

## Module Synopsis

This module introduces the role and contribution of the social sciences in understanding and working in contemporary society. It provides you with an understanding of:

- an introduction to the social sciences, its historical foundations, and its contemporary applications
- establishment of a foundational framework through which the analysis of contemporary social issues takes place
- power and politics; workplace diversity and complexity; ambiguity and change; globalisation; and the environment
- an appreciation of the role of the social sciences in understanding contemporary society

## Learning outcomes

- Describe and discuss the theoretical underpinnings of applied social science
- Describe and discuss the role of the social sciences in contemporary society
- Explain the impact of culture on social roles and values
- Explore and discuss contemporary social roles (individuals, groups and organisations)
- Describe the impact of workplace diversity on policy and workplace environments
- Analyse the impact of change in contemporary society
- Discuss the relevance of the social sciences to social/organisational roles (eg. counsellors, managers, coaches)
- Analyse how aspects of contemporary society are manifested in specific practical examples relating to areas of professional practice

## Content areas

- Introduction to the social sciences
- Historical foundations to the social sciences
- Social science theories and applications
- The role of the social sciences in contemporary society
- Media and communication in contemporary society
- Power and politics in contemporary society
- Diversity and ambiguity in contemporary society
- Complexity and change in contemporary society
- Globalisation and the environment

## **Content areas continued**

- Access and equity in contemporary society
- Contemporary social issues: Case study 1
- Contemporary social issues: Case study 2

## **Module Duration and Workload**

This module involves a total of 36 hours of face to face delivery or self-directed study including educator contact in flexible delivery modes, generating a further 120 hours of self-study per module including research and related study activities, including assessment. This translates as 13 hours per week for the module.

## **Study method**

On Campus, Distance Education and Online Education