

What can I do with a Degree in Life and Social Science?

Bachelor of Social Science (Community Health) (N0516COM)



2011

Please note: the information contained in this document was current as of January 2011. Refer to www.swinburne.edu.au/courses/ for the most current updates.

For entry and admission requirements for the Bachelor of Social Science (Community Health) (N0516COM), go to the Swinburne website: <http://courses.swinburne.edu.au/courses>

What can I do with this degree?

The Bachelor of Social science (Community Health) is run at the Hawthorn campus and offers students the opportunity to combine different disciplinary approaches to health and the environment. Students will be able to choose from a range of subjects that include core units in public and community health, health ethics, policy, law and sociology. These subjects all focus on understanding or improving the health status of individuals and communities in different social settings. The program encapsulates the principles of public and environmental health, including an understanding of risk management aspects of maintaining good health and environment. It also familiarises students with a social model of health service provision and builds skills in social research design, statistics and research methods, policy, ethics and law.

Students will also be able to take five elective units as part of their study which can be taken from areas such as;

- Media and Communications
- Politics
- Psychology
- Public Relations
- Sociology

Skills and attributes

The Bachelor of Social Science (Community Health) aims to:

- Develop in students a mastery of the basic theoretical and practical principles of public and environmental health and its relationship to human behaviour, social health and the environment.
- Develop students' insights into the distribution of health and illness in Australia.
- Appreciate the value of examining Australian health policy and health system in a global context.
- Evaluate the social context of ideas and experiences of health and illness.
- Understand the major recent shifts and trends in health policy and in the provision and management of health and environmental services in Australia and internationally.
- Critically evaluate the impact of policy changes in health and service delivery.
- Understand the political economy of health care in Australia.
- Examine social and cultural factors in public and community health and in the treatment of sick persons.

Swinburne Graduate Attributes

- Capable in their chosen professional, vocational or study areas
- Entrepreneurial in contributing to innovation and development within their business, workplace or community
- Effective and ethical in work and community situations
- Adaptable and able to manage change
- Aware of local and international environments in which they will be contributing (e.g. socio-cultural, economic, natural)

What industry sectors do social science graduates work in?

Private	16.9%
Government	15.9%
Other	43.5%
Education	3.0%
Health	20.6%

Source: <http://svc095.wic026v.server-web.com/gradsonline/>

Potential Occupations:

- Administrative Officer
- Alcohol/drugs Counsellor
- Careers Counsellor
- Case Manager
- Community Worker
- Communications Officer
- Counsellor
- Customer Service Officer
- Employment Officer
- Family Caseworker
- Housing Officer
- Market research analyst
- Media Officer
- Project Officer/Coordinator
- Public Affairs Officer
- Public Relations Officer
- Research Academic (requires post graduate study in Sociology)
- Research Assistant Officer
- Student Advisors and Support officers
- Support Worker
- Telephone Interviewer
- Training Officer
- Web Developer
- Welfare Officer
- Youth Health Worker

With Further Study

Upon completion of the Bachelor of Social Science (Community Health) graduates may receive substantial credits towards the Bachelor of Health Science (Public and Environmental Health) whose graduates will be eligible for professional recognition by the Australian Institute of Environmental Health.

Employment Opportunities

There is a growing need to develop professionals who can contribute to government policy initiatives in the health field through their skills in, and understanding of the key determinants of health. Graduates completing this degree will be able to identify and manage threats to the environment, as provided by the health science discipline, and apply the theory of working with individuals, families, groups and communities as provided by the social science discipline. Graduates are employable across a range of vocational areas such as community and public health promotion and planning, policy development, social and market research, risk management and health education.

What do Social Science graduates do after finishing their courses?

Working 83.5%
Searching 16.5%
Studying 20.4%

Source: <http://svc095.wic026v.server-web.com/gradsonline/>

Please note: These figures include combinations of activities i.e. graduates who are searching for employment while also undertaking postgraduate studies)

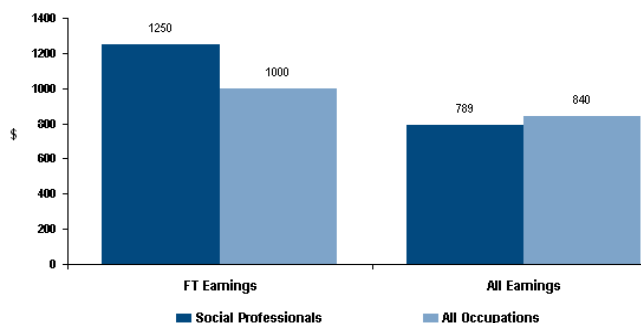
Job Prospects for Bachelor of Social Science Graduates will depend on the majors that they have completed. For specific information regarding employment prospects for alternate roles within this occupational field please see <http://jobsearch.gov.au/Careers>

Job Prospects for Social Science Professionals

- Job prospects for Social Professionals are average.
- Employment for Social Professionals 2014-15 is expected to grow moderately. Employment in this small occupation (10 600 in November 2009) rose very strongly in the past five years, and rose strongly in the long-term (ten years), but with small occupations employment estimates can fluctuate.

Source: Australian Government job search <http://jobsearch.gov.au/Careers>

Social Science Professionals Earnings (full time and before tax)



The graph shows weekly earnings – for full-time work and before tax – for workers of all ages for this occupation, compared with all occupations. These figures cannot be used in determining a particular wage rate or as an indication of what a particular person will earn in that job.

Source: ABS EEBTUM survey August 2009 cat. No. 6310.0. www.joboutlook.gov.au

Examples of employers who employed Swinburne Social Science graduates in 2010

BHP Billiton www.bhpbilliton.com (Personal Assistant)	Maroondah City Council www.maroondah.vic.gov.au (Social Research and Development Officer)	The Baker Medical Institute www.bakeridi.edu.au (HR Advisor)
Centrelink www.centrelink.gov.au (Advisor)	Monash University www.monash.edu.au (HR Coordinator)	University of Melbourne www.unimelb.edu.au (Research Assistant)
Department of Justice www.justice.vic.gov.au (Project Officer)	Precision Consultancy www.precisionconsultancy.com.au (Research Consultant)	Wallis Group www.wallisgroup.com.au (Interviewer)
Department of Human Services www.dhs.vic.gov.au (Case Support Officer)	Slater & Gordon www.slatergordon.com.au (Legal Assistant)	Wesley Mission www.wesleymission.org.au (Care Worker)
Department of the Attorney General www.ag.gov.au (Personnel Officer)	Swinburne University www.swin.edu.au (Research Assistant)	WorkSafe www.worksafe.vic.gov.au (Workplace Information Advisor)

Examples of additional employers who have recently employed Swinburne Social Science graduates

ANZ www.anz.com	Knox City Council www.knox.vic.gov.au	Uniting Aged Care www.unitingagedcare.org.au
Australian Industry Group www.aigroup.asn.au	Lifeline Melbourne www.lifeline.org.au	Victoria Police Force www.police.vic.gov.au
Coles Group www.colesgroup.com.au	OMYA Australia www.omya.com.au	Victoria YMCA www.victoria.ymca.org.au
Department of Sustainability and Environment www.dse.vic.gov.au	Melbourne City Mission www.melbournecitymission.org.au	Villa Maria www.villamaria.com.au
Doutta Galla Community Health Service www.dgchs.org.au	Red Cross www.redcross.org.au	Vision Australia www.visionaustralia.org.au

Emergency Services
Telecommunications Authority
www.esta.vic.gov.au

Southern Autistic School
www.autismvictoria.org.au

Wallara Australia
www.wallara.com.au

IPA Personnel
www.ipagroup.com.au

Southern Health
www.southernhealth.org.au

World Vision
www.worldvision.com.au

Jesuit Social Services
www.jss.org.au

Potential Employers

Careers and Employment have put together a list of potential employers
www.swinburne.edu.au/corporate/careers/employers_by_occupation.html

You can also refer to Graduate Careers Australia's publication Graduate Opportunities
www.graduateopportunities.com/

Specialist Recruitment Agencies

Swinburne Careers & Employment Recruitment Service

www.swinburne.edu.au/careers

Beresford Blake Thomas Limited www.bbtglobal.com.au
Sheelagh McKenzie Recruitment www.sheelaghmckenzie.com
Hahn Pharmaceutical & Healthcare Recruitment www.hahnhealthcare.com.au

Job Search Websites

- www.counsellorjobs.com.au
- www.dhs.vic.gov.au/careers/vacancies.htm
- www.hacjobs.com.au
- www.infoxchange.net.au
- www.jobsearch.com.au
- www.justhealthjobs.com.au
- www.mav.asn.au
- www.psychxchange.com.au
- www.socialworks.org.au
- www.tasa.org.au
- www.top20sociology.com
- <http://vic.bigredsky.com>
- www.workplace.gov.au

Additional general employment sites

- www.careerone.com.au
- www.graduateopportunities.com
- www.jobsearch.com.au
- www.mycareer.com.au
- www.seek.com.au
- www.unigrad.com.au
- www.myfuture.edu.au
- www.jobsearch.gov.au/joboutlook

Professional Associations

Professional Associations may conduct conferences, seminars, presentations and social functions to help members keep abreast of current practices and for networking purposes. For students, these events can be an excellent source of contacts and relevant information. Membership is usually open to students at a reduced rate.

- Australian Health Promotion Association www.healthpromotion.org.au
- Public Health Association Australia www.phaa.net.au
- TASA: The Australian Sociological Association www.tasa.org.au
- Victorian Health Association www.vha.org.au

Postgraduate study options:

Postgraduate programs for Life and Social Science students are offered by coursework and by research at Swinburne University.

Graduate Certificate of Social Science (Community Engagement) (G0046CE)

Career Opportunities: Workers in many disciplines increasingly use community engagement skills in their work. Examples include local government employees, mining company employees, developers, allied health workers and community development workers. The graduate Certificate of Social Science (Community Engagement) is a specialist postgraduate qualification designed to facilitate employment opportunities for all practitioners

Graduate Certificate in Sustainability (H21545VIC)

Career Opportunities: Graduates will be sought after by local, state and federal governments, and by organisations operating in areas such as: land and water management, energy, design e.g. building, manufacturing, engineering, sustainable production, plastics and chemicals, change management, environmental sustainability, social sustainability.

Graduate Certificate of Social Science in Housing Management and Policy (N079)**Graduate Diploma of Social Science in Housing Management and Policy (N0807)****Master of Social Science in Housing Management and Policy (N0903)**

Career Opportunities: Graduates of the program will have enhanced ability to apply for management-level positions in the social housing sector, policy formulation and related fields.

Master of Arts (by research) (LSS192) (L0871)**Doctor of Philosophy (Arts / Humanities / Social Science) (LSS003)**

A full listing of all postgraduate courses offered by Swinburne is available at:

<http://www.swinburne.edu.au/postgrad/courses/>

What help does Swinburne Careers and Employment offer?

Career Services

- Daily Resume and Cover Letter Checks
- Daily Interview Practice
- Career Seminars/ Workshops for Students
- Careers in the Curriculum (CIC) – Higher Education Students
- Student Recruitment Service (Final Year Students)
- Career Counselling

Career Resources

- Career Resource Library
- Job Search Handouts
- Interactive Career Planning

SwinEmploy Employment Service

- All job advertisements for graduate placements, casual, vacation, part-time and full-time employment
- Links to employer websites
- Enables students to book online for events such as workshops, employer information sessions and interviews
- Access to Going Global (over 10,000 job vacancies listed across Europe, Asia-Pacific, UK and US. Global key employer directories, work permits & visa regulations, country-specific cultural & interviewing advice & more)

Download Careers and Employment job search handouts from SwinEmploy, including:

- | | |
|---|--|
| ➤ Addressing Selection Criteria | ➤ Job Hunting |
| ➤ Assessment Centres | ➤ Networking: What Is It and How Do You Do It? |
| ➤ Cover Letters or Letters of Application | ➤ Online Applications |
| ➤ Curriculum Vitae or Resume | ➤ Psychometric Tests |
| ➤ Employer Expectations of Graduates | ➤ Skills and Attributes |
| ➤ Interviews - How to Plan, Prepare and Perform | ➤ Thinking About Changing Your Course? |
| ➤ Informational Interviewing | ➤ Tips for facing the work environment and your first professional job |

The material in this document has been produced from the Graduate Destinations Survey, Swinburne University and Graduate Careers Council of Australia material, Graduate Opportunities, Australian Job Search, The Job Guide, Professional Associations and Careers and Employment's own research.

Careers & Employment
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Level 2, George Swinburne Building
Wakefield Street, Hawthorn VIC
Tel: 9214 5360
Email: careers@swin.edu.au
www.swinburne.edu.au/careers

ADVERTISEMENT EXAMPLES

Source: *www.seek.com.au* (2010)

Community Engagement Officer

- \$53,000 package plus generous salary benefits and travel allowances
- Great work life balance in the healthcare/not for profit sector. January start.

About our Client

Our client is the peak consumer body and leading charity in it's field. It is health based and committed to minimising the impact of health related issues in communities throughout Victoria. A member based organisation, our client provides education and support to communities in addition to contributing towards working for a cure.

Job Description

This role sits in the Community Engagement team, a committed group who look after both inner city and regional Victorian individuals and groups in the community. The Community Engagement Officer will focus on Western Victoria, from West Melbourne through to the state border. Providing key support and information to community groups and support groups throughout the region, the role delivers education and communication to thousands of Victorians affected by this health condition. Driving programs such as youth engagement will be included. Regional travel is key in this role, with fleet cars provided and travel allowances.

The Successful Applicant

Will have a keen interest in working within the Not For Profit sector -

- Relevant experience in NFP, Health or Community Groups would be desired
- Ability to work both in a team environment and autonomously when travelling
- Energy, enthusiasm and passion for making a difference to Victorians through support and education
- Qualifications in Community, Communications, PR, Welfare or Health or relevant experience preferred.
- Current Victorian Drivers Licence

What's on Offer

- January Start
- NFP Salary Packaging
- Commercial equivalent salary of \$61,000 package
- Regional travel - company car provided. Travel allowance included
- Fantastic company culture.

To apply online please click the 'Apply' button below. For a confidential discussion about this role please contact Lyndsey Doherty quoting reference number A107191311 on +61 3 8640 3276.

Employment Support Officer

Woorinyan Community Services is seeking applications from interested persons for a Full Time Employment Support role based at our Thomastown service.

The position will provide ongoing support and supervision for adults with disabilities in various employment settings.

Applicants who possess qualifications/experience in the community sector and/or supporting people with a disability in work crews will be well regarded. Qualifications in workplace training and assessment will also be an advantage. Woorinyan also welcomes applications from persons with trade experience (e.g. horticulture, car detailing) who wish to make a career in the disability sector.

Salary is in line with relevant award. Full salary packaging benefits are available to the successful applicant.

Further information and a position description may be obtained by accessing our website www.woorinyan.com.au under staff vacancies or by phoning 9784 3900.

Applications should address the selection criteria and include referees. Applications should be addressed to Manager, Employment Services, Woorinyan Inc. P.O. BOX 773, Frankston VIC 3199 or email to info@woorinyan.com.au by 5.00pm Friday 21st January, 2011.