



THE UNIVERSITY OF
MELBOURNE



Is your goal helping
others reach theirs?

REHABILITATION SCIENCE

100% online

ONLINE REHABILITATION SCIENCE COURSES

Overview

Our unique 100% online Rehabilitation Science courses will equip you with contemporary, best practice expertise to help people achieve their personal best. Taught by experts in the field, the program can be tailored to suit your current practice and learning needs - ensuring you are able to build a reputation of excellence and leadership within your field.

With an ageing population and an increasing number of individuals with chronic diseases, there is a clinical need for more health professionals with advanced expertise in physical rehabilitation.

The University of Melbourne offers four courses dedicated to the area of physical rehabilitation, completely online and taught by internationally recognised experts in rehabilitation science.

The emphasis in these courses are on promoting contemporary best practice rehabilitation in multiple clinical and community contexts, both nationally and in global settings.

The Rehabilitation Science suite is a fully online graduate program that is designed to support students at different stages in their careers, including career starters and those with clinical experience seeking to improve their practice and gain further qualification.

The online delivery model allows these courses to be structured to suit student study preferences and individual needs. The Masters course supports independent and collaborative learning and offers a strong cohort experience with both asynchronous and synchronous online learning experiences.

The four courses in the Rehabilitation Science program are;

- Master of Rehabilitation Science
- Graduate Diploma in Rehabilitation Science
- Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation Science
- Specialist Certificate in Rehabilitation Science

Single subject study is also available, both assessed and non-assessed.

- **Available full-time or part-time**
- **100% online**
- **Available to domestic and international students**
- **Term 1 intake - February / Term 3 intake - July**

Who is this course for?

The Rehabilitation Science suite of courses are designed for a range of qualified health professionals who are looking to deepen their expertise in the area of health promotion and physical rehabilitation.

The courses in the program will enable allied health professionals to better support people recovering from injury or illness, aiming to take people above and beyond their health goals.

The Rehabilitation Science suite of courses is designed for the following allied health professionals;

- Doctors
- Physiotherapists
- Occupational Therapists
- Exercise Scientists
- Nurses



“One of the many strengths of this course is that it’s designed for students to develop skills that are relevant and specific to their own discipline, their own team, their own context – where they work and what they do. So it will allow students to apply and develop new skills in their own particular field.”

Associate Professor Jennifer McGinley
Head, Physiotherapy Department
The University of Melbourne



What are the benefits?

The unique structure of our courses allows you to personalise your degree to design a program that best meets your practice needs and builds your professional profile and expertise.

Developed specifically for the digital environment, you will learn to design contemporary rehabilitation programs which you can apply practically and directly to your own practice.

What will I learn?

You will learn about the principles of rehabilitation, the physiology and pathophysiology of common conditions, and about rehabilitation strategies for the effective and safe implementation of rehabilitation in a range of practice contexts. Specifically, you will learn approaches including physical activity prescription, goal setting and health behaviour modification, measurement of physical activity and sedentary behaviours, fitness evaluation and a selection of appropriate outcome measurements and indicators. The course will emphasise contemporary best practice rehabilitation in multiple clinical and community contexts, nationally and globally.

On successful completion of a Rehabilitation Science course you will;

Learn the principles of best practice rehabilitation.

You will be able to apply principles of rehabilitation and habilitation, including how to help people regain lost skills, the physiology of fitness and conditioning, and the pathophysiology of selected conditions and specific needs in different chronic disease populations.

Become an expert in health promotion.

Build on your knowledge and skills to identify and analyse the multiple determinants of health that influence wellbeing, and to design and implement rehabilitation strategies in a holistic, person-centred manner at both an individual and group level.

Apply evidence informed clinical decision-making.

Explore emerging technologies and rehabilitation approaches to develop strategies for the effective and safe implementation of rehabilitation in a range of practice contexts.

Career outcomes

A postgraduate qualification in Rehabilitation Science will build your professional profile and reputation to potentially open up new employment opportunities. Graduates of this program will gain further prospects within a range of health professions.

Worldwide, industry figures indicate an increased need for more highly trained rehabilitation practitioners to help people regain movement or function that has been lost.

Graduates can expect to gain skills to establish and progress in successful careers in a range of clinical and community positions, from hospitals to private practice. Our graduates will also have industry-ready skills to pursue diverse positions from clinical work, to consultancy posts for health authorities and the government.

Academic team



Associate Professor Jenny McGinley

Head Physiotherapy Department
Course Coordinator;
Master of Rehabilitation Science,
Subject Development Coordinator; Foundations
of Rehabilitation Science



Associate Professor Louisa Remedios

Director of Teaching and Learning Physiotherapy
Department,
Course Development Coordinator;
Master of Rehabilitation Science



Dr Thorlene Egerton - Senior Lecturer

Deputy Head Physiotherapist Department
Program Coordinator;
Rehabilitation Science
Subject CoordZZZZinator;
Health Behaviour Change,
Evaluation of Rehabilitation Practice,
Rehabilitation Research Project



Associate Professor Alicia Spittle

Physiotherapist Department
Subject Development Coordinator;
Rehabilitation in Paediatrics



Dr Fiona Dobson - Senior Lecturer

Physiotherapy,
Subject Coordinator;
Rehabilitation, Activity and Exercise

Subject summaries

Please visit online.unimelb.edu.au/rehabilitation-science for more detailed information on subject options for Rehabilitation Science courses

COMPULSORY SUBJECTS		Points
Foundations of Rehabilitation	The subject will provide you with the opportunity to gain knowledge and develop skills related to the selection and delivery of appropriate and best practice rehabilitation services that are tailored to meet the needs of individuals, groups, or services. You will gain skills, demonstrate understanding, and critically review the applicability of a range of models to deliver rehabilitation services including interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary, community and home-based.	12.5
Rehabilitation, Activity and Exercise	Learn how to critically draw on research evidence to understand physical activity and exercise and to understand the health risks of sedentary behavior. You'll learn how to design and evaluate appropriate programs to manage these risks.	12.5
Evaluation of Rehabilitation Practice	Develop skills in the areas of selection, application and interpretation of rehabilitation treatment and evaluation for individuals, groups and rehabilitation services.	12.5
Health Behaviour Change <small>*not compulsory for the Graduate Certificate. Can be chosen as an elective subject.</small>	Get an introduction to the key theories underlying contemporary approaches to health promotion and health behaviour change in individuals across the health-illness spectrum and at the population level.	12.5
Innovation and Emerging Technologies <small>*not compulsory for the Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate. Can be chosen as an elective subject.</small>	Examine emerging therapies and technologies that are pushing the boundaries of rehabilitation practices. Use your critical reasoning to evaluate the value of these therapies and technologies in the rehabilitation at the individual and population level.	12.5
Research and Evidence in Practice <small>*not compulsory for the Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate. Can be chosen as an elective subject.</small>	This subject provides an opportunity to build on your knowledge and skills in the use of research and evidence in habilitation and rehabilitation practices, with a primary focus on critical analysis of research.	12.5
CAPSTONE SUBJECTS - students of the Master of Rehabilitation Science are to choose one of the below		
Research Practice	This subject is available to students wishing to complete a research project in the area of rehabilitation practice. Supervision by a University of Melbourne researcher will ensure excellence in the quality of a research paper, which will be the primary outcome of this capstone subject.	25
OR		
Professional Practice	This subject is available to students wishing to complete a professional project in the area of rehabilitation practice. You will design and evaluate a professional project in a practice context with the support of an academic mentor.	25
ELECTIVE SUBJECTS		
Physiotherapy Advanced Clinical Practice	Extend and demonstrate an advanced level of safe and effective clinical practice as a practitioner, communicator, collaborator, leader, health advocate, scholar and professional. This subject includes critical observation, clinical practice, complex conditions, video recordings, observing, mentoring, role modeling and peer feedback.	12.5
Rehabilitation in the Acute Setting	This subject is focused primarily on the assessment and rehabilitation of individuals within the intensive care setting and consideration of community reintegration planning.	12.5

Subject summaries cont.

ELECTIVE SUBJECTS - continued		Points
Rehabilitation for Paediatrics	Build your understanding of the safe and effective application of intervention and rehabilitation principles to meet the health needs of infants, children and adolescents and their families.	12.5
Rehabilitation for Women's Health	Build a deep understanding of the safe and effective application of rehabilitation principles to meet the health needs of women. Attention is focused on conditions affecting women from young adulthood through to their reproductive and older years.	12.5
Musculoskeletal Rehabilitation	This subject is designed to meet the practice needs of those who are working primarily in the area of musculoskeletal practice. Focus will be on habilitation and rehabilitation strategies for optimising the musculoskeletal health of individuals.	12.5
Rehabilitation in Neurology	This subject is designed to meet the practice needs of those who are working primarily in the area of neurological practice. Focus will be on habilitation and rehabilitation strategies for optimising the health experience of individuals with neurological conditions.	12.5
Rehabilitation in Global Health	Explore the role of rehabilitation in emerging concepts of inclusive health and universal health, including limitations of current models and conceptualisations of rehabilitation. Further explore the need and unmet needs for rehabilitation.	12.5
Ageing in Society	Learn about ageing from a range of perspectives, including life course, biomedical, gender, cross-cultural, consumer, historical and self-reflection. This subject will critically analyse all forms of ageism and how older people are portrayed in literature, media and government policy using case studies from Australia and other countries around the world.	12.5
Body of Ageing	Focus on how the body and its systems are affected by ageing and explore the differences between the natural ageing process and physical changes that develop as a result of illness with older persons. Understand the common impairments and physiological changes that occur as part of the ageing process. This provides students with a fundamental base to critically analyse and develop strategies for healthy ageing and disease prevention.	12.5
Economics of Ageing	Examine the influence of private and public/government decision-making on the economic well-being of older people. Decisions include private choices to prepare for old age and to live through old age by saving and managing assets. The subject also covers how an ageing population exerts upward pressure on taxation levels required to finance government activities and services for the aged.	12.5
Ethics of Ageing	Get an overview of some of the key ethical issues associated with ageing across the lifespan, with an emphasis on the societal dimensions and implications for policy and professional practice. Students will be introduced to bioethical theory and its application to frame the exploration of a number of key issues organised within thematic units of "justice", "autonomy" and "dignity". A final unit will explore ethical issues pertaining to the human quest for "immortality".	12.5
Neuromusculoskeletal Radiology	Apply advanced knowledge of anatomical structure and function to critically select and interpret radiological investigations. Scrutinise normal and pathological findings as displayed by a variety of imaging modalities including X-rays, CT scans, MRI and US imaging.	12.5

Entry requirements

- In order to be considered for entry, applicants must have completed:
 - an undergraduate degree in the discipline of Physiotherapy, Medicine, Exercise Science, Occupational Therapy, and Nursing, or another relevant discipline; **and**
 - at least two years of documented relevant professional work experience

Meeting these requirements does not guarantee selection.
- In ranking applications, the Selection Committee will consider:
 - prior academic performance; **and**
 - professional work experience.
- The Selection Committee may seek further information to clarify any aspect of an application in accordance with the Academic Board rules on the use of selection instruments.
- Applicants are required to satisfy the university's English language requirements for graduate courses. For those applicants seeking to meet these requirements by one of the standard tests approved by the Academic Board, **performance band 7** is required across all categories.

Course structure and fees

Course	Duration	Structure		Fee
Master of Rehabilitation Science	1.5 years (full-time) or 3 years (part-time)	6 core subjects 4 elective subjects 1 capstone subject	150 points	A\$41,187
Graduate Diploma in Rehabilitation Science	1 year (full-time) or 2 years (part-time)	4 core subjects 4 elective subjects	100 points	A\$27,008
Graduate Certificate in Rehabilitation Science	6 months (full-time) or 1 year (part-time)	2 core subjects 1. Foundations of Rehabilitation 2. Rehabilitation, Activity and Exercise 2 elective subjects	50 points	A\$13,504
Specialist Certificate in Rehabilitation Science	6 months (part-time)	2 core subjects 1. Foundations of Rehabilitation 2. Rehabilitation, Activity and Exercise	25 points	A\$6,752

Fees are paid on a per subject basis each term. Total course fees are not required to be paid upfront.

Part-time duration is calculated on the basis of studying one subject per term. Fees range between AU \$3,636 - \$4,992 assessed and non-assessed AU \$2,912 - \$4,000. The fees are indicative costs for 2020. Course fees are the same for both domestic and international students.

For more information about fees and if you are eligible for fee assistance, please visit: study.unimelb.edu.au/how-to-apply/fees.

A world-class university

The University of Melbourne is consistently ranked among the leading universities in the world. The Times Higher Education World University Rankings placed us number one in Australia and number 32 in the world in its most recent release (2019).

Studying online

Our courses are designed by a team of clinical experts and academics, graphic designers, education technologists, video producers, video editors and technicians. Our expert e-learning designers work closely with teaching staff to ensure the content created is ideal for the online medium.

Thanks to recent advances in technology, studying online is more interesting, enjoyable and interactive than ever before.

Online students come from many different backgrounds and have many different stories to share, but one thing that most have in common is that they are very busy. For that reason we make sure their education is as targeted and flexible as possible and available at times that suit them. We make it possible to connect easily with fellow students and experts, and to quickly access grades and academic feedback.

Although it's an entirely different learning experience to face-to-face, you will receive the same qualification and graduation certificate as an on-campus student because you will achieve identical learning outcomes from the same academics that teach our on-campus courses. If you complete a Masters degree you will also be invited to attend a graduation ceremony in Melbourne.

As an online student at the University of Melbourne you can expect:

-  Enriching and engaging learning
-  Flexibility and choice
-  Connection with leading experts
-  Interaction and feedback
-  Dedicated Student Support team
-  Virtual student community

Dedicated student support

As an online student with the University of Melbourne you can expect a high level of administrative, technical and academic support from your initial expression of interest in the course, through to your graduation.

Do not be surprised if you get to know our Student Support team members by name; they are dedicated, personal and friendly and they understand that every student experience is unique. If a challenge arises, they will do everything in their power to assist you so that you can continue to have excellent learning experiences.

Key dates

Term	Intake
Term 1 intake	February
Term 3 intake	July

More questions? Speak to someone.

To learn more about this course, contact our Student Support team by phone on **+61 3 8344 0149** (Mon to Fri 9am–9pm, Sat to Sun 10am–5pm) or via email on **continuing-education@unimelb.edu.au**

Ready to apply?

Apply online at
online.unimelb.edu.au/rehab-science

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