



Curtin University

POSTGRADUATE
COURSE GUIDE
2018

COURSEWORK AND
RESEARCH DEGREES

HEALTH SCIENCES

PHARMACY

Make tomorrow better.



healthsciences.curtin.edu.au



PHARMACY AT CURTIN

Curtin's School of Pharmacy has a proud 50-year history of providing excellence and innovation in teaching and research.

With the support of experienced and dedicated teaching staff and modern facilities, we can help aspiring pharmacists and researchers to develop knowledge, skills and attributes that are highly valued by national and international prospective employers.

FACILITIES

MODEL PHARMACY

As a Master of Pharmacy student, you can train in a multi-million dollar model pharmacy dispensary, which can simulate a range of real-life settings such as a community pharmacy. You will receive your own workstation, computer and label generator, and have the chance to dispense real medicines using simulations of real prescriptions. Take a virtual tour: healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/about-us/facilities

ROBOTIC DISPENSING SYSTEM

Master of Pharmacy students will gain a competitive edge using a state-of-the-art robotic dispensing unit – the only one of its kind being used for training purposes in Western Australia. The robot can improve the speed and risk management involved with dispensing medications, and also provides greater stock management efficiencies.

LABORATORY AND COMPUTER FACILITIES

As a research student, you will have access to exclusive computer facilities, as well as specialist laboratories and equipment.

CURTIN LIBRARY

The library has remained one of the most important buildings at Curtin, with much of the traditional library now replaced by technology-rich, cafe-style environments. On level 2, the iZone has computers with large, adjustable monitors, touchscreens, bluetooth and webcam capabilities, whiteboards, graphics

workstations and charging facilities for your devices.

When it's time to charge your own batteries, you can use the sleep pods installed on level 3. Designed for a 20-minute power nap, there's a timed waking system built in, so there's no chance of missing class!



"I did my undergraduate degree in Microbiology and Pharmacology, which sparked my interest in medicines and my concern for the growing problem of antibiotic resistance. During this time, I went to an information session for the Master of Pharmacy at Curtin and came away feeling inspired by the staff and past and current students. Since enrolling in the course I have never looked back.

The most valuable thing I've learned is how to think on my feet and communicate my thoughts efficiently. I initially found patient counselling and oral exams daunting, but the practice and guidance I have received throughout the course has made me more relaxed and confident."

Sarah Zhao
Master of Pharmacy graduate



Curtin University is ranked in the top two per cent of universities worldwide, in the Academic Ranking of World Universities 2016.



Curtin was named the most collaborative university in Australia in the 2016 Nature Index. Nature also deemed Curtin the third-fastest 'rising star' in research in the Asia Pacific.



Curtin proudly celebrates the innovation at its heart. This innovative spirit has seen us mature from the Western Australian Institute of Technology (1967–1986) to the sophisticated global university that we are today.
50years.curtin.edu.au

WHY STUDY A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE AT CURTIN?

ACCESS NEW KNOWLEDGE AND DISCOVERIES

A Curtin health sciences degree can give you access to the latest knowledge and discoveries to help you improve the standard of healthcare in Australia and make a real difference to people's lives, locally and globally.

MOVE UP THE CAREER LADDER

A postgraduate course can add new or specialist skills and knowledge to your repertoire. Our postgraduate coursework and research programs are diverse, ranging from life sciences and clinical sciences to population health sciences.

CHANGE YOUR CAREER

A graduate entry master (GEM) degree can give you the right skills to change careers.

GET AN EDGE IN THE JOB MARKET

A Higher Degree by Research (Master of Philosophy or Doctor of Philosophy) provides high-level thinking and problem-solving skills that are valued by industry, government organisations and academia.

A postgraduate qualification may also help you stand out from other candidates in an increasingly competitive job market.

PROFESSIONALLY RECOGNISED

Many of our courses are accredited nationally and are internationally recognised, allowing you to potentially work in a number of countries around the world when you graduate.

The relevant professional registration board can advise whether your qualification is recognised overseas.

GRADUATE ENTRY FOUNDATION COURSE

This course is for students who want to start a career in health, but have a degree in a different field. The enabling course allows domestic students who have completed their undergraduate degree in a different field to complete the essential prerequisite undergraduate-level units to apply for entry into approved GEM courses.

You may select prerequisite units that you need to become eligible to apply for a postgraduate program. You can study a maximum of four units.

Completion of this enabling course may allow entry to:

- Master of Occupational Therapy
- Master of Nursing Practice
- Master of Pharmacy
- Master of Physiotherapy
- Master of Speech Pathology.

Please note: entry to these master courses is competitive and a strong course weighted average is required.

courses.curtin.edu.au

PHARMACY INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT

The pharmacy workforce is growing. In 2015, there were 1,496 new registrants, with 88 per cent of employed pharmacists working primarily in a clinician role.

Seventy per cent of the pharmacy workforce was aged 44 years or younger in 2015. Female practitioners outnumbered male practitioners in all age groups up to 65 years, and made up 67 per cent of the 20-34 years age group.

The role of community pharmacies and community pharmacists is changing. It's predicted that they are likely to increase their role in primary health care, prompted by a need to better respond to skills shortages and to provide greater access to health care in the context of an ageing population and rising levels of chronic morbidity.

Community pharmacies are already carrying out some of these newer responsibilities, including the better use of medications through improved patient compliance and medication management reviews. Other responsibilities involve managing chronic conditions, such as type 2 diabetes and asthma, and providing testing services.

Australian and international developments in pharmacy services suggest pharmacists might contribute to new areas of primary health care. New services that may increase the demand for pharmacists include vaccination, blood testing for hepatitis and treating minor ailments, as well as testing blood pressure, glucose, cholesterol and other health indicators.

Sources: aihw.gov.au/workforce/pharmacy; data.hwa.gov.au



MASTER OF PHARMACY

This graduate entry master course enables science graduates to become a pre-registered pharmacist. It will provide you with a comprehensive theoretical base, including chemical, biological, physiological, pharmaceutical and pharmacotherapeutics studies.

In this course you'll complete two semesters each year and two additional study periods over the summer. The first study period is an intensive six-week training program involving continuous assessment. In this period you'll be introduced to important concepts in pharmaceutics, pharmaceutical chemistry and pharmaceutical practice.

The rest of your first year will focus on pharmaceutical science, pharmaceutical chemistry, pharmacology and pharmaceutical practice. At the end of your first year you'll complete a community pharmacy placement under the supervision of a practising pharmacist to develop skills in the clinical setting.

In your second year you'll focus on pharmacotherapy and develop research skills. You'll also complete a hospital placement to cement your practical skills.

Throughout the course, you'll use high quality laboratories and facilities designed to enhance teaching and provide you with essential practical skills. The laboratories include a model dispensary, manufacturing laboratory, asepsis suite and contemporary compounding facilities.

COURSE ESSENTIALS

CRICOS CODE	INTAKE	DURATION
068621J	Jan	2 years full-time
LOCATION	STUDY MODE	
Perth	Full-time	

International students: if you are studying in Australia on a student visa, you must study on-campus and full-time.

This course has an earlier application deadline: curtin.edu/hs/application-deadlines

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

A relevant bachelor degree or higher and a history of above-average grades. The bachelor degree may be a qualification in pharmacy assessed by the Australian Pharmacy Council as equivalent to an Australian Bachelor of Pharmacy OR must include evidence of the following five prerequisites: Mathematics (Advanced Mathematics at senior secondary school level is also acceptable) or Physics AND Statistics or Research Methods with evidence of a Statistics component or Epidemiology AND Chemistry AND Biochemistry AND Physiology or Pathophysiology or a related discipline.

You will also be required to provide supplementary information with your application. For more information, visit: curtin.edu/hs/admission-requirements

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Master of Pharmacy students are registered through the Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (AHPRA). The University must also notify AHPRA if they believe a student on clinical placement may place members of the public at risk as a result of an impairment or criminal history.

Upon graduation, Master of Pharmacy students who intend to practise as a pharmacist in Australia must complete 12 months of supervised practice and pass the Pharmacy Board of Australia's registration examination in order to become a registered pharmacist.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

ENGLISH LANGUAGE ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

IELTS (Academic) overall band of 7.0 with a minimum of 7.0 in each band (or equivalent English test).

PROFESSIONAL RECOGNITION

This course is accredited by the Australian Pharmacy Council.

Graduates are required to complete a preregistration training period and register as a pharmacist before being able to commence practice in most areas of the profession. Graduates are able to register to practice in all states and territories in Australia and New Zealand.

This course provides a great stepping stone to registration in countries throughout Asia, in the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Some countries may require fulfilment of additional practical training programs.



RESEARCH DEGREES

The School of Pharmacy is committed to research excellence and innovation, through collaborative links with other research institutions, the pharmaceutical and biotechnology industries, healthcare providers and government. Our staff are research experts with experience in key areas of the pharmaceutical, biological and clinical sciences, as well as the professional practice of pharmacy.

In the field of pharmaceutical science and medicinal chemistry we have expertise in the areas of:

- skin drug delivery
- nano-drug delivery
- natural product drug development
- peptide drug delivery
- synthetic medicinal chemistry
- drug discovery for treatment of chronic conditions.

Pharmacology and pharmaceutical biology research includes the areas of:

- experimental cancer therapeutics
- infection and immunity
- pharmacology of drug transport proteins
- pharmacokinetics and pharmacodynamics
- biomaterials.

Clinical and professional practice and pharmacy education research is currently focused on:

- community pharmacy practice
- hospital pharmacy practice
- quality use of medicines and drug safety
- technologies in health
- pharmacy education.

We offer the following pharmacy postgraduate research courses:

- Master of Philosophy (MPhil) in Pharmacy
- Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) in Pharmacy.

AN APP GIVING A VOICE TO THOSE WHO CAN'T COMMUNICATE

Pain is something everyone has experienced and can therefore relate to, but for some it's not easy to communicate. Among the very young, those who have suffered a stroke or people living with dementia, pain is often poorly detected and reported because these groups are unable to self-report it.

In addition, there is an increasing clinical need for automated and objective tools to detect and quantify pain so the appropriate treatments can be provided to patients to improve quality of life.

Curtin postgraduate pharmacy alumnus, Mustafa Atee, is endeavouring to tackle this issue by undertaking a PhD research project entitled "Improving Pain Management amongst Patients with Dementia". It was through this project that 'ePAT', or the electronic Pain Assessment Tool, was conceived.

A world-first point-of-care app, the ePAT utilises automated facial recognition technology in real-time to identify facial micro-expressions which are indicative of the presence of pain.

The app takes advantage of the cameras and processors in smart devices to capture a short (~10 second) video, during which it maps the face. The images are analysed in real-time to identify facial micro-expression markers specific to the presence of pain.

The facial data are then used in conjunction with other clinical indicators, such as vocalisations, movements and behaviours obtained from observing the patient and recorded on the app, to automatically calculate a pain severity score.

The award winning app is now being commercialised by ePAT Technologies Ltd and is undergoing clinical testing with people with moderate-to-severe dementia to assess its usefulness in clinical practice.

The project has also led to a number of successful collaboration agreements with aged care groups in Australia.





FEE INFORMATION



HOW TO APPLY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND STUDENTS

Course fee information can be found at courses.curtin.edu.au.

STUDENT SERVICES AND AMENITIES FEE

Student Services and Amenities Fees (SSAF) support a range of non-academic services and amenities at Curtin. For information on the cost and services covered by the SSAF, visit fees.curtin.edu.au/amenities.cfm

COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE

A number of our postgraduate Health Sciences courses are commonwealth supported. A Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) is subsidised by the Australian Government and is available to Australian and New Zealand applicants only. For more information about CSPs and whether you are eligible, visit studyassist.gov.au

EMPLOYER-PAID STUDY

Your employer may be able to help you with the cost of postgraduate study. Many employers have developed formal employee education assistance policies in which education costs may be shared.

FEE-HELP

If you are an Australian citizen or hold a permanent humanitarian visa, you have the option of applying for FEE-HELP – this is a loan to help pay for part or all of your tuition fees. You repay the loan when your income is above the minimum repayment threshold.

TAX BENEFITS

You may be entitled to an income tax deduction for tuition fees and related expenses, if there is a direct connection between your course and your current work. For more information, please consult the Australian Tax Office at ato.gov.au

COURSEWORK DEGREES

To make applying to Curtin as easy as possible, we have put together online guides and services to help you.

AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND STUDENTS

To apply now and for more information, visit curtin.edu.au/hs/pg-apply

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

You're considered an international student if you are required to hold a student visa to study in Australia. This includes temporary residents and non-residents of Australia and New Zealand.

To apply now and for more information, visit international.curtin.edu.au/apply

In addition to meeting the entry requirements for your chosen course, you will need to provide evidence of your proficiency in the English language. If you do not have this evidence, consider taking a study program with Curtin English or Curtin College. You can package your English language course with your chosen course to streamline your enrolment and visa application process.

english.curtin.edu.au

RESEARCH DEGREES (ALL STUDENTS)

Before you apply, contact the Director of Research and Graduate Studies to discuss eligibility for admission, and for general advice: curtin.edu/hs/pharmacy-hdr

For general information on entry requirements and how to apply, visit howtoapply.curtin.edu.au/research

Alternatively, you can contact our Graduate Research School for more information:

Tel: +61 8 9266 3337

Email: GRS.FutureStudents@curtin.edu.au

ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

Health Sciences students who will be working with children aged from new born to 17 need to have a Working With Children Check. Courses that include supervised practice in a clinical setting require screening for and vaccination against a range of infectious diseases before beginning placement. A criminal record screening is also necessary.

curtin.edu/hs/immunisation

SCHOLARSHIPS

Curtin offers a variety of scholarships to students. Some are offered for academic achievement, while others are designed to make university possible for students who face financial hardship.

scholarships.curtin.edu.au

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

The tuition fees (shown in Australian dollars) are based on a normal full-time workload of 100 credits per semester (200 credits per year) unless otherwise stated. If you study more than 100 credits per semester, you will have a higher annual tuition fee. The tuition fee is calculated and charged on a semester basis. Individual unit (subject) fees are listed at fees.curtin.edu.au/course_fees.cfm
Note: all listed fees are subject to annual increases.

OFFER LETTER (100 CREDITS) PUBLISHED FEE

As an international student, you need to pay the fees for your first study period (one semester or 100 credits) before arriving in Australia in order to receive a confirmation of enrolment. The fee quoted on the international offer letter is only an approximation and may differ slightly in accordance with the units you choose to study upon your enrolment.

INDICATIVE ESSENTIAL INCIDENTAL FEES

Some courses require compulsory additional payment for retainable materials and course-related fees, known as essential incidental fees.

Some individual units may have optional fees for course materials and other course-related items. The indicative essential incidental fees listed in this guide are correct for 2017 and may be subject to change.

REFUND AGREEMENT

The categories under which the University Fees Centre will assess an application for refund are laid out in the University's International Student Refund Agreement. The agreement is supplied to you with your Letter of Offer and can also be accessed online at fees.curtin.edu.au/refunds.cfm, where you can also view the most up-to-date information as the policy is subject to change.

FEES TABLE

COURSE NAME	OFFER LETTER (100 CREDIT) PUBLISHED FEE AUD\$	INDICATIVE YEAR 1 FEE AUD\$	TOTAL INDICATIVE COURSE FEE AUD\$	INDICATIVE ESSENTIAL INCIDENTAL FEE AUD\$
Master of Pharmacy	15,300	38,300	86,300	823

For more information about health sciences postgraduate courses, visit courses.curtin.edu.au.

Disclaimer

Information in this publication is correct as at April 2017 but may be subject to change.

In particular, the University reserves the right to change the content and/or method of assessment, to change or alter tuition fees of any unit of study, to withdraw any unit of study or program which it offers, to impose limitations on enrolment in any unit or program, and/ or to vary arrangements for any program. This material does not purport to constitute legal or professional advice. Curtin accepts no responsibility for and makes no representations, whether express or implied, as to the accuracy or reliability in any respect of any material in this publication. Except to the extent mandated otherwise by legislation, Curtin University does not accept responsibility for the consequences of any reliance which may be placed on this material by any person.

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International students

International students studying in Australia on a student visa can only study full-time and there are also specific entry requirements that must be met. As some information contained in this publication may not be applicable to international students, see international.curtin.edu.au for further information. Australian citizens, permanent residents and international students studying outside Australia may have the choice of full-time, part-time and external study, depending on course availability and in-country requirements.

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