POSITION DESCRIPTION

Position Title	Associate Lecturer Social Work - Work Integrated Learning		
Organisational Unit	Faculty of Health Sciences		
Functional Unit	National School of Allied Health		
Nominated Supervisor	Deputy Head, School of Allied Health NSW		
Career Pathway	Teaching Focussed		
Classification	Academic Level A		
CDF Level	CDF1	**Position Number**	10613231
Attendance Type	Part Time	**Date reviewed**	02-FEB-2026

ABOUT AUSTRALIAN CATHOLIC UNIVERSITY

Mission Statement: *Within the Catholic intellectual tradition and acting in Truth and Love, Australian Catholic University is committed to the pursuit of knowledge, the dignity of the human person and the common good.*

An ACU education builds on the Catholic understanding of faith and reason working together in pursuit of knowledge and promotion of human dignity and the common good.

An ACU education seeks to transform lives and communities. Students are challenged to look beyond the classroom, solve real-world problems, develop their own search for meaning and cultivate strong professional ethics. They are invited to stand up for people in need and causes that matter.

ACU is open to all. As is common with great Catholic institutions the world over, the university is inclusive and supportive of everyone, every day – regardless of their faith or tradition.

ACU is a young university making a serious impact. Ranked in the top two per cent of universities worldwide and in the top 10 Catholic universities, we're also a leader in employability with 94 per cent of our graduates employed. The university has seven campuses around Australia, a campus in Rome, Italy, and an online campus – ACU Online.

ACU has four faculties, and several research institutes and directorates. We believe our number one asset is our people. It's the character, enthusiasm and dedication of our staff that make this a university like no other. All our staff contribute to the achievement of our goals set out in ACU's Vision 2033 and aim to provide high-quality services with a strong focus on service excellence.

To be agents of change in the world, we all need to see life through the eyes of others. We believe that our role as a university is to inspire and equip people to make a difference – and that means cultivating their ability to act and think empathetically.

The structure to support this complex and national university consists of:

- Vice-Chancellor and President
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor - Catholic Mission
- Provost and Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Academic)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Corporate)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research and Enterprise)
- Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Education)

ABOUT THE FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES

The Faculty of Health Sciences comprises three schools:

- Allied Health
- Behavioural and Health Sciences
- Nursing, Midwifery and Paramedicine

There are currently approximately 14,000 students (EFTSL) and 520 (FTE) staff in the faculty under the disciplines: occupational therapy, speech pathology, social work, exercise science, exercise physiology, nutrition science and dietetics, biomedical science, nursing, midwifery, paramedicine, digital health, physiotherapy, psychology and public health. The Faculty is represented across seven ACU campuses.

The Faculty's research broadly addresses the Future Healthcare Worker, Health across the Lifespan, and Human Performance, with some of our current research focused on Cardiovascular Disease, Metabolism, Health Services Research, Nutrition, Sports Performance and Rehabilitation, Psychology, and Mental Health.

An expanding portfolio of postgraduate courses is also available in coursework and research. Many postgraduate courses within the Faculty have been developed in conjunction with industries to meet specific needs of the professions and industry. Some postgraduate units are offered in flexible learning mode by online study. All students have professional and clinical experience that is supervised by specially qualified practitioners. Catholic hospitals and other public, private and specialty organisations, as well as schools and the health and sports industry, are involved with preparing for, promoting, and offering this valued and essential experience.

The goals of the Faculty are closely linked to and emanate from the Mission of the University. The areas of achievement by the Faculty include the key areas of teaching and learning, research and scholarship, community engagement in addition to specific objectives regarding internationalisation, quality and resource management. It has well-established procedures for evaluating performance and ensuring quality which involve students and representatives of the various statutory registration authorities and professional organisations, as well as recent graduates and employers.

Further information about the Faculty can be found at:

https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/faculties-directorates-and-staff/faculty-of-health-sciences

ABOUT THE NATIONAL SCHOOL OF ALLIED HEALTH

The National School of Allied Health is located on six of the University's campuses: Brisbane, Strathfield, North Sydney, Canberra, Melbourne and Ballarat and is responsible for delivery of programs in four professional disciplines:

- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Pathology
- Physiotherapy
- Social Work / Human Services

Further information about the School can be found at: https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/faculties-directorates-and-staff/faculty-of-health-sciences/school-of-allied-health.

The School welcomes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander staff, students, and community perspectives in our commitment to culturally responsive classrooms and culturally safe environments. Substantial work has been undertaken over the last 10 years to embed Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander ways of knowing, being, and doing in curricula, as well as to build cultural capability and responsiveness in staff. Our aim is to create sustained working and teaching environments where Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, cultural mentors and academics can thrive. Underpinning this work is a strong ongoing focus on community engagement both within and external to ACU to truly privilege the voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander People within co-design, delivery, and evaluation of all of the School's activities. Support to undertake cultural activities is available and encouraged within the school, faculty and university for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander applicants.

POSITION PURPOSE

This position is to support field education in Social Work by contributing to high-quality learning experiences for students undertaking professional placements. The role centres on preparing, guiding, and supporting students as they integrate theory with practice in diverse human-service settings. The position strengthens the field education program by providing teaching, coordination, and student support that enhances readiness for practice and promotes successful placement outcomes. The academic works closely with field education staff, placement agencies, and students to ensure learning goals align with professional standards and accreditation requirements. This role plays a vital part in shaping emerging social workers by ensuring they receive high-quality, well-supported practice learning experiences. Through teaching, mentoring, and partnership building, the academic contributes to the development of a skilled, reflective, and socially responsive workforce.

KEY RESPONSIBILITIES

Introduction

A number of frameworks and standards express the University’s expectations of the conduct, capability, participation and contribution of staff. These are listed below:

- ACU's Vision 2033
- Catholic Identity and Mission
- Code of Conduct for all staff
- ACU Capability Development Framework
- Higher Education Standards Framework
- ACU Staff Enterprise Agreement 2022-2025
- ACU Staff Reconciliation Action Plan

The following two frameworks are important in understanding the expectations of an academic position and the required qualifications and capability of a position holder:

- The Academic Performance Matrices and Evidence Framework which describes the performance standards in areas of academic activity.
- The Capability Development Framework which describes the core competencies needed in all ACU staff to achieve the University's strategy and supports its mission.

All academic staff are allocated workload comprising a range of academic duties/activities that fall within the following three broad areas of academic activity in line with the relevant Academic Career Pathway and Academic Level.

- Teaching
- Curriculum Development and Scholarship of Teaching
- Research
- Academic Leadership/Service

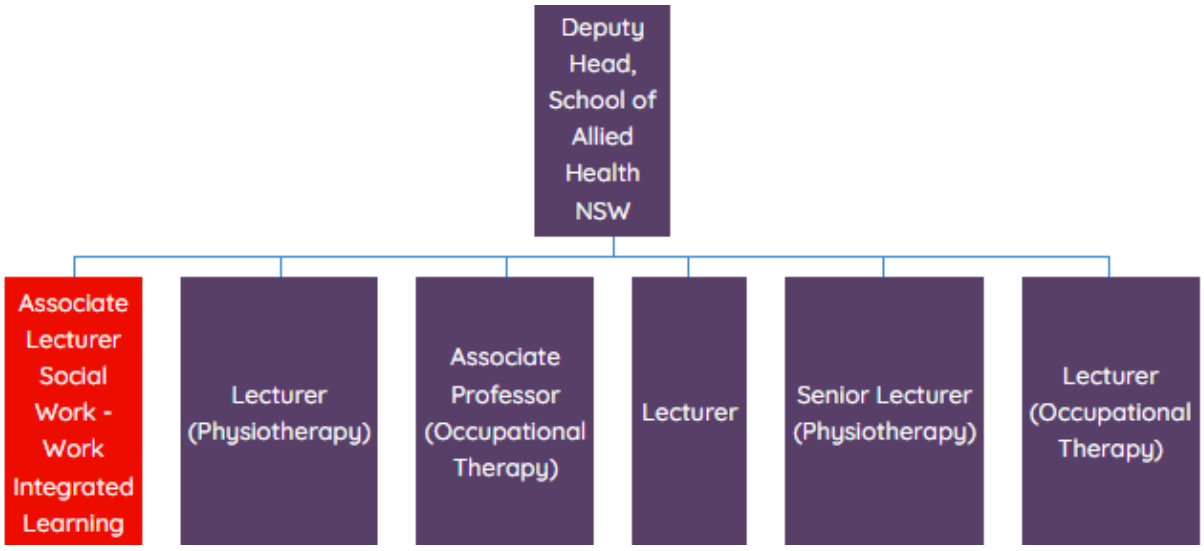
Responsibility	**Broad Area of Academic Activity**
Deliver teaching and learning activities related to field education, including workshops, tutorials, seminars, and online modules focused on practice skills, professional identity, ethics, and reflective practice.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Contribute to curriculum development for field education subjects, including assessment design, learning resources, and continuous improvement initiatives.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Conduct placement visits (in person or virtual) to liaise with agency supervisors, review learning plans, and ensure alignment with Social Work professional standards.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Develop and execute assessment tasks aligned with expected learning outcomes. Contribute to moderation of assessment and provide students with timely, effective formal and informal consultation and feedback opportunities.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching

Responsibility	Broad Area of Academic Activity
Participate in field education administration, such as allocating students to placements, maintaining records, and supporting compliance with accreditation and risk-management processes.	Academic Leadership and Service
Engage with agency partners to foster, strong relationships, support supervisor development, and contribute to procuring and sustaining placement opportunities.	Academic Leadership and Service
Promote inclusive, culturally responsive teaching that supports diverse student cohorts, including students from First Nations backgrounds, international students, and students with varied learning needs.	Teaching/curriculum development/scholarship of teaching
Participate in scholarly activities related to teaching quality, field education, or social work practice education, appropriate to a Level A academic.	Research

SELECTION CRITERIA

Qualifications, skills, knowledge and experience:	• Qualification - Possession of qualifying degree in Social Work. • Qualification - Possession of Higher Degree or one of the following - Evidence of a research component as part of a higher degree; or -Evidence which demonstrates equivalence with appropriate qualifications or; -Evidence of a higher qualification than a Bachelor (e.g. Graduate Certificate, post graduate Diploma, Honours, Masters). - current professional registration or eligibility for professional membership of AASW. • Experience - Strong understanding of Social Work practice, values, and professional standards. • Experience - Demonstrated high quality, innovative tertiary teaching experience in undergraduate and/or postgraduate units and/or courses with various delivery modes. • Skill - Capacity to work collaboratively with academic colleagues and community agencies. • Knowledge - Understanding of developing, implementing and/or leading innovative and pedagogically contemporary teaching, curriculum and/or assessment activities informed by current disciplinary research. • Experience - Demonstrated experience in conducting original research and/or engaging in scholarly activity. • Skill - Organisational skills to manage multiple placements, teaching tasks, and administrative responsibilities.

Core Competencies:	• Demonstrate confidence and courage in achieving ACU's Mission, Vision and Values by connecting the purpose of one's work to ACU's Mission, Vision and Values. • Work collaboratively internally and externally to ACU to capitalise on all available expertise in pursuit of excellence. • Communicate with purpose. Gain the support of others for actions that benefit ACU. Negotiate for mutually beneficial outcomes that are aligned with the Mission, Vision and Values of the University. • Take personal accountability for achieving the highest quality outcomes through understanding the ACU context, self-reflection, and aspiring to and striving for excellence. • Plan work activity, prioritise time and resources using established ACU processes and technology to achieve optimum efficiency and effectiveness.
Essential Attributes:	Demonstrated commitment to cultural diversity and ethical practice principles and demonstrated knowledge of equal employment opportunity and workplace health and safety, appropriate to the level of the appointment.
Working with children and vulnerable adults check	Evidence of the ability to work with children and/or vulnerable adults, and contribute to and protect their safety and wellbeing. The successful applicant of this position will be required to hold a valid working with children clearance for the State or Territory in which the position is located.

REPORTING RELATIONSHIPS

For further information about the structure of the University, refer to the Organisation Chart https://www.acu.edu.au/about-acu/leadership-and-governance/leadership/organisational-structure