Learn to lead highly effective responses in the world’s most challenging environments

Course information

Course code: A540
Location: Cloud (Online)
Duration: 1 year part-time
Intake: July (Trimester 2), November (Trimester 3)

Course overview

The Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership is as diverse and compelling as the challenges it equips you to solve. Developed, tested, and refined based on proven efficacy in the field, the Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership is an unrivalled learning experience that sharpens your intellectual, emotional, interpersonal, and professional leadership understanding and practice.

Course content

The course is delivered through an innovative, blended approach that combines robust theory and practical application. By learning more about yourself as a leader, you will also learn to:

- engage with emerging trends and challenges, with a focus on strategic considerations when leading humanitarian responses
- navigate complicated leadership and humanitarian dilemmas
- better understand and critically engage with humanitarian systems and actors
- deepen your understanding of humanitarian principles, values and ethics, including critical understanding and challenges in practice
- make decisions quickly and effectively, often with limited information
- navigate complicated leadership and humanitarian dilemmas.

Flexibility and hands-on learning

Study two of your units where you want, with interactive Cloud (online) delivery. Your online learning is complemented by two intensive residential units where you will gain practical experience and transferable skills. One based in Melbourne, Australia, and the other in Semarang, Indonesia.

Course structure

To be awarded a Graduate Certificate in Humanitarian Leadership you must complete the following core units:

- The Humanitarian World
- Developing Humanitarian Leadership
- Leadership in Humanitarian Operations
- Demonstrating Strategic Leadership in Humanitarian Contexts

Opportunities and impact

Equipped with the academic understanding, practical skills and experience to make a real difference in the humanitarian sector, our graduates don’t just go on to affect change in their organisations - many also change their roles, their careers and their lives.

The Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership enables students to diversify their career options, providing an academic avenue to prepare for leadership positions across a diversity of contexts.

Students will learn skills that will serve them through their entire career, including how to:

- communicate vision and strategic purpose
- practise managerial courage
- build high performing teams
- manage change and transformation
- think and act strategically
- remove barriers and deliver results.
Fees and scholarships

Fees are determined based on factors including your nationality, the type of organisation you work for, and your employment status. The fee structures are designed to support students from the global south. Scholarships are available for eligible students. For more information visit: centreforhumanitarianleadership.org/scholarships

Application requirements

Successful applicants for the Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership have:

- at least five years’ work experience in an organisation or government body engaged in humanitarian responses, emergency management, development programmes or related areas
- a minimum of three years in a senior management or leadership role
- a strong desire to develop leadership skills to positively impact the future of the aid system
- excellent verbal and written English communication skills, equivalent to level 6.5 IELTS as per Deakin University requirements.

Please note you may be requested to undertake a written test or undergo an interview during the application process.

Further study

Students can directly articulate from the Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership with the completed units as credit equivalent to one third of the Master of Humanitarian Assistance, or another related masters degree.

About the Centre

The Centre for Humanitarian Leadership is a collaborative venture between Deakin University and Save the Children that combines good humanitarian practice with academic rigour.

We work with humanitarian leaders to influence how humanitarian organisations, and the system, respond to and engage with the increasingly complex humanitarian environment.

Our vision is that disaster and conflict-affected communities aiming to achieve social and economic resilience and recovery will be supported by a humanitarian system that is characterised by leadership excellence.

Find out more

Email info@centreforhumanitarianleadership.org
Visit centreforhumanitarianleadership.org/gchl