Commencing: Semester 1 or Semester 2
Location: Gatton
Delivery Mode: Internal, External

postgraduate coursework programs in rural development

Work with rural communities to help them respond to social, economic and environmental challenges or opportunities. Enhance the well-being, livelihood and character of rural areas worldwide.

The University of Queensland’s postgraduate programs in Rural Development will position you as an innovative leader in the field, with practical experience in working with rural people and communities. You will play a key role in engaging people, addressing rural issues and supporting community capacity.

Many practitioners who work in community engagement and rural development come from diverse fields. The programs will provide you with professional expertise specifically in rural practice including stakeholder engagement, rural community development, agricultural extension and participatory approaches, negotiation and conflict management and the evaluation of programs.

The programs also focus on developing leadership, and addressing global challenges in food and agriculture.

Learn to integrate issues across disciplines, incorporate community input into policy and progress solutions in partnership with stakeholders. You will gain an understanding of the drivers behind rural change and how to work effectively with people and organisations.

You will apply your knowledge to analyse, plan, implement and evaluate existing community development programs, services and activities.

UQ Advantage
Apply your theoretical knowledge and gain practical skills by undertaking your own research project in Australia or overseas. Students have completed projects with Aboriginal communities in central and northern Australia, with farmers in central Queensland and with community organisations in Asia. International students can focus their research project on issues and case studies from their home countries as well as in Australia.

www.uq.edu.au/study
Career opportunities
Postgraduate study in rural development will prepare you for a highly rewarding career. Employment prospects currently exist with local and state government; private consultancy companies, non-government organisations, aid agencies and resource companies. You could undertake a variety of roles such as:
• Community facilitator
• Community engagement officer
• Education or programs officer
• International aid worker
• Rural extension officer
• Rural researcher

Program structure
Graduate Certificate in Rural Development
• 8 units (0.5 years full-time or part-time equivalent)

Part A – fundamental courses in leadership, global challenges, and research methodologies
Part B – electives

Master of Rural Development
• 24 units (1.5 years full-time or part-time equivalent)
• 32 units (2 years full-time or part-time equivalent)

Part A – fundamental courses in agriculture
Part B – practical project or thesis
Part C – core courses in rural development
Part D – electives

Sample course list
• Effective Stakeholder Engagement
• Rural Community Development
• Leading & Facilitating Groups
• Evaluation of Programs and Projects
• Global Challenges in Agriculture
• Leadership in Rural Industries and Communities
• Extension & Participatory Practice
• Systems Thinking for Sustainability
• Agricultural Research Methodologies
• Graduate Research Project

Entry requirements
Graduate Certificate in Rural Development
Bachelor degree in any field or have completed post-secondary study or work experience in a relevant area and satisfy the Executive Dean of suitable qualification for admission.

Master of Rural Development (#24)
Bachelor degree in social science, economics, agricultural science, animal science, biological science or a degree in a relevant area.

Master of Rural Development (#32)
Bachelor degree in any field or Graduate Certificate in Rural Development. Consideration will be given to applicants with a bachelor degree in an approved discipline relevant to rural development.

How to apply
International applicants
Information about application procedures for international students can be found at www.uq.edu.au/international-students/application-instructions

Domestic applicants
Complete the online application form at www.uq.edu.au/study

Time of publication: Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of information in this document at the time of publication. The authoritative source of program and course information is the UQ Courses and Programs website at uq.edu.au/study. Where any conflict of information exists, the rules and associated course lists approved by the UQ Senate shall apply.

Enquiries – International applicants
W: uq.edu.au/international-students/enquire-online
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Enquiries – Australian students
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