



# MASTER OF HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

Engaging the humanitarian professionals of the future.

## Take action, change the world as you know it.

The environment in which humanitarian workers find themselves today is more complex and diverse than ever. Conflicts are increasingly complicated and natural disasters are escalating in number and intensity, often occurring in regions already struggling with socio-economic and political constraints. While organisations and governments improve their preparedness and response mechanisms, it must be remembered that no two emergency interventions are ever the same. To deal with such complexities, humanitarian workers are required to display and use a diverse range of knowledge and competencies.

### Mission

Deakin University is committed to engaging and developing current and future humanitarian professionals as innovative thinkers and dynamic achievers through pursuing unparalleled academic and practice excellence.

### Objective

The Master of Humanitarian Assistance (MHA) is a mixed delivery mode postgraduate degree offered by Deakin University.

- The MHA provides students with a unique combination of theory, practice and reflection using cloud based and intensive located modes of learning.
- Combined with action-based research and field experience, the MHA enables students to be better equipped, effective and highly skilled practitioners in the sector, both in Australia and internationally.
- Drawing on the organisational partnerships that have evolved through the development of the Graduate Certificate of Humanitarian Leadership Program, students will have access to humanitarian experts, leaders, thinkers and researchers from the humanitarian sphere.

### Who should apply for this course?

The course is designed for people interested in building a career in the sector and current humanitarian practitioners who want to deepen their knowledge and enhance their analytical thinking around humanitarian practices and dilemmas.

### Why apply with Deakin?

The MHA is strategically positioned as the first course of its kind in the Asia Pacific region. It builds a unique platform where humanitarian practitioners and academics can share knowledge and experience with a focus on improving leadership, preparedness and response capacities to national and international emergencies.

*'Strong relationships with academic institutions are a really powerful way for aid organisations like Save the Children to enhance the rigour of work. We are delighted with our relationship with Deakin University and are very supportive of their new Master of Humanitarian Assistance.'*

**Paul Ronalds**  
CEO, Save the Children Australia

### Course content

The program draws on a combination of academic and practice knowledge methodologies, with six core and a selection of elective units offered. All units include online or classroom interactions with guest lecturers and experts from the sector and beyond. Core units include:

- The Humanitarian World: An Introduction to the History and Development of the Humanitarian Sector
- Dynamics and dilemmas of the Humanitarian sector
- Applied Humanitarian Assistance: From Theory to Practice
- Fundamentals of People Management Across the Humanitarian Continuum
- Disaster Risk Reduction and Management in Humanitarian Contexts
- Project and Financial Management in Humanitarian Contexts.

### Academic staff

- Phil Connors, Course Director
- Nuran Higgins, Lecturer of Humanitarian Assistance
- Sophie Perreard, Lecturer of Humanitarian Assistance.

[www.deakin.edu.au/humanitarian-assistance](http://www.deakin.edu.au/humanitarian-assistance)

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