



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**



Graduate Certificate in the Diagnosis and Assessment of FASD

The Graduate Certificate in the Diagnosis and Assessment of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder (FASD) is the first of its kind in the world.

Australian surveys of medical specialists and allied health staff have consistently demonstrated these people have poor awareness of FASD and diagnostic criteria, suggesting a need for additional psycho-education and resources to be provided to improve prevention, identification and intervention.

About the course

This online course addresses the need for clinicians who are skilled and confident in conducting assessments for which FASD is a differential.

Duration: 1 year full-time, part-time option available

Teaching mode: Multi-mode with 75% taught online and a 25% practicum component

Intake: Semester 1 (February)

Course content

Students complete four units:

- Two coursework units provide the theoretical grounding needed to understand and diagnose FASD.
- One additional coursework unit is on developing specific skills required to work in a multidisciplinary or interdisciplinary team.
- A final practicum unit allows students to put this model into practice in a clinical setting. The coordinators will aim to organise this practicum component at services local to the student (where possible).

Admission requirements

To be considered for admission into the Graduate Certificate in the Diagnosis and Assessment of Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder, applicants must:

- have provisional or full registration as a psychologist, social worker, speech pathologist, occupational therapist, physiotherapist, nurse, or medical doctor
- satisfy the University's English language competence requirement

Applicants must provide:

- a brief personal statement – maximum one page
- their Curriculum Vitae
- the names of two referees

Shortlisted applicants will be asked to attend an interview.

Fees and scholarships

Visit fees.uwa.edu.au for more information.

For scholarship opportunities visit scholarships.uwa.edu.au.

Career pathways

Students completing the course are likely to be highly competitive in obtaining employment with government and private agencies engaged in diagnosing and assessing Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorders, or engaged in providing other services to children and adults affected by this disorder.

Future job titles are likely to include Health Diagnostic and Promotion Professional, Medical Researcher, Coordinator of Clinical Services, Health Promotion Officer.

Your teachers

Associate Professor Carmela Pestell and Dr Kirsten Pantou co-coordinate the course.

Carmela is a registered clinical psychologist and neuropsychologist, and a Fellow of the College of Clinical Neuropsychologists (APS) who works extensively with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Her clinical expertise in FASD is widely recognised. She has contributed to the Australian FASD Diagnostic Guidelines, is a member of the Australian National Clinical FASD Network, and an Ambassador for NoFASD Australia.



Kirsten is a registered psychologist with experience in multiple FASD diagnostic clinics and research expertise in schizotypal traits.

How to apply

For further details visit uwa.edu.au/courses/fasd.

For information about the application process, visit study.uwa.edu.au/how-to-apply.

Why study at UWA?

- Ranked in the top 100 universities worldwide (QS 2020)
- UWA's School of Psychological Science is ranked first in Western Australia for Psychology (QS 2020)
- One of two psychology schools in Australia to have its research rated as 'well above world standard'



"The online lectures were engaging and flexibly accessible to me, particularly since I live in the Kimberley and was working full-time. This course has been invaluable to me as a young professional."

Elizabeth Sydney-Smith
Speech Pathologist

UWA FACULTY OF SCIENCE

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