CQUniversity
AUSTRALIA

SOWK28001 *Understanding Social Work: Foundational Knowledge and Skills for Practice*
Term 2 - 2026

Profile information current as at 27/03/2026 09:36 am

General Information

Overview

This unit introduces the complex history and foundations of the social work profession in Australia, emphasising its impact on the purpose, values, theory, identity and practice of social work. You will critically examine the theoretical frameworks and historical trends that have shaped the profession and the competing tensions and power dynamics that influence various social work practice contexts. You will develop a comprehensive understanding of social work values and ethics, focusing on how they are conveyed through professional communication. You will develop interpersonal communication skills essential for building effective and collaborative working relationships across diverse practice contexts, aiming to achieve positive outcomes. The unit emphasises critically evaluating and reflecting on culturally safe and responsive communication strategies and skills when working with First Nation peoples and people from culturally diverse backgrounds. Throughout the unit, you will engage in critical self-reflection to enhance your self-awareness and manage your use of self in interactions with others. Reflective practice will support your professional growth and improve your capacity to work empathetically and ethically in various social work settings.

Details

Career Level: *Postgraduate*
Unit Level: *Level 8*
Credit Points: *6*
Student Contribution Band: *10*
Fraction of Full-Time Student Load: *0.125*

Pre-requisites or Co-requisites

There are no requisites for this unit.
Important note: Students enrolled in a subsequent unit who failed their pre-requisite unit, should drop the subsequent unit before the census date or within 10 working days of Fail grade notification. Students who do not drop the unit in this timeframe cannot later drop the unit without academic and financial liability. See details in the Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework).

Offerings For Term 2 - 2026

- Sydney

Attendance Requirements

All on-campus students are expected to attend scheduled classes – in some units, these classes are identified as a mandatory (pass/fail) component and attendance is compulsory. International students, on a student visa, must maintain a full time study load and meet both attendance and academic progress requirements in each study period (satisfactory attendance for International students is defined as maintaining at least an 80% attendance record).

Website

This unit has a website, within the Moodle system, which is available two weeks before the start of term. It is important that you visit your Moodle site throughout the term. Please visit Moodle for more information.

Class and Assessment Overview

Information for Class and Assessment Overview has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 18 May 2026

CQUniversity Policies

All University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).
You may wish to view these policies:
- Grades and Results Policy
- Assessment Policy and Procedure (Higher Education Coursework)
- Review of Grade Procedure
- Student Academic Integrity Policy and Procedure
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – Domestic Students
- Monitoring Academic Progress (MAP) Policy and Procedure – International Students
- Student Refund and Credit Balance Policy and Procedure
- Student Feedback – Compliments and Complaints Policy and Procedure
- Information and Communications Technology Acceptable Use Policy and Procedure

This list is not an exhaustive list of all University policies. The full list of University policies are available on the [CQUniversity Policy site](#).

Unit Learning Outcomes

Information for Unit Learning Outcomes has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 18 May 2026

Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes

Information for Alignment of Learning Outcomes, Assessment and Graduate Attributes has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 18 May 2026

Textbooks and Resources

Information for Textbooks and Resources has not been released yet.
This information will be available on Monday 22 June 2026

Academic Integrity Statement

Information for Academic Integrity Statement has not been released yet.
This unit profile has not yet been finalised.