HEALTH SCIENCES

SPEECH

PATHOLOGY

Make tomorrow better.

POSTGRADUATE COURSE GUIDE 2018

COURSEWORK AND RESEARCH DEGREES

healthsciences.curtin.edu.au
The School of Psychology and Speech Pathology is committed to excellence and innovation in teaching and research, offering postgraduate and research programs in speech pathology.

**FACILITIES**

Curtin has invested in state-of-the-art learning and research facilities for its psychology and speech pathology students.

**REAL-WORLD CLINICS**

Our on-campus adult speech pathology and stuttering clinics, located at the Health and Wellness Centre, provide services to members of the public, and allow students to learn in a clinical environment.

**CURTIN NEUROSCIENCES RESEARCH LABORATORY**

This facility assists a multi-disciplinary research team to investigate and research ageing, non-invasive brain stimulation, rehabilitation of movement and cognition, Parkinson's Disease, stroke and exercise. They use a range of experimental approaches and technologies to study the ways in which the human brain can change and how this affects behaviour and neuromuscular function.

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**WHY STUDY A POSTGRADUATE DEGREE AT CURTIN?**

**ACCESS NEW KNOWLEDGE AND DISCOVERIES**

A Curtin health sciences degree can give you access to 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 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 work in a number of countries around the world when you graduate.

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**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.

For more information, visit courses.curtin.edu.au

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**SPEECH PATHOLOGY INDUSTRY SNAPSHOT**

The speech pathology workforce has a young age profile, with less than 10 per cent of the workforce aged 55 years and over in 1996 and 2011.

Employment for speech professionals and audiologists rose very strongly (in percentage terms) in the past five years and rose very strongly in the long-term (ten years). Looking forward, employment for speech professionals and audiologists to November 2020 is expected to grow very strongly.

For speech professionals and audiologists working full-time, average weekly hours are 37.7 (compared to 40.2 for all occupations).

Unemployment for speech professionals is below average.

Speech professionals and audiologists are mainly employed in health care and social assistance; public administration and safety; and education and training.

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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
This graduate entry master course will develop your understanding of typical communication development, developmental and acquired communication and swallowing disorders, speech pathology, clinical practice, clinical measurement and research. Your studies will be supported by extensive clinical practice.

You will be provided with the skills and knowledge to practice as a speech pathologist, which involves diagnosing, treating and providing management services to people of all ages with communication disorders, including speech, language, voice, fluency and literacy difficulties, or people who have physical problems with eating or swallowing.

The course focuses on four areas:

- **Behavioural science:** understanding human behaviour, including the complex processes involved in speaking, thinking, reasoning and interacting with others.
- **Cognitive neuroscience:** studying anatomy, physiology and cognitive processes involved in normal and disordered communication and swallowing.
- **Rehabilitation science:** understanding rehabilitation techniques and principles involved in the treatment of communication and swallowing disorders.
- **Speech science:** exploring areas such as speech signals, acoustic and physiological measurement, physiological and cognitive processes in speech perception and production, and computer-based speech recognition and synthesis.

### COURSE ESSENTIALS

**CRICOS CODE**

033868G

**DURATION**

2 years full-time

**LOCATION**

Perth

**STUDY MODE**

Full-time, Part-time

**ENTRY REQUIREMENTS**

An honours degree or a bachelor degree with a course weighted average of 65 per cent.

Evidence of studies in human biology at university level is essential. Without this background, you will have to complete additional units in this area before commencing the course.

You will be required to obtain First Aid certification in addition to a number of police clearances and immunisations upon entering this course.

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

### 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 Speech Pathology Australia. Graduates are eligible for membership with Speech Pathology Australia.

### RECOGNITION

- **COURSE ESSENTIALS**
  - Master of Speech Pathology
  - Offered in 2018. Please refer to Information in this publication is correct as at April 2017 and is subject to change at any time. This course may change after this publication is printed, and may not be offered in 2018. Please refer to courses.curtin.edu.au for the most up-to-date information.
  - Speech Pathology research at Curtin is well-known and respected in both national and international arenas. We have a thriving community of postdoctoral researchers and postgraduate students whose research contributions have real-world applications and impact.

  - Our researchers collaborate on national and global levels and are affiliated with one or more of five research groups. Speech Pathology research areas intersect strongly with the field of psychology and include:
    - brain, behaviour and mental health
    - community psychology
    - health psychology and behaviour medicine
    - language and speech sciences
    - learning, attitudes, cognition and ebehaviour
  - We offer the following higher degree by research courses:
    - Master of Philosophy (Human Communication Science)
    - Doctor of Philosophy.

  - One syllable at a time: researching stuttering as a genetic condition

    Stuttering can be an indiscriminate and awkward disorder that affects children, adults and even British monarchs. It occurs when there is a problem in the ongoing rhythm of speech: a person knows exactly what they want to say, but involuntarily loses control of their speech muscles just as they are about to speak.

    Associate Professor Janet Beilby from the School of Psychology and Speech Pathology is conducting a large-scale research project that examines stuttering as a genetic condition. Historically, theories on what causes stuttering have centred on emotional or psychological origins, but these have been increasingly disproven with advances in science and technology.

    “We still don’t know what causes stuttering, but we know what doesn’t cause it and I think it is a complex interplay between a multitude of factors,” says Associate Professor Beilby.

    Associate Professor Beilby is a collaborator on a recently awarded grant from America’s National Institute of Health worth $US300,000 to conduct the study, and the group is among the first researchers in the world to investigate stuttering via genetics.

    Their ultimate aim is to identify which genes are responsible for stuttering so they may screen for and identify the risk of the disorder in children, enabling early treatment and prevention.

    “Like any potential health issue, if we can stop the child practising it then we can set them up for life,” says Associate Professor Beilby.

    "This course is extremely challenging yet rewarding. The diversity of the learning experiences keeps the course interesting, and the calibre of the teaching staff is phenomenal – they are leaders in their field and it is inspiring to study under them. Being exposed to a wide variety of people and experiences has given me some of the best life skills I could wish for, and has set me up for further research opportunities – we have a responsibility to contribute to our field."

    Kate Dixon
    Master of Speech Pathology graduate
HOW TO APPLY AND SCHOLARSHIPS

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

FEES TABLE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COURSE NAME</th>
<th>OFFER LETTER (100 CREDITS)</th>
<th>PUBLISHED FEE</th>
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<tr>
<td>Master of Speech Pathology</td>
<td>10,200</td>
<td>36,400</td>
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For more information about health sciences postgraduate courses, visit courses.curtin.edu.au.

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. Visit scholarships.curtin.edu.au

STUDENTS AUSTRALIAN AND NEW ZEALAND
Course fee information can be found at courses.curtin.edu.au

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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.

COMMONWEALTH SUPPORTED PLACE
A number of our postgraduate Health Sciences courses arecommonwealth 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

INDICATIVE ESSENTIAL INCIDENTAL FEES
Some courses require compulsory additional payment for essential 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 will assess an application for refund are laid out in the University’s 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. For more information, please consult the Australian Tax Office at ato.gov.au

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TO APPLY NOW:
To apply now and for more information, visit international.curtin.edu.au/apply

RESEARCH DEGREES (ALL STUDENTS)
To find a thesis supervisor, and for information on entry requirements, guidelines and how to apply, visit howtoapply.curtin.edu.au/research

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. Visit healthsciences.curtin.edu.au/hs/essential-requirements for more information.

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 annual enrolment and visa application process. English.curtin.edu.au

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Alternatively, you can contact our Graduate Research School for more information: Tel: +61 8 9266 3337 Email: GRS.FutureStudents@curtin.edu.au

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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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