marriage and Parenting	Principles of Family, Marriage, and Parenting
AIFC 520B Evaluate Theories and Models of Family Therapy	Models of Family Therapy
AIFC 525B Use a Specific Model of Family Therapy	A Model of Family Therapy
AIFC 530B Analyse and Apply Ethics in Family Therapy	Ethics
AIFC 540B Provide Therapy for Married and Other Couples	Marriage (Couples) Therapy
AIFC 545B Conduct Stress Management in Therapy	Stress Management
AIFC 590B Conduct Family Therapy Sessions	Family Therapy Practicum

ADVANCED DIPLOMA OF COUNSELLING AND FAMILY THERAPY (CHRISTIAN) – YEAR TWO

To start the Advanced Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian), students are required to complete all units in the Certificate IV in Christian Counselling and all units in the Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian). The units that are unique to the Advanced Diploma are completed in the last two terms (six months) of year two.

To receive the Advanced Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian), students must satisfactorily complete in not more than three years all the relevant units for the Diploma of Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian) and the units below.

“I have a deeper understanding of God’s grace and know that I don’t have to perform to have God’s love.”

Church Elder

Unit name	Topic
AIFC 620B Evaluate and Provide Therapy for Psychopathological Disorders	Psychopathology II
AIFC 625B Provide Therapy for Clients with Addiction Issues	Addiction Therapy
AIFC 635B Provide Therapy for Grieving Clients	Grief Therapy
AIFC 650B Provide Therapy for Issues Relating to Abuse and Trauma	Abuse and Trauma
AIFC 660B Evaluate and Apply Issues Relating to Children and Youth	Problems of Children and Youth
AIFC 670B Provide Therapy for Clients presenting with Sexual Problems	Introduction to Sexual Therapy
AIFC 680B Review Literature on a Specific Counselling Issue and give an Oral Presentation	Literature Review, and Oral Presentation
AIFC 690B Conduct Family Therapy Sessions	Family Therapy Practicum

Advanced Study Majors

One or more of the six units 620B, 625B, 635B, 650B, 660B and 670B may be completed separately as elective Advanced Study Majors following the completion of the diploma course instead of completing the Advanced Diploma course. Each unit will require

an additional eight to ten page literature review of the topic (see literature review details for the advanced diploma for information on how to complete this assignment). Students doing an advanced study major will be allocated a tutor and will need to attend the relevant seminar.

VOCATIONAL GRADUATE CERTIFICATE IN COUNSELLING AND FAMILY THERAPY (CHRISTIAN) – YEAR THREE

The third year Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy (Christian), a post-graduate qualification, is entirely a practical year. There are no classroom activities, tutorial groups, home groups, or written assignments like those in years one and two. Students are required to complete 200 hours of counselling/therapy sessions and 50 supervision sessions. Some written reports, especially of the therapy sessions, are required. The therapy sessions are best conducted in a counselling clinic and a fee may be charged to offset the cost of supervision.

Students are required to complete all the units in years one and two as a prerequisite to commencing year three.

To receive the Vocational Graduate Certificate, students must satisfactorily complete in not more than three years the following five units.

The VGC meets the basic training requirements of the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA) and enables counsellors to become graduate members of the Christian Counselling Association of Australia (CCAA).

Unit name

AIFC 801A Extend Counselling Capability through Professional Development

AIFC 802A Develop and Maintain Referral and Support Networks through Clinical Supervision

AIFC 803A Enhance Counselling Proficiency through Clinical Supervision

AIFC 804A Integrate Counselling Enhancements into the Counselling and Family Therapy Models

AIFC 890A Enhanced Counselling and Family Therapy Practicum

“The Vocational Graduate Certificate has helped me to develop the professionalism required to be an integral part of the counselling community. As the VGC fulfils the PACFA requirements I have been able to register as a graduate member of the Christian Counsellors Association and I am now working towards becoming a clinical member. The Vocational Graduate Certificate is a natural progression from the Advanced Diploma and I would encourage everyone who has earned an Advanced Diploma with AIFC to complete the VGC year.”

Teacher and Christian Educator



UNIT DESCRIPTIONS

AIFC 401B Promote fruitful living

Discipleship, authority and obedience, the work of Christ, the work of the Holy Spirit, abiding in Christ and fruit bearing, prayer and intercession, worship, Bible meditation, Sabbath and solitude, spiritual warfare, Christian identity, understanding and applying grace, the tongue, gratitude, encouragement and affirmation, giving and finances, time management and perseverance, excellence, relationships and the Christian community, basic evangelism, the victorious Christian life, listening to God and guidance.

AIFC 402B Analyse and evaluate theological and psychological theory relevant to counselling

The nature of humanity, the nature of sin, the need of humanity, the nature of God, the fatherhood of God, epistemology, worldviews, the role of psychology, the integration of theology and psychology.

AIFC 404B Apply theology in counselling

Introduction to exegesis and hermeneutics (Bible interpretation and application), introduction to the Old and New Testaments, overview of the Sermon on the Mount and the Epistle to the Romans.

AIFC 405B Evaluate theories and models of psychotherapy

Models of psychotherapy, insight stream (psychodynamic—Freud, Jung, Adler, etc.), experiential stream (client centred, humanistic, Gestalt, etc.), cognitive-behaviour stream (behaviourism, Rational Emotive Behaviour Therapy, Cognitive Therapy, Reality Therapy, etc.), medication stream, eclecticism, a definition of Christian counselling.

AIFC 407B Use Christian concepts and ethics in counselling

Jesus-style counselling, the Holy Spirit and counselling, the role of prayer and Holy Scripture, goals of counselling, sanctification, qualities of a Christian counsellor, levels of counselling, phases of counselling, ethics, God's ways in healing and growth, blockages to healing, facilitating change, the supernatural power of God, tools, contracts, goal-setting and action, basic counselling procedure.

AIFC 410B Evaluate and apply basic counselling skills

Introduction to listening skills, experiential counselling, the work of Rogers, Charkuff, Egan, Collins, Sweeten, self-exploration, direct and indirect approaches, basic counselling skills, active listening (attending, respect, empathy), the other five core conditions of counselling (genuineness, self-disclosure, concreteness, challenging, immediacy), conflict resolution.

AIFC 412B Evaluate and apply a general model of counselling

The theoretical framework and practical application of an eclectic Christian counselling model.

AIFC 420B Evaluate and apply cognitive behaviour therapy

Role of the mind, rational and irrational thinking, renewing the mind, development of cognitive behaviour therapy, the work of Ellis, Beck, Glasser, Sweeten, Backus, McMinn and others, cognitive restructuring, the PO Chart, other cognitive-behaviour interventions.

AIFC 430B Apply redemptive truth in counselling

Defence mechanisms, rejection, centrality of redemption, revelation, personal responsibility, confession and repentance, spiritual warfare, hurt of injustice, the two keys to inner healing, resentment and forgiveness, identity, self-acceptance.

Counsel clients from other cultures

Cross-cultural counselling, Aboriginal, Asian, African and other cultures, Australian culture and counselling.

AIFC 440B Provide counselling for clients with common emotional disorders

Defining mental health and psychopathology, introduction to the DSM-IV, the emotions, anger, guilt, shame, anxiety disorders, mood disorders.

AIFC 500B Incorporate principles of theology, psychology and spirituality in counselling

The link between theology, psychology and spirituality, some important theological questions in relation to counselling, theological tension areas, importance of psychology, essential addition of spirituality, developing a biblical mind, philosophy and world-views, post-modernism.

AIFC 490B Apply counselling skills and the general counselling model

Understanding and applying basic counselling skills and the General Counselling Model, basic counselling skills training with a learning partner, in tutorials, small groups and in counselling fellow students.

AIFC 510B Incorporate the principles of family, marriage and parenting in therapy

Biblical principles of family, marriage and parenting, effects of contemporary society on the family, the family in Australia.

AIFC 520B Evaluate theories and models of family therapy

Murray Bowen and family systems theory, healthy and dysfunctional family systems, models of family therapy—psychodynamic, systemic, structural and strategic models, solution-focused Brief Therapy, Narrative Therapy.

AIFC 525B Use a specific model of family therapy

A Christian eclectic model of family therapy (psychodynamic, systemic, experiential, cognitive-behavioural and communication), the genogram, communication, conflict resolution, unhealthy family dependency.

AIFC 530B Analyse and apply ethics in family therapy

Foundations of Christian ethics, the nature of morality, God's principles for living, conscience, contemporary worldviews and morality, rights, practical counselling ethics (competence, autonomy, confidentiality, neutrality, dual relationships, exploitation, special clients, records, supervision, continuing education, referring, ethical codes of conduct), legal issues, setting up a family therapy practice.

AIFC 540B Provide therapy for married and other couples

Differences in the sexes, personality and marriage tests, intimacy, sexuality in marriage, basic needs of husband and wife, other marriage therapy issues, marital unfaithfulness, divorce and remarriage, marriage therapy procedure, premarital counselling, phases of marriage.

AIFC 545B Conduct stress management in therapy

Stress and its causes, burnout, stress management, and chronic pain.

AIFC 590B Conduct family therapy sessions

Understanding and applying the specific Family Therapy Model. Family therapy skills training in tutorials and small groups, applying the Family Therapy Model taught in a clinical setting on internal clients under supervision.

AIFC 620B Evaluate and provide therapy for psychopathological disorders

Classification of mental disorders, the DSM-IV-TR and ICD-10, the MMPI, dementia, schizophrenia, somatoform and factitious disorders and malingering, dissociative disorders, sleep disorders, personality disorders.

AIFC 625B Provide therapy for clients with addiction issues

Definitions and incidence, biblical considerations, nature and characteristics of addiction, underlying factors, a Christian multidisciplinary model for recovery, principles of recovery, group therapy, the Twelve-Step program, steps of recovery, relapse, coaddiction, adult children of addiction, specific addictions.

AIFC 635B Provide therapy for grieving clients

Theology of grief, grief reactions, stages of grief, grief therapy, helping people mourn, blockages in the grieving process, special areas of grief, grief and the family system.

AIFC 650B Provide therapy for issues relating to abuse and trauma

Family violence and abuse, childhood abuse, spouse/partner abuse, abuse of the elderly, critical incident and trauma counselling.

AIFC 660B Conduct therapy for problems relating to children and youth

Problems of children and youth, childhood development and developmental issues, therapy for children and youth.

AIFC 670B Provide therapy for clients presenting with sexual problems

Sexuality and spirituality, normal and abnormal sexuality, sexually transmitted diseases, homosexuality, prevention of sexual misconduct by therapists, sexual dysfunctions and sexual therapy, ethical issues.

AIFC 580B/680B Review literature on a specific counselling issue and give an oral presentation

Researching literature, writing a critical review. Prepare and present an oral report of the result of the review (year two).

AIFC 690B Conduct family therapy sessions

Understanding and applying the specific Family Therapy Model. Family therapy skills training in tutorials and small groups, applying the Family Therapy Model taught in a clinical setting on external clients under supervision.

AIFC 801A Extend counselling capability through professional development

This unit identifies professional development needs, research professional development opportunities, engaging in suitable professional development programs, integrating new knowledge, skills and interventions into counselling practice, and evaluating the effectiveness therein as they are applied and adapted to AIFC's General Counselling Model or the Family Therapy Model.

AIFC 802A Develop and maintain referral and support networks through clinical supervision

This unit requires the student to identify, evaluate, document, implement and review, referral, resources and support network databases and utilise them professionally in their counselling.

AIFC 803A Enhance counselling proficiency through clinical supervision

This unit involves maximising the benefits obtained through clinical supervision by careful planning before supervision and by evaluating all of the supervisor's feedback before giving application to it during practicum or through further professional development.

AIFC 804A Integrate counselling enhancements into the counselling and family therapy models

This unit focuses on planning, resourcing, reviewing the counselling process as the application of new therapy skills, interventions, resources, and support systems are integrated into the general counselling and family therapy models.

AIFC 890A Enhanced counselling and family therapy practicum

Applying the general counselling and family therapy models in clinical practice involving 200 hours of counselling/family therapy and 50 hours of supervision.

"I have learned (and grown) so much during the VGC. I intend to keep on with the professional impetus into next year and beyond. Previous to doing the VGC I was floundering about, but now, I have so much more hope and direction."

Male professional counsellor

Student support

Each student will be personally supported, coached and mentored throughout the three-year training program by an allocated tutor. AIFC centre directors are also available to assist in this. In addition to this, students are encouraged to discuss problems during the seminars with teachers, visiting teachers and other AIFC staff.

Between seminars, students are encouraged to discuss issues relating to the course with their tutor, centre directors, or the AIFC National Office—by personal visit, telephone, fax or email.

In year two, students can, in addition, discuss problems with their supervisor during counselling supervision.

Students are encouraged to openly share with their tutor any problems they may be having with the assignments, issues that may be arising from the teaching, finances, or personal problems relating to the course.

Students who have personal problems not related to the course should seek help through their local church or a professional counsellor. Students are also strongly encouraged to seek personal counselling by a professional counsellor during the course whenever it is considered necessary.

Flexible learning

Course flexibility is currently in the planning stage and will be introduced when the appropriate infrastructure is in place.

At this stage, flexibility is limited to allowing three years to complete the units for each stage of the course, and offering part-time studies and allowing students to attend missed seminars and small skills training groups at locations other than the usual one. The Distance Education Program is available to some students (see below for more detail).

To gain the maximum from the course it is strongly recommended that you complete the whole program within the specified three years.

“The Course has taught me how the synthesis of biblical theology and the dynamics of psychology create an excellent model in Christian counselling.”

AOG Pastor

Distance education program (DEP)

Distance education is available to students who cannot get to one of the AIFC Centres. Because of the competency nature of the course, special conditions apply in the Distance Education Program (DEP).

To be eligible for the DEP, students must:

- live in a remote part of Australia, or
- be handicapped, and unable to travel to a course venue, or
- live overseas.

The DEP is a good program, but remember that the counselling training courses are competency based. They are not just an academic exercise but involve personal and professional (skills) development, which are not easy to attain at a distance. An important part of the training is in class interaction, sharing, small groups, personal mentoring, demonstrations, and videos; these are not fully available to students doing the DEP. Distance students are strongly encouraged to make the effort to attend a regular course or at least some of the intensive training sessions. Nevertheless, the DEP is excellent as far as it goes and the AIFC seeks to help students who find it impossible to attend regular courses, as much as practicable.

Special requirements apply to students doing the DEP and who want PACFA recognition.



VET Fee-Help and Austudy/Abstudy is available to students doing the DEP. When applying for Austudy/Abstudy students should emphasise that they are doing an accredited full-time course.

Students applying for the DEP are required to commit themselves to the following:

- detailed study of the training volumes
- preferably (but not mandatory) attend the first and fourth term seminars of the course at one of the intensive training locations; the oral presentation of the literature review (year two) may be completed at the fourth seminar if the student is unable to attend the final day, if this is not possible then the oral presentation is completed in a suitable setting agreed to by the DEP coordinator
- meet twice each term in a small group (minimum of two course students, or previous students) to complete the skills training assignments and for support
- find a suitable learning partner in order to complete the Egan basic counselling skills exercises
- carefully listen to any audio and video tapes or CD and DVDs sent
- complete all of the assignments set out in the handbook for students
- complete any additional assignments requested

In extenuating circumstances training and assessment requirements should be negotiated with the National Office.

Korean Distance education program (KDEP)

The KDEP is similar to the DEP but is for Korean speaking students living outside of ACT or NSW.

Information about this program can be obtained from the Korean directors Dr Hun Kim and Mi Jin Seo (Tel: 02 6255 4597, 0402 140 905; Email: info.aifc@hanmail.net).

Overseas Student Program (OSP)

An Overseas Student Program (OSP) conducted in English is available in Canberra for students on student visas. The course is only provided when there are sufficient enrolments by 15 October the year before to ensure its viability.

Strict government regulations on immigration and training governs the operation of this program.

Details may be obtained from the registrar at the National Office.

Students with disabilities

Many students with disabilities have studied successfully at the Institute; staff are encouraged to help all students to develop their gifts and abilities to the fullest possible extent. All students have strengths and weaknesses, some of which may affect their studies. Students who have special disabilities may seek special consideration.

Students who have disabilities that may affect their studies are asked to indicate this on their Application for Enrolment form and to inform the local coordinator at the commencement of the course. Staff will consider this if the needs are made known in the appropriate manner and time.

Having a disability will not exempt students from being required to meet the necessary course requirements and standards. Tutors will be available to help students meet these requirements.

Students are expected to seek advice, help or assistance before, rather than after, submitting their assignments.

Personal information about students' disabilities will be kept confidential as far as possible, but will be supplied to appropriate staff.

Student fees

AIFC is a not-for-profit organisation and offers training at a relatively low cost. AIFC is able to keep its fees low because it does not have an expensive campus to maintain like most other training organisations.

AIFC's Vocational Graduate Certificate is the most cost-effective way to gain a post-graduate counselling qualification. It involves an investment which is only two thirds that of any other three-year graduate or post graduate course in counselling in Australia.

"I surprised myself on how well I was able to do the VGC assignments. The VGC has been a great help in my social work."

Male alcohol and drug rehabilitation worker

Students may pay their fees in either of two ways. They can pay their fees in advance in the usual manner, or choose to take advantage of VET Fee-Help as in other tertiary organisations. It is expected that most students will avail themselves of VET Fee-Help.

AIFC is also an approved VET Fee-Help provider by the Department of Education, Employment and Workplace Relations (DEEWR) so you can choose to pay your course fees via the Fee-Help system. This is an interest-free loan scheme that assists eligible students to pay their tuition fees and you repay the loan through the taxation system if your income exceeds a minimum repayment threshold (\$44,911 in 2011). This means no up-front fee payments are required and students on incomes below the threshold are not required to repay the government and the course is without cost. Repayment thresholds are adjusted each year to reflect any changes in average weekly earnings.

Course fees are stated on the enclosed Application for Enrolment form.



How does the Institute deliver the courses at such a reasonable rate without sacrificing quality?

Attractive campuses are expensive to build and run and this has a direct bearing on how much their courses cost. This is one of the reasons why a university qualification costs up to double that of an organisation which operates effectively without such campuses. It has nothing to do with quality of education. AIFC is able to focus solely on counselling training. A large number of expert visiting teachers are used as well as trained faculty staff, all of which are as highly trained or more so than usual university staff.

Therefore if students wish to gain a similar qualification to these universities, but don't want to pay the extra costs involved, they have an excellent alternative in studying with AIFC.

In addition to the above, students can complete a good deal of their studies at home with the direction and support of their tutor constantly assisting them.

Applying for financial assistance

APPLYING FOR VET FEE-HELP

AIFC has been approved as a VET Fee-Help Provider for its three year Vocational Graduate Certificate course.

VET Fee-Help is a loan scheme for the Vocational Education and Training (VET) sector that is part of the Higher Education Loan Program (HELP). VET Fee-Help assists eligible students undertaking certain VET courses of study (diploma, advanced diploma, graduate certificate and graduate diploma courses). It allows students to borrow funds up to their FEE-HELP limit to help pay for all or part of their tuition fees. Students who access VET Fee-Help assistance will have a loan with the Australian Government who will, on the student's behalf, pay their tuition fees to their approved VET provider.

There are eligibility requirements for VET Fee-Help. These include the fact that it is only available to an Australian citizen; or a permanent humanitarian visa holder who will be resident in Australia for the duration of the unit of study in which they are seeking VET Fee-Help assistance.

If you are eligible for VET Fee-Help assistance and would like to obtain a VET Fee-Help loan for your course, you should contact the AIFC National Office. Information about applying for VET Fee-Help will be sent to you. AIFC will need to confirm your eligibility and you will be required to supply documentation to prove eligibility.

APPLYING FOR AUSTUDY OR ABSTUDY

The courses are nationally accredited as full time courses (years one and two are 20 hours per week and year three 15.55 hours per week) so eligible students can apply for Austudy/Abstudy through CentreLink.

Applying for Austudy/Abstudy is the responsibility of the student. Information about this and application forms can be obtained from CentreLink.

The letter of acceptance of enrolment will need to be produced to CentreLink as proof of enrolment to an eligible course. Applicants need to advise CentreLink that ALL students are enrolled through the National Office in Canberra and supply the AIFC provider number and the course code. These will be supplied to you with your acceptance letter or, if needed earlier, you can contact the AIFC Registrar.

Students who are eligible for Austudy/Abstudy may also apply for VET Fee-Help.

“The course has changed my life. It’s one of the best things I’ve ever done. I am much better equipped to help people in my church.”

Pastor

“The training and qualification has assisted me in running a successful professional counselling practice.”

Middle-Aged Lady Professional Counsellor

Eligibility

As this course is designed to train Christians, it is necessary to have a commitment to the Christian faith.

Essential entry requirements are:

- the HSC or equivalent, or mature age (over 21 years and employment of life experience)
- an accredited diploma course in any field
- a satisfactory tertiary studies preparation program
- sound literacy skills
- the ability to work with others and to communicate effectively
- satisfactory completion and processing of the application for enrolment form.

There is no discrimination of sex, age, race or Christian denomination.

Application for enrolment

Applicants must fully complete all the questions on the Application for Enrolment form that is included with this Prospectus, including questions relating to English proficiency. It will also be necessary to submit four passport-sized photographs of yourself.

“The Course has changed our marriage and I constantly refer to the material learnt in my pastoral work and teaching.”

Anglican Minister

You can send the completed application form and four photographs to the AIFC National Office. Newcastle and Korean Distance Education Program applicants should send their forms direct to the Newcastle and Korean Distance Education Program offices respectively. See page 23 for contact details and addresses.

Each applicant will be interviewed either personally or by telephone.

Applicants will be advised, in writing, of the outcome of the application after it is processed.

RECOGNITION OF PRIOR LEARNING

AIFC recognises prior learning (RPL), recognition of prior competencies (RPC) and accredited courses of other institutions, in view of credit transfer where applicable within the context of the specialised competency-based Christian training program.

Evidence of an applicant's level of learning or competency will be required. The procedure for this is for the applicant to discuss the possibility of this with the course director. A formal Application for Recognition of Prior Learning can then be completed and sent to the registrar. The form is available from the AIFC National Office or from the website <http://www.aifc.com.au>

An applicant who has completed previous studies at another educational institution will need to produce a certified copy of his or her complete academic record including detailed unit outlines of subjects taught. Samples of written work may also be required.

Evidence of competency must include a certified copy (by JP, minister of religion, doctor, dentist, solicitor, pharmacist) of training and education, résumé of work or life experience, letters of reference, and other evidence an applicant considers valid.

Only whole units of competency (not portions) may be considered for RPL. Where there is a credit transfer a non-



graded assessment result for that unit or portion of the unit may appear on an AIFC academic transcript.

A list of the performance criteria for the relevant units must also be obtained from the AIFC National Office and each element of competency and performance criteria of the unit carefully checked and evidence of its completion submitted in writing.

Formal testing and bridging assignments may be required.

A participant who wishes to appeal an RPL decision may do so by following the procedure set out in the AIFC Appeals and Complaints Policy.

LANGUAGE, LITERACY AND NUMERACY ASSESSMENT AND SUPPORT

All students are required to complete the Language and Literacy Self-Assessment form and the Extra Learning Support form. Students are required to reach a reasonable level of proficiency in these areas in order to complete the course.

Staff are committed to helping students who have difficulties as much as is reasonable.

English proficiency

For those with English as a second language.

Those applicants who have completed an IELTS (International English Language Testing Scheme) test are required to supply a copy with their application for enrolment. A test score of at least 6.5 is expected for English language courses.

Where no such test is available AIFC may require you to undergo an English language assessment developed by AIFC. This assessment, if required, will be conducted by the AIFC Centre Director in the location you propose to attend. This is not to discriminate against those with English as a second language but to ensure that the student will be able to understand the material presented and thus gain the maximum benefit from the course. There will be a charge for the AIFC test.

When testing is done you will be advised of the result and the result will be supplied to the Registrar to use as he assesses your application. You will only be accepted to the course if it is considered that your English ability is sufficient to enable you to effectively participate in and benefit from the course. This test will not be required if you are applying to participate in the Korean Language course, but a Korean equivalent may apply.

“The Course has been a great help to us both as we prepare to marry. We are communicating very much better and understand each other much more. It has also been a great help in our youth work at church.”

Youth Leaders

Student orientation

On the first day of the course students are taken through an orientation procedure as set out on the student orientation form.

The points covered are as follows:

- issues raised in the AIFC Handbook for Students, including information on fees and refunds, recognition of prior learning, program orientation, student support, students' rights and responsibilities, and so on
- agreement to abide by the conditions within the handbook
- information on workplace health and safety, language and literacy support (see special form), emergency evacuation procedures, first aid procedures, injury and incident procedures and report, sexual harassment prevention (certain types of behaviour may constitute sexual harassment, sexual harassment is unlawful, who to go to for help if harassed, all complaints will be treated seriously), victimisation and bullying incidents will be investigated.

After graduation

Upon satisfactory completion of the Certificate, Diploma, Advanced Diploma and Vocational Graduate Certificate courses students will receive an attractive certificate, and a transcript of their academic record. Being accredited courses they are all nationally recognised.

The Vocational Graduate Certificate in Counselling and Family Therapy meets the basic accredited academic requirements for counselling training established by the Psychotherapy and Counselling Federation of Australia (PACFA).

Following Vocational Graduate Certificate graduation it is expected that students who wish to practice counselling will:

- continue to be involved in ongoing education
- continue to observe the ethical principles taught
- have ongoing counselling supervision
- become a graduate member of a counselling association and work toward becoming a full clinical member.

Students who exit at the Certificate, Diploma or Advanced Diploma levels, and who are serious about counselling, should commit to further formal counselling study to Bachelor degree level or the post-graduate Vocational Graduate Certificate.



ARTICULATION INTO FURTHER TRAINING

Many other institutions (universities) will accept Advanced Diploma students who have life and work experience and Vocational Graduate Certificate students immediately into their post-graduate Masters programs. For example, the University of Western Sydney, LaTrobe University, Sturt University, Catholic University and the University of New England have accepted our students into their masters programs.

VOCATIONAL OPPORTUNITIES

Graduates of the Vocational Graduate Certificate are qualified to work in a counselling clinic in a church, private practice, certain government departments, schools, and as chaplains.

Vocational opportunities in secular organisations and schools depend on the requirements of the organisation.

Contact details and course locations

National office

61A Strayleaf Crescent
Gungahlin, ACT 2912
Australia

Mail to: PO Box 210, Gungahlin, ACT
2912

Tel: 1300 721 397, 02 6242 5111, Fax:
02 6242 5333

Email: aifc.info@aifc.com.au

Web: aifc.com.au

AIFC training centres

- Adelaide
- Brisbane
- Canberra
- Melbourne
- Newcastle
- Perth
- Sydney
- Sydney—Korean
- Distance Education Program (Canberra)
- Korean Distance Education Program
- Overseas Student Program (Canberra)

AIFC LICENSED CENTRES

Newcastle and the Korean Distance Education Program (KDPE) are licensed centres and students who live in the Newcastle area or are Koreans who live outside of ACT and NSW must apply directly to these centres.

Newcastle

39 Mordue Parade
Jesmond NSW 2299

Mail to: PO Box 31
Jesmond NSW 2299

Tel: 02 4955 6066, Fax: 02 4955 6066
Email: aifc_newcastle@bigpond.com

Licensees:

Dr Graham Johnson,
BDS (Univ.Syd), Adv Dip.CFT, Cert.IV.T&A.

Karen Johnson, B.App.Sc. (Physiother.),
Adv Dip.CFT, Cert.IV.T&A.

Korean Distance Education Program

10 Raine Place
Downer ACT 2602

Tel: 02 6255 4597, 0402 140 905
LG phone: 070 7562 9377

Email: info.aifc@hanmail.net

Licensees:

Dr Hun Kim
Dip.B.St., BA, MDiv., BA (MassMedia), MBA,
Adv Dip.CFT, Cert.IV.T&A., DTh

Mi Jin Seo
BA (Lit), Adv Dip.CFT, Cert.IV.T&A.

President and Training Coordinator

Dr. N. Bruce Litchfield
BDS(Hons), MDS(Syd.), FRACDS, PhD(Bio.Sc.), Dip.Bib.S, B.Min,
MA(Coun.,UofN,Hawaii), PhD(Coun.VIU), Cert.IV.T&A.,
Adv.Dip.CFT, MACA (NP)

Chairpersons of the Training Committee

John Paterson
Grad.Dip.Manag.Stud., Dip.Th., Adv.Dip.CFT, Cert.IV.T&A., MA(Coun),
CMCCAA, PACFA(Reg)

Susan Paterson
BSoc.Stud., Cert.Graph.Desg., Grad.Dip.Info.Sc., Adv.Dip.CFT,
Cert.IV.T&A., MAASW, MAPC, PACFA(Reg)

Registrar

John McPherson
Heath Insp.Cert., Building Insp.Cert., Cert.Pub.Hlth (London)

Compliance Manager

Vivian Biancardi
Cert.IV (Youth work), Voc.Grad.Cert.CFT., BSoc.Sc.(process),
Cert.IV.T&A., MACA.

Human Resources Manager

Petranella Litchfield
Dip. Bib. S, Adv. Dip. CFT, BA (Coun. UofN Hawaii), Cert.IV.T&A.,
MACA (NP)



WHAT OTHERS ARE SAYING...

"The course has changed my life. It's one of the best things I've ever done. I am much better equipped to help people in my church."

Pastor

"The Diploma has helped me obtain a position as a school counsellor."

Male School Counsellor

"The Course has taught me how the synthesis of biblical theology and the dynamics of psychology create an excellent model in Christian counselling."

AOG Pastor

"The Course has been a great help to us both as we prepare to marry. We are communicating very much better and understand each other much more. It has also been a great help in our youth work at church."

Youth Leaders

"The Course has changed our marriage and I constantly refer to the material learnt in my pastoral work and teaching."

Anglican Minister

"The training and qualification has assisted me in running a successful professional counselling practice."

Middle-Aged Lady Professional Counsellor

"I have a deeper understanding of God's grace and know that I don't have to perform to have God's love."

Church Elder

"I have learned (and grown) so much during the VGC. I intend to keep on with the professional impetus into next year and beyond. Previous to doing the VGC I was floundering about, but now, I have so much more hope and direction."

Male professional counsellor

"I personally found the VGC to be the link between the Advanced Diploma and establishing myself as a professional Counsellor. The VGC enabled me to utilise all the information that was imparted over the previous two years in a practical manner. Studying for the VGC gave me the skills and the opportunity to obtain an internship and receive good supervision. I built up a clientele and learned new techniques to add to the model I had become so familiar with. The VGC was a real learning curve that enabled me to establish myself as a professional counsellor."

Female professional counsellor

"I surprised myself on how well I was able to do the VGC assignments. The VGC has been a great help in my social work."

Male alcohol and drug rehabilitation worker