

# oases Masters Course

## in Integrative and Transformative Studies

Transforming our future through collaborative thinking,  
purposeful dialogue and mindful action

### At oases we contend

- that the crises (ecological, spiritual, social, political) challenging us today require transformed, integral practices in each and everyone of us,
- that the way we perceive the world has important consequences for our actions, values and ways of being,
- that we bring our whole lives to work, and
- that organisations share responsibility for the transformation with individuals.

## Doing Leadership Differently

This course is about taking responsibility for deepening and using our wisdom, knowledge and skills in responding to the situations in which we find ourselves, our organisations and our society.

In this pursuit, **we are all leaders ...** and this is where leadership needs to think and act differently. Through each of us recognising our role, we engage with each other and with the broader community in thinking, dialogue and actions that really change the course of the future ~ now.

Our program starts from this point ~ the whole person in their whole world. Our learning processes enable respect for each person's uniqueness as well as recognition of our social commonality.

We focus our attention on becoming increasingly mindful of our daily individual and collective choices and practice ~ as they hold the keys for integration and transformation.

*"What if the leadership we need in order to change the human condition is something quite different from that we are used to? ... Today's dynamic is one of living global networks in which flows of ideas and information ricochet and collide in continuous streams of opportunity." Richard Hames*

### Why choose this course?

- We focus on vital questions and issues, and give ourselves permission to spend lots of time with them.
- We explore the context within which problems occur before attempting to solve them.
- We discuss the nature of paradigms, including our own character and worldviews and perspectives and assumptions.
- We are willing to question underpinning systems and their guiding principles, with a view to reworking
  - our understanding of the systems,
  - our choices in interacting with them, and
  - our options for changing the systems themselves.

### This course is for

- anyone wishing to bring who they are to what they do'
- anyone interested in pursuing knowledge about doing sustainable, sustaining work whilst undertaking relevant workplace-based projects
- those who understand that leadership occurs at all levels of an organisation and in every avenue of community life
- anyone committed to understanding the breadth and depth of the world in which we live and practice

The oases Masters course is accredited and part-time, with leaving points after one year (Grad Cert), two years (Grad Dip) and on completion of the Masters.

At the core of the Masters Course is an ongoing Integrative Conversation that continues across the life of the course, creating a place where participants can debrief and evaluate their learning.

In the first year, four entry units have been designed to give a base of theory and critical discourse for all participants. In subsequent years, participants will focus their efforts on a practical, work-based project supported by the Integrative Conversation and by elective units from across our diverse range of offerings (see website) and the ongoing support of academic staff members.

# 2010 Masters Degree Course in Integrative and Transformative Studies



## Content

This program is grounded in 'practical' skills, (discrete) abstract knowledge(s), as well as in our own, and others', ways of being and knowing and doing. It is from within a critical exploration of our often unconscious and unexplored ways of being-in-the-world that our ways of knowing that world and our actions within it can be explored, critiqued, adapted and transformed.

## Participants will learn how to:

- Develop frameworks for social, environmental and personal sustainability
- Work with and influence the processes of social change
- Relate with others for mutual benefit (working with the potential tensions and contradictions inherent in this work)
- Overcome the separations between different 'expertises' that operate within an organisation or society
- Integrate theoretical learning and insights with practice and action-learning with theory
- Be conscious of the choices they make every day and reflect on their (social, ecological, aesthetic, spiritual and other) implications
- Negotiate boundaries and work in the borderlands, including consideration of issues such as power and influence
- Maintain integrity in situations which challenge their ethics
- Maintain spirit in the midst of potentially dispiriting social and ecological realities
- Create learning moments and spaces in their lives and work

Attendance is part-time, organised as monthly 2 or 3-day workshops.

## 2010 dates are

Feb 26-28 (FSS)	August 14-16 (SSM)
Mar 26-28 (FSS)	Sep 12-13 (SM)
Apr 25-26 (SM)	Oct 8-10 (FSS)
May 30-31 (SM)	Nov 7-8 (SM)
June 25-27 (FSS)	Dec 3-5 (FSS)
(S- Sat, SS- Sat/Sun, M- Mon, F - Fri)	

Fees for 2010 remain at \$5800. (no CPI increase)

There may be small additional costs for access to the university Caval library system, reading packs, and occasionally for course materials.

## Can I take a single unit?

Yes. It is possible to take certain oases' units singly or as an elective whilst studying in other programs. Please contact oases to discuss.

## Entrance requirements

We accept participants principally for their personal qualities, passion for learning and opportunity to put into practice what they learn. Participants will normally have a university degree and several years work experience. These requirements may alter if the applicant can demonstrate sufficient aptitude and motivation alongside relevant work experience and previous personal/professional development.

## Academic staff

We have extensive experience across many academic disciplines and large & small business settings in Australia and internationally. Academically, we have 19 staff members with PhD qualification.

## Our 'disciplines' include (amongst others)

Social Anthropology	Communication
Ars & Consciousness	Business
Community Development	Education
Ecology	Engineering
Information Technology	Innovation & Service Mgmt
Nursing	Org'n Change & Devt
Psychotherapy	Quality Systems
Science	Social Work
Sociology of Religion	Strategic Foresight
Telecomm'n Systems	Theology
Hermeneutics & Aus. Lit.	

## More information?

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The oases Graduate School supports and facilitates personal, organisational and social transformation, focusing its efforts toward vocational, social and ecological sustainability.

It values cultural diversity, multiple ways of knowing, and a reflective and innovative learning community.

The oases Masters program is accredited with national recognition and within the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) and is a joint venture of Borderlands Cooperative and the Augustine Community.

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~ learning for personal, social and global response-ability