

GRADUATE PROFILE



Deanna Simpson with the “Tuji”, a youth group in a Kibera slum in Kenya where she volunteered with an NGO to support youth to start small business initiatives

DEANNA SIMPSON

“Deanna Simpson, a graduate of dual Bachelor degrees in Social Science (Development) and Arts (Philosophy), is working as a Graduate Policy Officer at the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

During her time at UQ, Deanna was awarded a Scholarship from GRM International (a managing contractor of Australian aid programs) which also included an internship working in their Brisbane office. This allowed her to undertake work experience and thus build expertise and test out her prospective career path before graduating. Deanna also arranged an internship with UN-HABITAT in Kenya, for which UQ awarded her with a travel grant.

Deanna said she found studying Social Science a fantastic program because she was able to take courses from a variety of disciplines which gave her a robust understanding of the interrelated issues that exist in the environment in which she would be working as a social scientist. Deanna also said that study at UQ enabled her to acquire general skills and knowledge for success in the workforce, including being able to write well, think clearly and critically, form conceptual links, manage time well and meet deadlines. She said she appreciated having access to very qualified lecturers and tutors as well as engaging with other students – “There are so many challenging issues for today’s world to consider, and so much demand for good ideas and solutions, and universities like UQ are fantastic incubators for discussion and innovation”.



Create change

Further information

Please visit our website at
www.social-science.uq.edu.au

For further details, please contact:

School of Social Science
The University of Queensland
Brisbane, Queensland 4072
Australia

P +61 7 3365 3236
E socialscience@uq.edu.au

CRICOS Provider Number 00025B



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Social Science

SCHOOL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
St Lucia campus, Brisbane, Australia



SOCIAL SCIENCE

In UQ's Bachelor of Social Science students learn how to develop strategies to address major social challenges facing society in an increasingly globalised world. Social Science covers a number of fields, and students will have the opportunity to major in one of these areas:

- Development
- Health and Society
- Social and Public Policy



Career Opportunities

As a Bachelor of Social Science graduate, you will be equipped with relevant and marketable skills including problem solving, effective written and oral communication, information processing, creative and critical thinking, cross-cultural awareness, social research skills, and computer literacy. These skills will enable graduates to seek future employment with organisations such as government departments, policing agencies, community service agencies, healthcare providers, NGOs, and in the business/private sector.

Career areas include:

Government Departments & Agencies (eg Health, Corrections, Communities, Immigration, Local Government)	Policy Advisor Research Officer Social Planning Officer Crime Prevention Officer Youth Justice Positions Immigration Officer
AusAID, NGOs (such as Oxfam)	Aid Project Officer Researcher Country Officer Social Planner
Health Provision Health Promotion	Health Services Manager Health Policy Officer Community Health Planner
Community Service Agencies (eg family, community, disability services, youth, migrants, children's services)	Program Officer Project Coordinator Disability Support Officer
Business/Private Sector (including consultancy firms)	Applied Research Officer Evaluation Officer Ethics Advisor Project Officer
Youth Services	Community Support Worker Youth Worker
Education	Teaching Social Science (in conjunction with education qualifications) Education Administrator

About the Program

As part of the Bachelor of Social Science, students will complete a set of core courses that equip them with theoretical knowledge and research skills that are sought after by employers.

Distinctive highlights of the program include a final year supervised real world research project linked with an industry partner and an unparalleled level of social research training. The program's engagement with government, community and commercial organisations offers unique exposure to applying social science research in the workforce.

In addition to the core courses, students undertake one or two of the following majors:

Development – offers a social science perspective on international and community development issues. Students focus on strategies to alleviate poverty and inequality, and to develop sustainable societies, communities and environments.

Health and Society – provides an understanding of the social, cultural, economic and ethical factors influencing health and illness. Courses focus on the way the health system works, and on gaining the skills relevant to becoming a social science worker in the health sector.

Social and Public Policy – provides students with the ability to gain the technical skills required to analyse social and economic issues and develop, implement and evaluate policy solutions. Studies in this major connect the social sciences to the world of practical politics.

Students also take courses in a **minor field of study and/or elective** courses from the social sciences, humanities or other fields.