

AQF LEVEL	AQF LEVEL 9 CRITERIA – MASTERS DEGREE (COURSEWORK)		PROGRAM LEARNING OUTCOMES
PURPOSE	The Masters Degree (Coursework) qualifies individuals who apply an advanced body of knowledge in a range of contexts for professional practice or scholarship and as a pathway for further learning.		
KNOWLEDGE	Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will have: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ a body of knowledge that includes the understanding of recent developments in a discipline and/or area of professional practice ▪ knowledge of research principles and methods applicable to a field of work and or learning 	Graduates of the Master of Suicidology program will have advanced knowledge in the field of Suicidology, informed by the latest international research in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention in the fields of human services, social, biological and psychological sciences. This includes knowledge and skills associated with suicide research and the application of contemporary clinical theory in suicide practice. <p>In particular graduates of the Master of Suicidology program will demonstrate discipline specific knowledge of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ suicide epidemiology and nomenclature, ▪ concepts, theory, principles, approaches and skills required for engagement, risk assessment, crisis intervention and long term management of suicidal behaviour, ▪ contemporary research into suicide and its prevention and the limitations and methodological difficulties in suicide research, ▪ clinical theory and application associated with risk assessment and treatment/management of suicidal behaviours ▪ cultural influences on interpreting suicide trends, and the design of preventive strategies, ▪ the legal and ethical dimensions of suicide ▪ the logic and design of research methods, research principles and how to formulate research hypotheses (and test these), and the nature and stages of the scientific research process pertaining to the field of suicidal behaviour and prevention. 	
SKILLS	Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will have:	Graduates of the Master of Suicidology program will have the cognitive, technical and creative skills	

- cognitive skills to demonstrate mastery of theoretical knowledge and to reflect critically on theory and professional practice or scholarship
- cognitive, technical and creative skills to investigate, analyse and synthesise complex information, problems, concepts and theories and to apply established theories to different bodies of knowledge or practice
- cognitive, technical and creative skills to generate and evaluate complex ideas and concepts at an abstract level
- communication and technical research skills to justify and interpret theoretical propositions, methodologies, conclusions and professional decisions to specialist and non-specialist audiences
- technical and communication skills to design, evaluate, implement, analyse and theorise about developments that contribute to professional practice or scholarship

to:

- critically reflect on, analyse, appraise and synthesise research and clinical principles and theories of suicide and suicidal behaviour in order to a) develop and implement policy and research and b) respond and intervene with suicidal persons and the bereaved.
- utilise the theoretical frameworks and paradigms of suicide prevention and mental health to develop innovative practice protocols, and policy direction in the field of suicide prevention.
- engage in policy and research planning in suicide prevention, intervention and postvention within government and non-government organisations
- translate research interpretations of suicide trends and data for suicide prevention planning and policy committees.
- utilise risk assessment data and instruments, suicide prevention guidelines and research findings to conduct best practice plans and responses for enhanced client functioning and recovery
- develop research projects in the field of suicide prevention and measure/evaluate project outcomes.

Graduates of the Master of Suicidology program will have the oral and written communication skills to:

- engage and interact with suicidal persons and their families, carers and other professionals involved in their care.
- sensitively manage and respond to ethical dilemmas regarding suicide and suicidal behaviour
- respond to government policy and research questions for addressing critical suicide related concerns
- liaise with government and community level stakeholders on valid evaluation and investigative methods including prevention and postvention responses.
- deliver educational seminars or presentations on key primary prevention concepts and responses for preventing suicide.
- author and disseminate research proposals, reports, and published material in the field of suicidology and in behavioural research more generally.

**APPLICATION OF
 KNOWLEDGE &
 SKILLS**

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ engage in and contribute to supervisory processes and professional development within the field.
<p>Graduates of a Masters Degree (Coursework) will demonstrate the application of knowledge & skills:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ with creativity and initiative to new situations in professional practice and/or for further learning ▪ with high level personal autonomy and accountability ▪ to plan and execute a substantial research-based project, capstone experience and/or piece of scholarship 	<p>Graduates of the Master of Suicidology program will have the knowledge, skills and initiative to creatively:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ develop policy for prevention, interventions and long term management in clinical and community contexts. ▪ direct and implement postvention at the individual, family and community levels, and across different cultural contexts. ▪ adhere to the legal and ethical obligations that bind practitioners in the field of primary, secondary and tertiary prevention. ▪ develop, implement and evaluate prevention interventions and strategies. ▪ apply knowledge and skills both autonomously and in teams. ▪ liaise within and between professionals involved in the care of the suicidal person or affected community. ▪ demonstrate professional commitment to the field of suicide prevention and practice via engagement in ongoing research and professional development (including supervision) to remain abreast of latest research in the field and to deliver optimal client outcomes ▪ select and justify appropriate tests and responses for assessing and treating suicidality in any given context. ▪ design a sound piece of qualitative, descriptive, experimental, and quasi-experimental research, conduct a research project and write a research report.