

#### **CLARE KARUNANITHY**

In 2003 I decided to return to university study as a mature age student in order to finally get a degree in the health sciences — an area of study that I had become passionate about after working in the aged care and community health sectors. After visiting and looking through the course guides offered by several universities I chose the Biomedical Science degree at Victoria University for several reasons.

It offered and continues to offer an outstanding core program in the biomedical sciences focussing on anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology. It also provides the flexibility to take electives in a diverse range of disciplines that widen the graduate skill set — essential in today's competitive marketplace. The computer and library facilities are also plentiful and accessible which is an absolute prerequisite in an age where many biomedical resources can only be accessed online.

Finally, the small class sizes and low student to staff ratio (and friendly and helpful staff) ensure that guidance is readily available. In my experience this is what really sets the VU Biomedical Science program apart from the larger programs available at other universities making it a unique and meaningful educational experience.

During my final year I applied for and was successful in gaining a place in Medicine at the University of Melbourne. I am now in 3rd year and find the core knowledge that I gained in my Biomedical Science degree at VU invaluable to my continued success in my current studies. Many of the other students from my year are also engaged in continued study either in professional graduate programs (including medicine, physiotherapy, radiography, nursing and podiatry) or in research degrees including PhDs in areas as diverse as exercise metabolism and cancer immunotherapy. Others are employed in professional roles in health related industries such as pharmaceutics, pathology and health care administration.

I strongly recommend that anyone with an interest and passion for health and biomedicine consider and apply for the Bachelor of Biomedical Science at VU. It offers a sound core biomedical science program, diverse electives, good facilities and resources, excellent student to staff ratios and the personalised attention that is difficult to find at other universities. In my case, it gave me the core knowledge that I will carry forward in my medical studies and career.

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

For specific information relating to courses available, entry requirements and application procedures for international students, please visit www.vu.edu. au/international for an updated list of courses offered to international students or contact Victoria University International (VUI) on +61 3 9919 1164.

# **CONTACT US**

# THE FACULTY OF HEALTH, ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

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# SCHOOL OF BIOMEDICAL AND HEALTH SCIENCES

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# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES

COURSE CODE: SBBS VTAC CODE 40181

#### **COURSE DESCRIPTION**

You could play an important role in the search for cures of life threatening diseases, be involved in the marketing of these discoveries, or be the link between scientists and the public.

This appropriately tailored course qualifies students for entry to a broad range of careers including: medical and scientific research, sales and marketing of biomedical products and health promotion. This degree leads on to postgraduate programs in medicine, dentistry, nursing, physiotherapy, dietetics and other allied health courses. This degree also offers a fourth year (Honours) program, with the possibility of Masters and PhD.

The Biomedical Sciences course aims to produce highly flexible but well-trained graduates who will be adequately equipped to adapt to a changing workforce environment. This course offers a range of core and elective units from biomedical sciences, as well as electives from other courses within the university, such as languages, sport and exercise, creative arts, psychology, chemistry, mathematics. The core program consists of modern and traditional biomedical sciences including units of study such as: anatomy, physiology, biochemistry, microbiology, cell and molecular biology, immunology, pharmacology, pathophysiology, wellness and health management.

The Biomedical Sciences degree satisfies all the undergraduate selection requirements for post graduate medicine at all Australian Universities including prerequisites in anatomy, physiology and biochemistry. However, entry into medicine or other allied health related courses at other universities may depend on other specific entry requirements at these institutions.

# WHERE DO I STUDY?

This course is located at the St Albans campus, but individual subjects may be offered at the City Flinders, Footscray Park or Werribee campuses.

# WHAT 'S IN IT FOR ME?

When you graduate, you can expect to find employment with a wide range of employers. Employers of our past graduates and examples of their employment are:

- Medical Research Institutes (Research Assistant)
- Blood Bank (Pathologist)
- Hospitals and Medical Clinics (Clinical Trials Coordinator)
- Sporting clubs (Injury Rehabilitation)
- Pharmaceutical Companies (Sales representatives)
- Forensic Services Group (Crime Scene Officer)

- Local Government (Science Publicity Officer)
- In addition, graduates have pursued post graduate courses in universities around Australia, including medicine, dentistry, nursing, physiotherapy, dietetics and other allied health courses.

# **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

This course is offered over three years on a full-time basis leading to a Bachelor of Science (Biomedical Sciences). However, there is provision for part-time study. The course is offered on-campus only, but includes on-line components in some subjects.

#### WHAT DOES IT COVER?

# FIRST YEAR, SEMESTER 1

This is a common foundation year with studies in:

Foundations in Biomedical Sciences

Physiology

Anatomy

Chemistry or Psychology

#### SECOND YEAR

The second year of the degree offers more advanced study in:

Physiology

Pathophysiology,

and electives including:

Microbiology

**Biochemistry** 

Anatomy

Cell and Molecular Biology

Science Ethics and Values

# THIRD YEAR

This year offers advanced studies in several speciality areas including:

Nerve and Muscle Physiology

Neurosciences

Nutritio

Reproduction, Growth, Development and Aging

Wellness and Health Management

**Experimental Techniques** 

**Human Developmental and Clinical Genetics** 

Immunology

Pharmacology

#### **HOW DO I GET IN?**

You need to have successfully completed the Victoria Certificate of Education (VCE), with a study score of at least 20 in English.

Middle Band: A study score of at least 25 in one or more health and human development, mathematics (any), physical education or science (any) = an aggregate 3 points higher per study, to a maximum 9 points.

#### ALTERNATIVE ENTRY

Bachelor of Science VTAC Code 41451

Alternative entry program for students who have:

 successfully completed year 12, but may not have achieved the required study score in all prerequisites

All admissions are on an individual basis.

Prerequisites: Units 3 and 4 — English (any).

Extra Requirements: All applicants offered a place will be required to attend an appropriate summer bridging program or enroll in one or more subjects from the Foundation Year or undertake part or all of an appropriate TAFE program.

#### FOUNDATION YEAR

This is a one-year full time course for students whose VCE results or subjects were not satisfactory to gain entry to a science or engineering course at university or for those who want to return to study. Subjects covered are biology, chemistry, English language and communication skills, information technology, mathematics and physics. Maths and English subjects are compulsory but an English test may exempt some students from English. Successful completion of appropriate subjects will guarantee student's entry to our Health, Engineering and Science courses at Victoria University. Entry to Double Degree courses will only be looked at on an individual basis for students who obtain excellent results. Applications must be made directly to Victoria University, not through VTAC.

#### **PATHWAYS**

Articulation is the creation of links or study pathways to enable students to move easily between courses as their needs change. Victoria University has a commitment to actively promote and maintain these articulation pathways. Articulation gives students the opportunity to progress to another level of study and to receive maximum credit transfer for study already taken. Provision will be made for articulation from TAFE science programs with appropriate credit. For further details regarding articulation such as recognition of prior learning or credit transfer in relation to this course, please contact the Course Co-ordinator.

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# **HOW DO I APPLY?**

Applications should be made through VTAC:
40 Park Street, South Melbourne, 3205
Phone: 03 9690 7977 web: www.vtac.edu.au
Applicants must complete a Victoria University Supplementary Information form.
Forms are available from www.vu.edu.au/admissions or
emailing admissions@vu.edu.au