

Faculty of Health Sciences
International Selection Document



2010 ENTRY

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Published May 2009. The University of Adelaide CRICOS Provider Number 00123M

Introduction



The University's Faculty of Health Sciences is made up of six schools:

- School of Medical Sciences
- School of Medicine
- School of Paediatrics and Reproductive Health
- School of Population Health and Clinical Practice
- School of Psychology and
- School of Dentistry.

Each School has a long and distinguished history of teaching and research and is recognised both nationally and internationally in the development of modern clinically relevant programs.

This document outlines the process for selection for international students applying for entry into the following programs:

- Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS)
- Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)
- Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth)
- Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs)

This document also contains an overview of the following programs:

- Bachelor of Health Science (BHlthSci)
- Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) (BPsych (Hons))
- Bachelor of Psychological Science (BPsychSci)

1 Applications

If you do not possess Australian or New Zealand citizenship, and you do not have permanent residency status for Australia, you are classified as an international applicant.

1.1 International Applicants studying an Australian year 12 qualification in 2009

If you are an international applicant studying any of the following programs:

- South Australian Certificate of Education (SACE)
- ACT year 12 Certificate
- NSW Higher School Certificate (HSC)
- Northern Territory Certificate of Education (NTCE)
- Queensland Senior Certificate
- Tasmania Certificate of Education (TCE)
- Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE)
- Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE)
- International Baccalaureate (IB) in Australia

In the year of 2009 in an Australian school you must:

submit an 'Intent to Apply as an International Student' form to the International Office, Level 5 Oliphant Building, North Terrace, The UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE, SA 5005, Australia. The form is available on the website of the Faculty of Health Sciences: www.health.adelaide.edu.au and obtainable from the International Office, and will serve as your registration to sit the Personal Quality Assessment (PQA) required of applicants to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOralHlth) programs.

Please note that applicants to the Bachelor of Nursing Program do NOT have to sit the PQA and do not have to submit an intent to apply form.

The completed form together with a PQA registration fee of AUD\$250 in form of a bank draft payable to 'The University of Adelaide, Faculty of Health Sciences' or Credit Card authority must be received by the International Office no later than 30 June 2009; and

- a) make an application for admission to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Bachelor of Oral Health (BOralHlth) or Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs) programs through the South Australian Tertiary Admissions Centre (SATAC) before 31 August 2009. Please refer to the SATAC website: www.satac.edu.au for application details.

1.2 All Other International Applicants

All other international applicants (including those studying foundation studies or other programs in Australia) must submit a University of Adelaide International application for undergraduate studies form to the International Office, Level 5 Oliphant Building, North Terrace, The UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE, SA 5005.

The application form is provided in the Undergraduate International Prospectus 2009 and available from the web site: <http://www.international.adelaide.edu.au/study/>. The completed form together with all required documentation and the PQA registration fee of AUD\$250 in form of a bank draft payable to 'The University of Adelaide, Faculty of Health Sciences' or Credit Card Authority must be received by the International Office no later than 30 June 2009.

All the closing dates specified above are strictly adhered to, late submissions will not be accepted. Confirmation of PQA sittings will be sent to applicants as soon as practicable after the application closing deadline.

2 Selection Criteria

Selection for entry into Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOralHlth) programs is based on three components:

- a) performance in the Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA)
- b) performance in a structured oral assessment
- c) meeting the academic threshold.*

Selection for entry into Bachelor of Nursing program is based on two components:

- a) performance in a structured oral assessment
- b) meeting the academic threshold.*

*Please refer to the International Undergraduate Prospectus 2010 available from the International Office for further information.

Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA)

The Personal Qualities Assessment (PQA) is designed to assess attributes in applicants, which the Faculty believes are important to the study and later practice in the health sciences professions.

PQA is an instrument designed to assess a range of personal qualities considered to be important for the study and practice of medicine, dentistry and other health professions. It comprises of questions, grouped into three sections, the first to measure cognitive skills, the other two to measure particular personality/attitudinal traits relevant to health professional practice.

Test 1 (MAT; Mental Agility Test) is designed to measure fluid intelligence. It is a high level reasoning ability skills test containing questions similar to those found in many 'I.Q.' tests. It is designed to discriminate between those of higher than average ability in this dimension. The test asks a series of verbal, numerical and spatial problem-solving questions. There are 45 questions to answer in 60 minutes.

Test 2 (Mojac; Interpersonal Values) describes a number of situations where people have to decide what to do according to their opinions or values. Unlike Test 1, there are no right or wrong answers to the questions in this test. Rather, candidates are asked to choose the answer that most closely reflects their value system and what they believe is appropriate in each situation.

Test 3 (NACE; Interpersonal traits) presents statements about people and lists the way individuals might think and behave in certain situations. Again, there are no right or wrong answers. Instead, candidates are asked to indicate how true or false each statement is about themselves. The time allowed to answer the questions in Tests 2 and 3 is 60 minutes.

The PQA does not assess:

- english language skills
- academic ability
- cultural or religious values
- gender or sexuality
- socio-economic status.

The Faculty of Health Sciences is expecting to receive over 700 applications this year for the limited number of places available in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOralHlth) programs. Applicants to those programs whose PQA scores rank them highly enough will be invited to attend an Oral Assessment. Dentistry, Medicine or Oral Health applicants can only present for oral assessment if they have:

- a) completed the PQA in 2009 and
- b) subsequently been invited to attend an oral assessment.

Please note that applicants to the Bachelor of Nursing Program do NOT have to sit the PQA.

3 PQA Test Dates and Centres

As it is compulsory for all international students applying to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs to undertake the PQA, the Faculty of Health Sciences will be offering the PQA at the following test centres;

Adelaide:	Friday, July 31st 2009, University of Adelaide
Melbourne:	Saturday, August 1 st 2009, Taylors College
Singapore:	Monday, August 3 rd 2009, Carlton Hotel, Singapore
Malaysia (Subang Jaya):	Thursday, August 5 th 2009, Sheraton Subang Hotel

The PQA will NOT be held outside of these dates.

NOTE: The Faculty of Health Sciences has every intention of holding these sessions at the allocated time in the allocated country. However, University policy prevents staff from travelling to countries when a travel ban has been enforced by the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trades (DFAT). Should a PQA session be cancelled due to a DFAT ban, applicants will be required to travel to another test venue including Adelaide.

4 Registering for the PQA

Registration for the PQA is to be made either on;

- a) the University of Adelaide International Student Application for Undergraduate Studies 2010 form, or
- b) the University of Adelaide Intent to Apply form as appropriate.

5 Test Fees

The fee to sit the PQA is AUD\$250.

When returning your application form you must include an International Bank Draft or Money Order, which has been written out to 'University of Adelaide, Faculty of Health Sciences' or by Credit Card Authority. A Bank Draft or Money Order must be for \$250 Australian Dollars. It is recommended that you note your name and date of birth on the back of the cheque to ensure it is matched with your application. Please note this is separate to the University application fee. Money transfers are not accepted.

An applicant will be refused entry to sit the PQA if payment has not been received correctly.

Payment should be included with the Application Form or the Intent to Apply form and sent to:

Admissions Officer (Health Science Programs)
International Office
UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE
SA 5005 AUSTRALIA

BEFORE THE CLOSE OF BUSINESS 30 JUNE 2009

6 Cancellation of Registration

The PQA registration fee is non-refundable.

7 Identification at the PQA

At the PQA session you will be required to bring with you photo-bearing identification, the name on which must match the name on the confirmation provided by the Faculty of Health Sciences. You will also be asked to provide a signature.

8 PQA Results

Your PQA result will form part of the selection into the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs and remains the property of the University of Adelaide, Faculty of Health Sciences.

Applicants will be informed if they have ranked highly enough to be invited to a structured oral assessment. The Faculty will make every effort to inform the applicants as soon as possible that they have progressed. The Faculty reserves the right to invite applicants for a structured oral assessment before the PQA results are known.

Structured Oral Assessment

The second stage of selection for entry into the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs is a structured oral assessment. This is the first stage of selection for entry into the Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs) program. Oral Assessment will only be conducted face to face with applicants to the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs.

The structured oral assessment will be approximately 15 – 20 minutes in length and will be conducted by an experienced assessor. The oral assessment will assess skills and qualities, which are considered important for undertaking the program and for future professional practice.

Applicants will be ranked according to their performance in the structured oral assessment.

9 Structured Oral Assessment Dates and Centres

If you are invited for a structured oral assessment you must attend the interview at one of the following test centres on the dates allocated. Oral assessments will not be conducted outside of these times;

Singapore: 5th and 6th of October 2009
Malaysia: 8th and 9th of October 2009
Adelaide: 12th, 13th and 14th of October 2009

10 Confirmation of Oral Assessments

Applicants will be informed as soon as practicable after the PQA whether or not they have qualified for an oral assessment. All applicants will be directed to the Faculty of Health Sciences website where they will track their progress through the application process.

11 Oral Assessment Fee

There is no fee to sit the oral assessment.

12 Identification

You will be required to bring photo-bearing identification with you and sign a statement confirming that you know your Prescribed Communicable Infections (PCI) status, that you do not have a PCI and that you understand, should your application be successful, you will be further tested for PCI's when you arrive in Adelaide. You are **not** required to bring blood test results confirming your status. You simply need to sign that you are aware of the Faculty of Health Sciences' PCI policy and your obligations therein.

Further details on the Faculty of Health Sciences' PCI policy can be found at www.adelaide.edu.au/policies/591

Successful applicants for entry into the Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs will, in addition to PCI testing before leaving their home country, be required to undertake further testing upon commencement of their program.

Academic Threshold

The academic threshold required for Faculty of Health Sciences programs are detailed in the University of Adelaide's 'Undergraduate International Prospectus 2010' (available at <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/publications/international/>)

Applicants will only be considered if they meet the academic threshold. Further information can be obtained by contacting the Admissions Officer (Health Sciences Programs), International Office (contact details are listed at the end of this document).

NOTE: The Faculty of Health Sciences will only consider applicants who meet the threshold requirement and does not take into account personal testimonies, O Levels or AS Level transcripts.

Offers

The Faculty of Health Sciences will make two offer rounds, December 2009 (major round) and January 2010 (offers accepted on first come-first served basis). It is very important to note the following:

- offers will only be made once all parts of selection have been completed and the applicant has ranked high enough in the order of merit list. Offers will be forwarded to the applicant's correspondence/agent's address as advised on the application form
- the Faculty of Health Sciences will not make offers based on forecast results
- the Faculty of Health Sciences reserves the right to make offers outside of the above offer rounds
- the Faculty of Health Sciences will not be making conditional offers to Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs
- the Faculty of Health Sciences may make conditional offers to the Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs) program

Strict quotas apply to Bachelor of Dental Surgery (BDS), Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS), Bachelor of Nursing (BNurs) and Bachelor of Oral Health (BOraHlth) programs. Applicants receiving an offer in the December 2009 offer round must return the required acceptance payment and documents before the acceptance closing dates as specified in the offer documentation. However, acceptances of the final round offers to be made in January 2010 will be confirmed on a first-come first-serve basis. Offerees in that round must return the required acceptance payment and documents at the earliest possible time to secure a place in the offered program.

General Information

13 Strict adherence to selection requirements

The practice of medicine, dentistry, nursing and oral health includes the necessity to observe treatment and administrative protocols precisely and within strict time frames. Accordingly, applicants will be expected to complete the application and selection requirements precisely, and failure to do so will result in the termination of the University's consideration of the application. Strict adherence to this policy will ensure fairness to those applicants who have demonstrated an ability to follow instructions.

14 Change in immigration status

MBBS students

Should an international student change his/her immigration status to that of an Australian Permanent Resident at any stage during their program of study, he/she will no longer be eligible to hold an international student place in the MBBS program. The student may, however, apply to transfer to a Fee-based place. This transfer will be at the discretion of the Executive Dean and will only be considered if there are places available. International students cannot transfer into a Commonwealth Supported Place.

Dental, Oral Health and Nursing students

Bachelor of Oral Health, Bachelor of Dental Surgery and Bachelor of Nursing students who change their immigration status during their program of study will be transferred to a Fee-based place and not a Commonwealth Supported place for the duration of the program.

15 Prescribed Communicable Infections (PCI)

Dental and Oral Health applicants

Students enrolled in the Bachelor of Dental Surgery or Bachelor of Oral Health programs must be registered with the Dental Board of SA. Students with a prescribed communicable infection (Hepatitis B antigen and antibody, Hepatitis C antibody, and HIV/AIDS) will be unable to be registered with the Dental Board of SA, and are therefore unable to complete the requirements of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery or Bachelor of Oral Health programs. The University of Adelaide has an obligation and commitment to protect the health of patients, staff and students who access facilities in the Adelaide Dental Hospital. It is not possible to undertake the Bachelor of Dental Surgery or Bachelor of Oral Health without performing exposure-prone procedures on patients at the Dental Hospital.

Therefore, the University of Adelaide requires all applicants applying for Bachelor of Dentistry program or the Bachelor of Oral Health program to be aware of their own PCI status before applying. Applicants who are selected for an oral assessment will be required to sign a statement confirming that they know their Prescribed Communicable Infections (PCI) status, that they do not have a PCI and that they understand, should their application be successful, they will be further tested for PCI's when they arrive in Adelaide. If a student tests positive for any of the prescribed communicable infections, their enrolment will be terminated and the student will be removed from the program.

Furthermore, students who are not vaccinated against Hepatitis B will be required to complete a vaccination program with an approved provider before commencing their studies.

Medical and Nursing applicants

The University has an obligation and commitment to protect the health of patients, staff and students.

Therefore, the University of Adelaide requires all applicants applying for Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery or Bachelor of Nursing programs to be aware of their own PCI status before applying. Applicants who are selected for an oral assessment will be required to sign a document confirming that they are aware of their PCI status, that they do not have a PCI and will be subject to further testing prior to commencing studies, should their application be successful.

Students who are found to be positive to any of the PCIs will have their results sent to an expert panel for review and may or may not be removed from the Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery or Bachelor of Nursing programs. Furthermore, students who are not vaccinated against Hepatitis B will be required to complete a vaccination program with an approved provider.

Further details regarding the PCI policy can be found at <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/policies/591>

Nursing applicants should also make themselves aware of the Immunisation guidelines for Health Care workers in SA 2008 www.health.sa.gov.au

16 Alternate Pathways

Competition for a place in medical, nursing and dental programs is high. We encourage all applicants to consider alternate pathways to their required goal.

Further information regarding alternate pathways is available from the University of Adelaide Student Centre.

17 Medical Internships

Medical Internships are organised by the state governments. The University of Adelaide cannot guarantee intern places for international students. However, it is common for international students to obtain such place in Australian hospitals. Further information regarding internships may be obtained from the Department of Human Services, South Australia.

18 Medical Registration

Under the Medical Practitioners Act 2004, all medical students must be registered with the Medical Board of South Australia, which has the responsibility of ensuring that all persons permitted to practise medicine in the state should be fit and proper persons who maintain appropriate professional standards.

Further details can be found at the South Australian Medical Board website www.medicalboardsa.asn.au

19 First Aid Certificate for MBBS students

Successful applicants must have completed and hold a current approved national Senior First Aid Certificate (including CPR) prior to the commencement of the MBBS program. From the first problem in the CBL curriculum, it will be assumed that students have knowledge gained in a Senior First Aid Certificate so students must have this background before starting the program. Evidence of this certificate must be presented to the Medicine Learning and Teaching Unit office by the end of orientation week of the program. The preferred certificates are Senior First Aid Certificates issued by members of the Australian Resuscitation Council, for example:

- St John Ambulance Australia (www.stjohnsa.com.au)
- Australian Red Cross (www.redcross.org.au/sa/)
- Royal Life Saving Society Australia
- Surf Life Saving Australia (www.surfrescue.com.au)

These certificates are awarded after attendance at a program of approximately 16 hours duration with an end point examination. An organization's Membership of the Australian Resuscitation Council provides guaranteed standards and uniformity of teaching.

Other certificates obtained in Australia will only be accepted if they are issued by organisations holding a Registered Training Organisation (RTO) certificate. In such cases it is the responsibility of the student to provide evidence that the organisation is a certificate holder.

First aid certificates obtained overseas from internationally recognised organizations, such as the Red Cross/Red Crescent or St John Ambulance, are acceptable provided that they are approximately 16 hours in duration and cover CPR for adults and infants. It is the responsibility of the student to provide evidence on the content covered in the first aid course.

Further Information

Further information can be obtained from the following sources;

A University approved agent (see <http://www.international.adelaide.edu.au/offshore/rebs/>)

Or

Admissions Officer (Health Sciences Programs)

International Office

The UNIVERSITY OF ADELAIDE

SA 5005

Telephone: +61 8 8303 4072

Facsimile: +61 8 8232 3741

E-mail webform: www.international.adelaide.edu.au/enquiries/

Frequently asked questions

I sat PQA/Interview last year; do I have to sit the PQA/Interview again?

Yes. Applicants must make a fresh application and sit both PQA/Interview as candidates are ranked according to that year's cohort and not the previous year.

My GCE A Level results come out in January; will you hold a place for me?

No. Any applicant whose results become available after the December offer round cannot be given equal consideration for a place. In particular, the University of Adelaide reminds those candidates sitting GCE A Level exams in November that their results might be available after the quotas have been filled.

Can I transfer into a later year of the MBBS Program?

No. Due to the vertical curriculum, it is not possible for students to enter any other year level.

Will you accept my application if it is late?

No. Late applications will not be accepted.

Can I do the PQA in my home country?

No. The PQA will only be offered in the sites listed.

When can I lodge my application?

Applications open 1 March 2009 and close 30 June 2009.

If I fail the PQA, but get excellent grades in my final exams will I be reconsidered for Medicine and Dentistry?

No. Offers are based on all three-selection components starting with the PQA.

Should I submit my forecast results or school testimonials?

No. These are not considered and do not make up any of the selection components.

Can I fax my application through to the International Office?

No. Original applications and payment must be received by close of business 30 June 2009.

Do you send me a copy of my PQA results?

No. Outcomes from the PQA are based on the whole cohort and therefore individually, the results are not reflective of individual characteristics.

I have been offered an oral assessment, what should I wear?

Dress is not assessed during your structured interview therefore what you wear is up to you.

How far is the Adelaide Airport from the University?

Approximately 20 minutes by taxi.

I am a currently enrolled student at the University of Adelaide, how do I apply?

Current students must complete the International Student Application for Undergraduate Studies 2010 form located in the Undergraduate International Prospectus 2009 and available from the Student Centre. While they are not required to pay another application fee, they must include the AUS\$250 PQA registration fee and lodge their application by the 30 June 2009.

Curriculum information

Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery

Program Outline

The MBBS Program at the University of Adelaide provides students with state of the art education and training to enable them, as graduates, to practise medicine in the 21st Century. Over the last 15 years, the Faculty has devoted considerable time to reviewing the requirements of graduates to ensure that they will become effective modern medical practitioners and to develop and evaluate styles of learning and teaching that are best suited to producing such graduates. The outcome is a state of the art, integrated educational program. In addition to producing graduates who are fully competent to undertake an internship, a major aim of the curriculum is to make learning enjoyable and stimulating. It has been important and pleasing to see students so obviously enjoying themselves as they learn.

Program Emphases and Structure

The three major "streams" of the course are the core elements of medical practice: *the Scientific Basis of Medicine, Clinical Skills and Medical Personal and Professional Development*. These three streams form the basis of an integrated case-based program in Years 1-3.

Throughout Years 4-6, students will expand their knowledge, experience and skills within these three streams as they undertake placements within the teaching hospitals and in the broader medical community. Case-based learning (CBL) has been adopted as the dominant learning mode during the early years of the curriculum.

The curriculum begins with an introduction to case-based learning (CBL) processes and study continues in small groups using clinical cases of the most common and important diseases as a basis. Lectures are carefully staged throughout each CBL case to provide key information to assist the students as they progress. Resource (or practical) sessions relating to the case are introduced throughout the week at appropriate times. These sessions allow students to work with physiological problems and introduce them to anatomical specimens that demonstrate normal features, often in conjunction with diseased specimens. These sessions are designed to have practical application. Rather than memorising unnecessary detail, the emphasis throughout the program is on understanding, and being able to explain, mechanisms and principles. Many students may need help with some of the basic concepts of biology and chemistry in order to study medicine effectively and efficiently. In Year 1, students undertake two semesters of biology: Molecules, Genes and Cells in semester 1 and Human Perspectives in semester 2. (International and tertiary transfer students with extensive science background may apply to receive credit for Year 1 biology.)

Throughout the CBL program, learning in medical disciplines such as pathology, anatomy, physiology, and pharmacology are taught in the context of the case under study. Students are then able to bring this core learning to their later placements within the public teaching hospitals and the broader medical and health community. Training in clinical skills begins in week one. In Years 1 and 2 this is done by senior clinicians in small groups in a dedicated clinical skills laboratory. The clinical study program is linked to the system of the CBL case under study. In Year 3, clinical skills training is located primarily in the public teaching hospitals. In years 4-6 students will advance their clinical skills competencies throughout a range of clinical attachments.

Because clinical skills training begins in Year 1, the traditional divide between "pre-clinical and clinical" teaching has been eliminated. A major emphasis is placed on developing effective communication and decision-making skills, the practice of evidence-based and preventative medicine and on becoming competent users of information and information technology.

The Medical Professional and Personal Development stream aims to introduce students to the complex communication, ethical, psycho-social, and preventative medicine competencies required by a medical practitioner. Preventative medicine is increasingly being recognised as one of the most important elements of a modern health system. The University of Adelaide MBBS program places a special emphasis on evidence based medicine and the principles of public health that inform the practise of preventive medicine.

Community-Based Learning

Changes in health care arrangements in the community and pressures on the way in which the major teaching hospitals deliver health care have required changes to the traditional approaches to medical training. These changes have resulted in increased opportunities for students to be trained in placements within the community. In addition to these community electives, all Yr 2 students undertake a pregnancy attachment wherein each student will be introduced to a consenting pregnant woman, and they will follow this person during her pre-natal visits, labour, delivery and subsequent follow-up.

The University of Adelaide Rural Clinical School

The Spencer Gulf Rural Health School (SGRHS) is a regional multi-disciplinary school of health science created as a joint initiative of the University of Adelaide and the University of South Australia <http://sgrhs.unisa.edu.au/> SGRHS is supported by the Australian federal government's Department of Health and Ageing through the Rural Clinical Schools program (RCS), the University Department of Rural Health program (UDRH), the Rural Undergraduate Support and Coordination program (RUSC) and the Primary Health Care Research Evaluation and Development program (PHC_RED). Each of these programs provides funds to the universities for rural student placement and rural research. The SGRHS is based in Whyalla at the University of South Australia's campus in Nicholson Avenue. The School also has campuses throughout the region including Pt Augusta, Pt Lincoln, Pt Pirie, Minlaton, Maitland, Clare, Kadina and Booleroo Centre. These campuses are equipped with dedicated student facilities including student accommodation, study areas, libraries and up-to-date information technology (computers and video-conferencing equipment). The SGRHS academic and professional staff comprises a multidisciplinary team of highly trained and experienced health professionals and key support staff. SGRHS provides opportunities for students to be trained in a range of clinical specialties in rural South Australia. All medical students attend a rural week in the Eyre or Yorke Peninsula as part of the Year 3 curriculum. Rural Placements offer students a unique learning environment, often with more clinical and hands-on experience. All rural programs are provided by Spencer Gulf Rural Health School.

Electives

In the later years of the program, there are opportunities to take electives in medical disciplines. In Year 4 and 5, students choose from a range of medical and scientific attachments. The Year 6 program offers a semester of three, 6-week hospital-based placements and a semester of three, 6-week elective placements in community and ambulatory locations. At least one of these 6-week attachments must be located in a rural environment, but a student may elect to do all placements in a rural area.

Support Structures

Many students entering the medicine program at the University of Adelaide are from rural, interstate or international locations, and some students experience problems adjusting to life in Adelaide. As well, students may experience stress in adjusting to university life and self-directed study. We provide support to students through this time of transition. Structures are in place to provide students with both informal counselling by staff members and access to more formal counselling arrangements. There are also student led organisations that provide support and assistance to students with particular backgrounds and interests, such as the Rural Club and an Indigenous students group.

Academic Language and Learning in Medicine Program

This program is an integrated skills development program. In conjunction with the curriculum, this further develops the communication skills needed for talking with others (including patients), as well as tertiary learning skills (especially those needed for successful participation in case-based learning groups). The delivery mode is both in small groups and individual sessions. Small groups operate in years 1-3, and individual sessions are also available as needed. Students in Years 4-6 can have individual sessions for specific purposes. In the first instance all international students enter this Program for orientation to tertiary studies in Australia and CBL skills development. In Year 2, international students participate in a module on academic writing skills. Other students may be selected or referred to the program, based on a written assessment in Orientation Week or ongoing tutor reports. Students can also self-select to join an ongoing group in Years 1-3 or for individual assistance.

Honours

The Honours degree of Bachelor of Medical Science is a program of study available only to students who have passed the Third Year Examination in the MBBS. There are two study options for obtaining an Honours degree of B.Med.Sc. – full-time study with intermission from the MBBS program, or part-time study concurrent with the MBBS program. The recommended option is for MBBS students to intermit for a year and enrol in the Honours degree of B.Med.Sc. on a full-time basis.

Registration

Registration with the Medical Board of South Australia From 2006 all medical students will be registered with the Medical Board of South Australia, which has the responsibility of ensuring that all persons permitted to practise medicine in the State should be fit and proper persons who maintain appropriate professional standards.

Careers

Before being admitted to full registration as a medical practitioner in Australia, a medical graduate must serve

at least twelve months as an intern in an approved hospital. After successfully completing the internship and obtaining full registration to practice, graduates have to make a career decision regarding postgraduate specialty (including general practice) training programs offered by a professional college. There is a wide range of medical career paths and options become apparent as students progress through the program.

Assessment Policy

The Faculty recognises, along with the majority of students, that learning is driven to a significant extent by assessment. Therefore, considerable attention has been given to developing an assessment policy that will further the aims and objectives of the curriculum. The emphasis in learning and assessment is on understanding, rather than on memorizing facts. Similarly, assessment is integrated, to reflect the integration of the program. Students are assessed on a Non-graded pass/Fail basis throughout the program.

Advice to Potential Applicants to Medicine

Medical training is a lengthy process. You will be engaged in this process for at least eleven years before you are licensed to practise independently. You need to be sure that you are committed to such an extended period of training. You will need to go on learning actively throughout your life to maintain your competence and accreditation. Be sure you are clear as to what it is that you are committing yourself.

You will be studying for many years in a relatively narrow field of interest, and you will be dealing most of the time with people of similar interests. You will have to make special arrangements to ensure that your personal development takes place concurrently. To help begin this process, we are making provision for, and encouraging you to pursue interests outside medicine and to meet students with other interests and from other faculties. You should ensure that you are making informed choices about selection of electives at the time of enrolment and in later years.

Medical training can be stressful. There is a lot to know and understand. We will do all we can to make your undergraduate experience enjoyable and see that you are provided with opportunities to experience a wide range of learning opportunities, but you will have to take steps to ensure that YOUR approach to learning and study is appropriate and effective. It is important to recognise that the approach to learning in the medicine program, with its emphasis on self-directed contextual learning, on being able to understand and explain, and the lesser emphasis on memorising facts and excessive detail, may be very different from the approach that you have been taking prior to coming to University. If this is so, you should be aware that you will need to make adjustments if you are to succeed in the Medical School and if you are to be able to enjoy your undergraduate training and prepare adequately for an enjoyable and satisfying career in medicine.

Bachelor of Oral Health

The oral health profession is entering an exciting and challenging new era where the role of oral health professionals is changing. The Bachelor of Oral Health (BOH) curriculum is based on a problem-based learning philosophy with early exposure of students to clinical practice. There are around 30–35 students in each of the three years of the program, comprising both Australian and International students. The oral health profession is entering an exciting and challenging new era where the role of oral health professionals is changing. The Bachelor of Oral Health educates dental professionals for the future oral health environment.

There are four highly integrated streams in each year of the Bachelor of Oral Health, which continue through the three years of the program. The Dental and Health Science stream includes topics on prevention, dental public health, developmental psychology, diagnosis and the treatment of disease, health promotion, nutrition, radiographic anatomy and sociology of health. Human Biology involves body chemistry, cell structure and function, anatomy and oral anatomy. Topics on the principles of clinical examinations, x-rays, orthodontics, periodontal disease and restorative dentistry are introduced in Clinical Practice. General Studies includes topics on communication, information technology, evidenced based dentistry & health education. In third year, students have the opportunity to undertake an Oral Health Elective to broaden their experience in preferred areas. Some classes are delivered in a team context with Bachelor of Dental Surgery students.

Aspects of the program in Years 1 and 2 will use a problem-based learning (PBL) approach, which increases throughout the program to Year 3 where the full year is taught in the PBL philosophy. PBL is a learning approach, which develops problem solving strategies, disciplinary knowledge base and skills. PBL places students in the active role of problem solvers confronted with an issue/patient scenario, which mirrors real-world situations. In many examples the cases students study are real-life cases.

The following objectives have formed the foundation of the University of Adelaide's Bachelor of Oral Health curriculum:

- To implement a flexible approach to curriculum structure that can respond immediately to changes in the science and practice of dentistry and oral health
- To allow a flexible approach to learning, which will empower students to become self-directed learners in an open and informal environment
- To facilitate greater opportunities for contextual learning by integrating the balance and flow of material throughout the course
- To introduce problem-based learning so that students are competent at integrating learning material, applying knowledge and collaborating with peers to foster successful team dynamics
- To utilise multimedia in class meetings, tutorials and laboratory based sessions to enrich and stimulate the learning environment and be inclusive to all learning styles
- To foster a diverse and dynamic learning community that values the individual and promotes peer group experiential learning
- To provide a stimulating and enjoyable learning experience, which will engender a desire to become lifelong learners

Bachelor of Dental Surgery

About the Program

Dentistry is a respected and responsible professional career that demands high standards of care and skill and an aptitude for dealing with people. The Adelaide Bachelor of Dental Surgery program develops skilled and progressive oral practitioners. Dentistry may be defined as the science and art of preventing, diagnosing and treating diseases, injuries and malformations of teeth, jaws and mouth.

The curriculum is currently being reviewed and a revised curriculum will be introduced in 2010. This will be a highly integrated program with a single stream, running through the 5 years of the course, to be called Dental Sciences and Practice. Within this stream will be two themes - Dental Sciences and Clinical Competencies. Students will undertake a range of 'integrated learning activities' which will link the two themes. They will also spend significantly more time in non-hospital based clinical settings, both in private and public settings. There will be an emphasis on communications skills and the development of appropriate professional behaviours.

First Year

The first year of the program will commence with an introductory phase which will include introductions to human biology, clinical competencies and the study methods to be used throughout the course. The Dental Sciences theme for the remainder of the year will cover human structure and function using a body systems approach, basic human biology, community health and aspects of the scientific basis of dental practice.

The Clinical Competences theme will cover basic technical skills (including chair-side assisting) and communication skills.

Throughout the program students will participate in case-based integrated learning activities which require students to work in groups, to engage in self-directed learning, and to integrate and apply knowledge from each of the themes.

Second Year

The first semester continues with the same Dental Sciences topics as in first year but with a more in-depth approach to the body systems most directly relevant to dental practice. In the second semester students start to learn about the pathogenesis of dental and human disorders. The scientific basis of dental practice, and health and the community, components will continue throughout the year.

In the Clinical Competence theme students build on their basic practical and professional skills. In the later part of the year they will start participating in the care of patients within the Adelaide Dental Hospital. The School of Dentistry places an emphasis on maintenance of health and on the comprehensive management of patients with dental and oral diseases while adhering to principles of minimum intervention.

Third and Fourth Years

In the third and fourth years students will extend their Dental Sciences studies to include the understanding of dental disorders and the human diseases which have direct relevance to oral health and dental practice. The scientific basis of dental practice, and the health and the community, components will continue throughout the year.

Within the Clinical Competence theme students further develop skills in comprehensive treatment planning and provide supervised care for patients, obtaining clinical experience in general dental practice and the dental specialties. Students will have the opportunity to undertake an elective at the end of the fourth year.

Fifth Year

This is planned as a 'practice' year. Students will undertake a range of placements in the dental hospital and in a range of community settings, both in public and private practice. An elective placement will also be made available to provide students with an opportunity to pursue a particular aspect of dental practice in more depth.

Honours

An optional Honours year is available upon the completion of at least the first three years of the BDS. This will involve the writing of a report or thesis together with advanced course work.

Students with a good academic standard may be permitted to undertake the Honours program concurrently during the BDS. Honours is usually the first step towards a higher degree and possibly a career in research.

Bachelor of Nursing

Excellence ... Innovation ... Experience

The Discipline of Nursing at the University of Adelaide brings together an energetic, enthusiastic group of nursing clinicians and academics interested in furthering nursing as a practice and as a discipline. Each year, the Discipline educates approximately 225 undergraduates in the Bachelor of Nursing program in an innovative, clinically intensive program.

The objectives of this program are to: extend and complement existing nurse education provision in South Australia with a unique program; respond to local and national concerns about the 'readiness' of newly registered nurses by conducting an intensive practice-based approach to undergraduate nurse education; offer a challenging academic program for those with high aspirations and high potential.

Key features of the Academic Program

The nursing program curriculum reflects the reality of the working environment and the characteristics of the population that nurses care for in various health care settings. It is essential that graduates are prepared with skills and knowledge that enables them to adapt to the demands of a rapidly changing and dynamic health care system. They must be able to integrate theory into practice. Continual technological advancement and expansion of the registered nurse role has created an increasing need for a highly specialised nursing workforce. The curriculum has been developed to fulfil University requirements for the award of a Bachelor degree as well as meeting the requirements for nursing registration as laid out by the Nurses Board of South Australia.

This program expects students to attend lectures, tutorials and clinical placements. The amount of contact time often approaches 40 hours per week (for those studying a full-time load) with each year of the program extending beyond the usual academic period.

The key features of the program are as follows:

Focus on practice: all teaching and learning will be practice-focused and practice experience will be extensive. Students will engage in practice placements as rostered members of the nursing team. The focus throughout the program will be on developing excellence in core clinical nursing skills.

Reliance on experiential learning: the extended practice experience and integration of students into the nursing team will provide a unique opportunity to embrace experiential learning as a key approach throughout the curriculum. This is supported by hospital based clinical tutors.

Integration of theory and practice: From Week 8 of first year students will attend lectures 2 days per week and be on Clinical placement for the remaining 3 days. University-based study and clinically-based learning are central to the curriculum design. Integration will be fostered from both 'sides' through the input - and interaction - of academic staff, clinical tutors and clinically based Clinical Title Holders.

Students will graduate as clinically competent and theoretically knowledgeable practitioners and will be highly desirable employees in a variety of nursing settings.

Careers

This degree program provides a professional qualification, which is recognised for registration as a nurse in South Australia and through mutual recognition agreements accepted in other Australian states and most countries around the world.

Other information

To satisfactorily undertake the extensive clinical component of this program, students need to be physically fit. Students must satisfy the individual Occupational Health and Safety requirements of the institution in which they are undertaking the clinical component of the program.

All students are required to have a current National Police Certificate before starting clinical placement. Further details on obtaining a police certificate can be found at www.sapolice.sa.gov.au

There is an expectation that students studying Nursing in South Australia will be required to register with the Nurses Board of South Australia from 2009. This registration includes an English Language Proficiency requirement as one of the criteria for registration.

It is very important to understand that due to the integrated structure of the program, a student must pass each semester before progressing to the next. This could potentially mean that a student who fails a course in a semester may need to wait at least 6 months before it is offered again.

Bachelor of Health Sciences

Worldwide the health industry is experiencing a period of rapid change. There is an increasing demand for skilled graduates who can manage government and private agencies and programs in the context of changing public expectations, an ageing population and a global trend towards a more integrated and multidisciplinary approach to health care. The Bachelor of Health Sciences Program offers a broad education in areas relevant to the health care industry that reflects changing industry and government requirements, and public expectations.

All Health Sciences students undertake core courses in Human Biology, Public Health, Biology of Disease and Pharmacology during first and second year, and elective courses that fit with individual interests and career aspirations can be chosen from a variety of other areas. Depending on the choice of stream within the program, graduates will have the capacity to work in a variety of health settings including government, academia, industry, business and the community, in a range of areas such as laboratory or community-based research, provision of health services, surveillance and education, health promotion and policy.

The Bachelor of Health Sciences program provides a firm foundation for entry-level employment in a range of positions in the health care industry, for further study, and equips graduates with skills appropriate for lifelong learning.

Areas of Specialisation

- Anatomical Sciences, Pathology, Pharmacology, Psychology, Public Health, Medical Microbiology and Immunology, Obstetrics and Gynaecology.
- Interdisciplinary streams of Neuroscience and Reproductive Health
- Areas of study in the School of Molecular and Biomedical Sciences

For information about specific streams of study, please refer to the following website:

<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/health/bhs/plans/>

Career Opportunities

In previous years, Bachelor of Health Sciences graduates have found work in Australia and overseas in:

- Medical research
- University, hospital and pathology laboratories
- Forensic sciences
- Pharmaceutical companies
- Commercial clinical trial laboratories
- Government agencies (e.g. Therapeutic Goods Administration, State Health Department agencies, Drug and Alcohol Services Council, etc)
- Medical and hospital administration
- Counselling and clinical psychology
- Neuropsychology
- Human resources and personnel selection
- Educational, Forensic, Health, Sport, and Community Psychology
- Local government (e.g. planning for community sporting needs)
- State government (e.g. Department of Human Services, Community Health Services)
- Federal government (e.g. Department of Health and Ageing, Health Insurance Commission)
- Government funded research institutes (e.g. Australian Institute of Health and Welfare, CSIRO)
- State government funded organisations (e.g. Drug and Alcohol Service Council)
- Hospital health promotion units
- Non-government organisations (e.g. Oxfam, Red Cross)
- Consumer organisations (e.g. Asthma Foundation, Diabetes SA)

Bachelor of Psychological Science

This three year program is designed for students who are seeking to undertake a comprehensive program of study in psychology and related areas of learning. This can lead to further post graduate study and registration as a psychologist. On completion of the BPsychSc students are eligible to apply for Honours at The University of Adelaide as well as other universities around the country that offer Honours programs accredited by the [Australian Psychology Accreditation Council \(APAC\)](#). It should be noted that in order to gain partial registration with the [Australian Psychology Society \(APS\)](#), students must undertake the fourth year Honours program.

LEVEL 1 Core courses:

Psychology IA
Psychology IB

Students also have the opportunity to select from a wide range of elective courses in many disciplines offered by the University of Adelaide.

LEVEL 2 Core courses:

Doing Research in Psychology: Research Design, Method & Analysis
Psychology in Society
Foundations of Perception & Cognition
Foundations of Health & Lifespan Development

Students also have the opportunity to select from a wide range of elective courses in many disciplines offered by the University of Adelaide.

LEVEL 3 Core courses:

Doing Research in Psychology: Advanced Research Design, Method & Analysis
Psychology in Society: Advanced
Perception and Cognition
Health & Lifespan Developmental Psychology
Psychology, Ideas & Action
Individual Differences, Personality & Assessment

Students also have the opportunity to select from a wide range of elective courses in many disciplines offered by the University of Adelaide.

For information regarding entry to this program please refer to the University of Adelaide website:

www.adelaide.edu.au/international

Bachelor of Psychology (Honours)

The four year Bachelor of Psychology (Honours) program is designed for students who are committed from the beginning of their tertiary education to enter professional practice, or to undertake further study at a postgraduate level. In the fourth year of study, students are invited to select a specialist area of psychology in which to carry out a supervised research project.

Places are limited, and entry into this program is very competitive, requiring exemplary academic performance at Year 12 (matriculation) level. A quota applies to the number of new students accepted into the program each year. A small number of places are available for students who wish to transfer into this program from other degree programs in which psychology courses are offered.

For information regarding entry to this program please refer to the University of Adelaide website:

www.adelaide.edu.au/international

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