Position Description – Lecturer in Social Work

Updated 19 October 2026

POSITION DETAILS	
College	**College of Human Sciences and Culture**
Organisational Unit	**Applied Social Work**
Supervisor	**Teaching Program Director (or Delegate)**
Classification	**Academic Teaching & Research (Balanced) Level B**
Employment Type	**Continuing, full-time**

POSITION SUMMARY

The Lecturer in Social Work will contribute to excellence in teaching, research, and service within the Social Work program and the broader College. The position is responsible for delivering high-quality, contemporary Social Work education that prepares graduates for ethical, critically reflective, and culturally responsive professional practice across diverse settings. The Lecturer in Social Work will contribute to a positive and inclusive learning environment through innovative and evidence-informed teaching, curriculum development, topic coordination, student support, and engagement with field education and professional accreditation requirements.

The Lecturer in Social Work is expected to build a developing research program that aligns with the strategic priorities of the College and contributes to the advancement of knowledge, policy, and practice in Social Work and related fields. Working collaboratively with colleagues, students, community organisations, professional bodies, and industry partners, the Lecturer will contribute to the ongoing development of the Social Work program, support quality assurance and accreditation processes, and engage in service activities that strengthen the academic life of the College. The Lecturer in Social Work will contribute to a collegial and inclusive academic culture through participation in interdisciplinary teaching, research, and engagement activities, and will support the University's strategic goals. The position requires a strong commitment to the values and ethics of the Social Work profession, including social justice, human rights, equity, anti-racism, decolonisation, and culturally responsive practice.

UNIVERSITY EXPECTATIONS AND VALUES

All staff at Flinders are responsible for understanding their obligations and responsibilities as set out in the University's code of conduct and are expected to:

- demonstrate commitment to the University's values of Integrity, Courage, Innovation, Excellence and the underlying ethos of being Student Centred;
- demonstrate consistent alignment with the University's strategic priorities through daily decisions, teamwork and behaviours that reinforce the strategic intent
- contribute to the efficient and effective functioning of the team or work unit in order to meet the University's objectives. This includes demonstrating appropriate and professional workplace behaviours, providing assistance to team members if required and undertaking other key responsibilities or activities as directed by one's supervisor;
- promote and support an inclusive workplace culture which values diversity and embraces the principles of equal opportunity;
- perform their responsibilities in a manner that reflects and responds to continuous improvement; and
- familiarise themselves and comply with the University's Work Health and Safety, Injury Management and Equal Opportunity policies.

Flinders University is committed to providing a safe, respectful and inclusive environment, free from gender-based violence. Appointment to this role is conditional on the completion of required pre-employment checks and declarations, each of which must be satisfactory to the University. This includes a Gender-Based Violence declaration, in accordance with the National Higher Education Code to Prevent and Respond to Gender-Based Violence (2025), and a Nationally Coordinated Criminal History Check.

In addition, it is a requirement of this position that the incumbent maintain a current Working With Children Check which is satisfactory to the University in accordance with the Child Safety (Prohibited Persons) Act 2016 (SA).

KEY POSITION RESPONSIBILITIES

The Lecturer in Social Work is accountable for:

- Undertaking high-quality, ethical, and impactful research that aligns with the College's strategic research priorities, including contributing to the production of scholarly publications, development of research collaborations, contribution to competitive grant applications, and dissemination of research outcomes through academic and professional forums.
- Contributing to the design, coordination, delivery, and evaluation of undergraduate and postgraduate Social Work curriculum, including topic coordination, lectures, tutorials, workshops, field education, online learning, and other teaching activities as required.
- Delivering inclusive, innovative, and evidence-informed teaching that promotes student engagement, success, retention, and professional readiness, while supporting diverse learners and fostering a positive student experience.
- Contributing to the supervision and mentoring of Honours and Higher Degree by Research students, consistent with experience and accreditation requirements.
- Contributing to curriculum development, continuous quality improvement, and the maintenance of academic standards, including participation in internal and external review, accreditation, and quality assurance processes.
- Participating actively in collegial, interdisciplinary, and collaborative teams that support excellence in teaching, research, and engagement, and contribute to a respectful, inclusive, and supportive workplace culture.
- Developing and maintaining productive partnerships with communities, practice settings, industry stakeholders, professional bodies, and government and non-government organisations that enhance teaching, research, field education, and professional engagement.
- Contributing to the academic, administrative, and service activities of the College, including committee membership, student support, professional engagement, and other duties that support the University's strategic objectives.
- Upholding and promoting the values and ethics of the social work profession, including commitments to social justice, human rights, equity, diversity, inclusion, anti-racism, decolonisation, and culturally responsive practice.
- Undertaking occasional out-of-hours work, including evenings and weekends (e.g. during open days), and travelling within South Australia, interstate, or internationally, as required.
- Performing other duties consistent with the classification level of the position as directed by the Supervisor, Head of Program, or the University

KEY POSITION CAPABILITIES

- Completion of a PhD in Social Work or a closely related discipline, or evidence of equivalent professional and academic standing.
- Demonstrated capacity to deliver high-quality, evidence-informed teaching that fosters student engagement, success, retention, and graduate readiness across diverse learning environments.
- Demonstrated experience in tertiary teaching, including topic coordination, curriculum development, assessment design, and the delivery of inclusive and contemporary learning experiences.

- Evidence of an emerging or developing research profile appropriate to career stage, including a record of scholarly publications and demonstrated capacity to secure, or contribute to securing, competitive research funding.
- Demonstrated understanding of contemporary social work theory, practice, and education, and their relationship to professional standards, accreditation requirements, ethical practice, and graduate competencies.
- Demonstrated excellent communication, interpersonal, and collaborative skills, with the capacity to build effective relationships with students, colleagues, community partners, and relevant stakeholders.
- Demonstrated capacity to contribute to academic administration, service, and collegial activities that support the strategic goals of the discipline, school, and university.
- Demonstrated commitment to the values and ethics of the social work profession, including social justice, human rights, equity, anti-racism, decolonisation, and culturally responsive practice.
- Demonstrated experience in the supervision of Honours, Master's, or Higher Degree by Research students, or capacity to develop a successful research supervision profile (desirable).
- Demonstrated capacity to contribute to curriculum review, quality assurance processes, and internal and external accreditation activities, including those associated with AASW accreditation standards (desirable).
- Demonstrated experience in community-engaged, interdisciplinary, or industry-partnered teaching and research that contributes to social impact and professional practice (desirable).

FINAL