2012
POSTGRADUATE
APPLIED SCIENCES

» Bioinformatics
» Biotechnology
» Food science and technology
» Occupational health and safety

SEE THE BIGGER PICTURE

RMIT UNIVERSITY
Overview of the School of Applied Sciences

Connected, relevant and focused on making an impact, science at RMIT is all about providing practical solutions to real-world problems.

The School of Applied Sciences is one of the top performing research Schools at RMIT and has a strong reputation for its research and teaching in fundamental science and advanced molecular technologies.

Through its academic and research staff, the School possesses a depth and breadth of scientific knowledge. Committed to integration, RMIT's research agenda encourages projects based on team or shared interest, maximising the synergies possible with cross-fertilisation.

RMIT graduates are creative, skilled and highly employable. We provide our students with flexibility in choice of disciplines and industry relevant experience. All academic programs emphasise the integration of the basic sciences within an interdisciplinary approach to encourage research, innovation and the preparation of graduates to work within a diverse range of professional practices as scientists.

Modern laboratories and access to a range of sophisticated equipment enables advanced research work and skills training in industry best practice and in research. Postgraduate students are exposed to field conditions, which expand their educational experience with real-life situations.

‘The skills I have gained during my studies are endless and incorporate the use of scientific instruments as well as supervision of the lab. Learning to write in a scientific manner for papers, conferences, presentations, theses, applications and proposals has also been an important part of my education.’

Hailey Reynolds (cover image)

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) (Applied Chemistry)
You can now interact with RMIT through several web, mobile and social networking tools listed at www.rmit.edu.au/interact:

- www.facebook.com/RMITUniversity
- http://twitter.com/rmit
- www.youtube.com/user/rmitmedia

RMIT is committed to work-integrated learning (WIL) by incorporating WIL experiences such as professional practice placements and learning tasks related to workplace experience as positive features of the programs. WIL is an integral component in many assessment requirements that require problem-based learning and critical reflection on practice.
The Graduate Diploma in Bioinformatics links studies in cell and molecular sciences with studies in computing science. The program is designed to prepare students to work in the complementary discipline areas of gene, protein and cell technologies, computing science and informatics.

The program also offers an opportunity to undertake some business management. Courses are presented by RMIT staff and external experts from research, biotechnology and information technology organisations. Strong industry participation ensures the program is responsive to the rapidly developing technology environment.

The programs are designed for individuals working in biotechnology, life sciences, the computing industry or related industries who wish to broaden or upgrade their scientific, computing and informatics skills, and acquire some management skills.

**Pathway**

Graduates may proceed to research degrees in biological sciences or computing or to degrees in business administration (technology management).

**Career outlook**

Graduates of this program will be equipped to work in the complementary areas of gene, protein and cell technologies, computing science and informatics.

**Entrance requirements**

Prospective students will have a degree in the sciences or a related area and good oral and written communication skills. Selection will be based on qualifications, experience and interview.

**Application procedure**

RMIT direct application

### Fees

**Full fee-paying Australian residents**

2012: A$24 000 per year full-time

**International full fee-paying students**

2012: A$28 800 per year full-time

Fees are payable at the commencement of each semester and are calculated annually.

Please refer to money matters on page 9 for further information.

**What you will study**

The graduate diploma consists of 96 credit points. This incorporates graduate certificate (48 credit points).

The following is an example of courses offered.

#### Year one

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Credit points</th>
<th>Course</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Bioinformatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Computational biology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Select a minimum of 24 credit points</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Advanced topics in bioinformatics</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Analysis of medical data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Database concepts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Introduction to programming</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Programming techniques</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Any approved computer science or mathematics and statistics elective</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Advanced immunology</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biopharmaceuticals (drug development)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biotechnology: project management</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Biotechnology: regulation and business law</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Cell technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Diagnostics and biotherapies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Gene technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Management of intellectual assets</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Protein technologies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Any other approved biotechnology science elective</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

RMIT 2012 POSTGRADUATE | APPLIED SCIENCES
Biotechnology is a rapidly expanding area, with applications in diverse areas, including food science, microbiology, agriculture and environmental biology.

The program provides specialist postgraduate training in biotechnology through four streams: food microbiology, clinical microbiology, environmental and agricultural biotechnology, food science and technology. Special emphasis is given to recent advances and the application of new technologies.

Students usually choose one of the major streams but it is also possible to combine courses, graduating with a generic degree in biotechnology. In addition to the coursework component, the Master of Biotechnology includes one optional semester of work experience or research project.

The coursework courses are presented using a variety of learning methods including formal lectures, flexible learning activities, review of current literature, oral presentations and practical experience. The emphasis is on application of new knowledge to practical problems and development of practical skills in the respective topic areas. High-achieving students have the opportunity to do either one semester of full-time research or work experience in year two of the Master of Biotechnology.

### Pathway

Relevant work experience at an appropriate level and duration is recognised as an equivalent to one full-time semester or one part-time year. Applications for recognition of work experience are assessed on an individual basis.

### Career outlook

Graduates from this program are employed in private industry (e.g. vaccine production), medical research institutes, universities and hospitals as research staff or in diagnostic microbiology.

### Professional recognition


### Entrance requirements

A degree in applied science, agriculture, science, food science or another appropriate undergraduate degree such as chemical engineering, medicine or veterinary medicine.

### Application procedure

RMIT direct application

### Fees

**Full fee-paying Australian residents**

2012: A$24,000 per year full-time

**International full fee-paying students**

2012: A$28,800 per year full-time

Fees are payable at the commencement of each semester and are calculated annually. Please refer to money matters on page 9 for further information.

### What you will study

The master consists of 192 credit points. This incorporates graduate diploma (96 credit points) and graduate certificate (48 credit points). The following is an example of courses offered.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Select from the following</th>
<th>Credit points</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>» Applied biochemical methods</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Bacterial infections</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Bioinformatics</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Ecology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Ecotoxicology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Environmental microbiology</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Fermentation technology</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Food microbiology</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Food safety plans</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Gene technologies</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Immunology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Industrial microbiology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Medical microbiology</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Medical mycology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Medical parasitology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Microbial evaluation of food</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Molecular biology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Molecular cell biology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Molecular plant breeding</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Parasitology</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Pathogenesis of enteric infections</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Plant cell and tissue culture</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Veterinary virology</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Viral infections</td>
<td>24</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>» Work experience practicum 2</td>
<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Mode and duration

2 years full-time or 4 years part-time.

Midyear places may be available.

International students can only study full-time.

### Exit points

- Graduate Diploma in Biotechnology
- RMIT program code: GD101
- CRICOS code: 045508M
  - 1 year full-time or 2 years part-time
- Graduate Certificate in Biotechnology
- RMIT program code: GC093
- CRICOS code: 045504D
  - 0.5 years full-time or 1 year part-time

### Contact

- **Associate Professor Peter Smooker**
  - School of Applied Sciences
  - Tel. +61 3 9925 7129
  - Email: peter.smooker@rmit.edu.au
  - www.rmit.edu.au/appliedsciences

### International/Non-Australian residents

Contact: International Services
- GPO Box 2476
- Melbourne VIC Australia 3001
- Tel. +61 3 8676 7047
- Domestic free call number: 1800 998 414
- Email: isu@rmit.edu.au
- www.rmit.edu.au/programs/international

### Fees

2012: A$24,000 per year full-time

International full fee-paying students

2012: A$28,800 per year full-time

Fees are payable at the commencement of each semester and are calculated annually. Please refer to money matters on page 9 for further information.

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<td>48</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Master of Applied Science (Food Science and Technology)

RMIT program code
MC133
CRICOS code
043049E

Location
City campus

Mode and duration
1.5 years full-time or
3 years part-time
Midyear places may be available.
International students can only study full-time.

Exit points
Graduate Diploma in Food Science and Technology
RMIT program code: GD132
CRICOS code: 043048F
1 year full-time or
2 years part-time
Graduate Certificate in Food Science and Technology
RMIT program code: GC081
CRICOS code: 043047G
0.5 years full-time or
1 year part-time

Contact
Professor Stefan Kasapis
School of Applied Sciences
Tel. +61 3 9925 5244
Email: stefan.kasapis@rmit.edu.au
www.rmit.edu.au/appliedsciences

International/non-Australian residents
Contact: International Services
GPO Box 2476
Melbourne VIC Australia 3001
Tel. +61 3 8676 7047
Domestic free call number: 1800 998 414
Email: isu@rmit.edu.au
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/international
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/mc133

These programs have been designed to provide professional training in food science and technology for both graduates of food science and graduates in science, engineering, agriculture and related disciplines.

Graduates will acquire skills and knowledge of food processing, food preservation and the general properties of food materials, ensuring they are equipped for a wide range of technical positions within the food industry. Graduates are able to recognise potential hazards in the processing of food and will be able to apply this knowledge to eliminate or reduce hazards, and ensure the safety of the community’s food supply.

These programs equip graduates with the necessary knowledge and skills required to operate effectively in the food industry at various management levels. They are designed to train recent science graduates as food technologists, and to enable those already employed in the food industry to enhance their professional status. These programs are structured around courses in food science and technology and it is assumed that students will have the necessary background in fundamental science. A background in food science is not mandatory.

Career outlook
Graduates are particularly attractive to potential employers because they offer a sound knowledge of, and capability in, the various aspects of food science and technology, including a capacity for research, as well as the specialisation of their initial qualification. Completion of these programs will add both value and relevance to the knowledge and skills acquired in the graduate’s initial degree.

Professional recognition
Graduates are eligible for professional membership of the Australian Institute of Food Science and Technology, with advanced standing.

Entrance requirements
An applied science, science or other appropriate bachelor degree (e.g. agricultural science or chemical engineering) that is recognised as equivalent to an Australian bachelor degree.

Average mark required over this undergraduate program should be a minimum of 65%. More weighting may be given to grades in the later stages of the program than in the early stages. To proceed to the final semester and undertake the research project, students are required to obtain a minimum average mark of 65% in the courses already taken.

Students who have not previously studied microbiology will only be able to commence the program in semester 1.

Application procedure
RMIT direct application

Fees
Full fee-paying Australian residents
2012: A$24 000 per year full-time
International full fee-paying students
2012: A$28 800 per year full-time

Fees are payable at the commencement of each semester and are calculated annually.
Please refer to money matters on page 9 for further information.

What you will study
The master consists of 144 credit points. This incorporates graduate diploma (96 credit points) and graduate certificate (48 credit points). The courses undertaken will vary depending upon whether food science has been studied previously. There are compulsory courses in science skills, food processing and food microbiology. Some choice of courses is offered within the programs.

The final semester is a project that will be on a topic chosen from a range offered or a suitable project organised by the student.
Occupational health and safety (OH&S) concerns the application of scientific principles in understanding the nature of risks to the safety of people in workplaces. It is a multidisciplinary profession with applications in most industries and commerce.

Both community expectation and government legislation demand an increasingly higher level of protection for employees and the community at large from risks that threaten their safety and health. As such there is also an increasing demand in society for professionals with experience and qualifications in occupational health and safety.

Pathway
Exemptions and recognition of prior learning are not normally available in this program. Applicants who have previously undertaken similar studies may be required to enrol in some substitute courses where the program coordinator considers this to be appropriate. Such substitutions shall be approved only where program standards are not jeopardised and the RMIT content of the program is not undermined.

Career outlook
There is a relatively strong demand for occupational health and safety professionals within industry and consulting. Practitioners may be called health and safety executives (HSE), OHS managers, risk managers, occupational health and safety coordinators or safety officers. Some positions may have environmental responsibilities and therefore be called EHS or SHE (safety, health and environment) managers. Workers’ compensation insurance companies often engage teams of risk managers to give advice to their corporate clients.

Professional recognition
Graduates of the graduate diploma or master, and with appropriate experience, may apply for professional membership of the Safety Institute of Australia, the body representing safety professionals.
My PhD studies at RMIT focuses on medical microbiology and molecular biology. I chose RMIT because of the University’s reputation in this field and the friendly atmosphere.

Throughout my studies, I have gained research experience and skills, including study design, experimental techniques, and results analysis. I have also received a high level of encouragement from my supervisors, which has helped to motivate me during my research.

My ability to write academic papers has also improved, and as a result I have had four research papers published in high profile international medical journals, as well as one research monograph.

I currently combine my PhD studies with research work in biochemistry and molecular biology. Once I obtain my PhD, I aim to work in the relevant area, gain more experience and techniques, and eventually become one of the leading researchers in this field.

Yue Qu
Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)
(Applied Biology and Biotechnology)
RESEARCH STRENGTHS

RMIT School of Applied Sciences has research strengths and expertise in a broad range of areas including:

» Applied chemistry
» Applied physics
» Applied biology and biotechnology
» Food science and technology
» Medical and health physics.
HOW TO APPLY

Coursework degrees

Direct application
Apply online at www.rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/direct
Timely applications for coursework programs are due by:
» 10 November each year (Semester 1) and
» 31 May each year (midyear Semester 2).
Midyear applications open 1 May www.rmit.edu.au/midyear
Applications will continue to be accepted until all places have been filled. You are encouraged to lodge your application early.

Supplementary information forms
Some postgraduate programs require applicants to complete a supplementary information form in addition to the direct application form.
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/forms

Research degrees

Entrance requirements
There are minimum entry requirements for master by research and doctoral degrees. Due to strong competition for places, preference may be given to applicants with more than the minimum requirements.

All applicants need to find a supervisor with similar research interests as themselves and discuss a research project proposal with them. The research proposal must be included in your application.

Refer to contact details under each program or www.rmit.edu.au/graduateresearch/searchsupervisors

Master
A first degree from RMIT with at least a credit average in the final year; or a qualification deemed equivalent by RMIT to a first degree from RMIT with at least a credit average in the final year; or evidence of experience which satisfies RMIT that the applicant has developed knowledge of the field of study sufficient to undertake the proposed degree.

Note: Some degrees may require evidence of other qualifications or experience. Refer to the contact listed under individual degree entries before applying.

PhD
A degree of master by research from RMIT; or a degree of master by coursework from RMIT which includes a research component with a duration of at least one semester full-time (or part-time equivalent); or a bachelor degree from RMIT with first class honours or upper second class honours (or another award as deemed equivalent); and such qualifications or experience as RMIT considers appropriate.

Note: Some programs may require evidence of other qualifications or experience. Refer to the contact listed under individual program entries before applying.

Applying
Application for candidature involves three steps. A brief outline is below. Contact the School of Graduate Research for detailed information.

1. Find a program and confirm eligibility
The entry requirements for each program are listed in this publication. To discuss your eligibility, contact the RMIT staff member listed under individual program entries.

2. Seek academic advice
Once you have decided on the higher degree by research (HDR) you are interested in, you should discuss potential research topics, the availability of suitable supervisors, and an initial research proposal directly with your prospective supervisors and/or with the HDR coordinator in the relevant School.
www.rmit.edu.au/graduateresearch/searchsupervisors

3. Complete and submit the application form and supporting documents
If you fit one of the following categories of applicants for higher degree by research places and key scholarship(s), then you can apply through the School of Graduate Research:
» Australian Citizens
» Australian Permanent Residents and New Zealand Citizens
» Offshore International Students—you will be studying outside of Australia and do not fall into any of the above categories.
www.rmit.edu.au/graduateresearch/application
All other applicants are considered Onshore International Applicants and must apply through RMIT’s International Services division.
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/international

International/non-Australian residents
For the latest application procedures, please refer to our website: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/international
Money Matters

Coursework degrees
What you pay will depend on whether your are offered a Commonwealth supported place (CSP) or a full-fee place. Financial assistance is available for eligible students regardless of the type of place you enrol in.

Full-fee place
Full-fee students are required to pay the complete cost of their program. The fees vary according to each program and are adjusted on an annual basis. They are listed under each program in this booklet.

FEE-HELP
Australian citizens or holders of a permanent humanitarian visa are eligible to apply for a FEE-HELP loan for full-fee places. FEE-HELP enables eligible students to obtain a loan from the Australian Government to pay all or part of their tuition fees. The Government pays the amount of the loan directly to the student’s institution. Students repay their loan through the taxation system once their income reaches the minimum threshold for compulsory repayment.

Commonwealth supported places (CSP)
A Commonwealth supported place (CSP) is a place at uni where the fee is subsidised by the Australian Government. Your share of the fee is calculated according to the interest area you are studying. The following table shows a student’s annual share of the fee for full-time study in 2012.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Your interest area.</th>
<th>Your student contribution for full-time studies commenced in 2012.</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Mathematics, science, statistics</td>
<td>$4520 p.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Humanities, behavioural science, social studies, education, clinical psychology, foreign languages, visual and performing arts, nursing</td>
<td>$5648 p.a. (Band 1)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing, built environment, allied health, other health, engineering, surveying, agriculture</td>
<td>$8050 p.a. (Band 2)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting, administration, economics, commerce, dentistry, medicine, law, veterinary science</td>
<td>$9425 p.a. (Band 3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Students who undertake more or less than a full-time study load, or who study courses from a combination of the above categories, will be charged the proportionate student contribution.

Confirmation of fees for 2012 can be obtained from Info Corner on tel. 03 9925 2260.

Postgraduate Coursework Commonwealth Supported Equity Places
RMIT has a limited number of Commonwealth supported places (CSP) in postgraduate coursework programs for applicants who meet entrance and equity criteria. Instead of paying full-fees, the CSP equity place allows eligible students to complete their program with a choice of up-front, partial up-front or deferred payment options. These places are available in any program.

Research degrees
If you are an Australian citizen, Australian permanent resident or New Zealand citizen you may be eligible for a Higher Degree by Research (HDR) place where your tuition costs are funded by the Australian Government and you therefore have full exemption from tuition fees.

RMIT also offers research places on a fee-paying basis. For more information on fee-paying places please contact the relevant RMIT school to which you are applying. Program fees may vary according to the courses chosen and fees are invoiced on a semester basis.

Commonwealth supported places (CSP)

International/non-Australian residents only
For the latest fee information, please refer to our website: www.international.rmit.edu.au/info/programfees.asp

Financial assistance
Scholarships
Various scholarship opportunities exist for eligible master and PhD students. For scholarship details and eligibility criteria, visit www.rmit.edu.au/scholarships.

Income tax deductions
Australian students may be eligible to apply for income tax deductions relating to the education expenses that are linked to their employment. Students should check with an accredited taxation accountant/consultant as to their eligibility for possible deductions. The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) website may also be useful. For further information, visit www.ato.gov.au

Material fees
In addition to tuition fees, you may be required to purchase items related to your program, including field trips and excursions, specified textbooks and equipment. These fees are not compulsory and students may choose to purchase these items independently. These expenses vary from program to program. Please check individual program brochures or contact the relevant school directly.

Annual increase of full-fees
RMIT reserves the right to adjust fees on an annual basis by an amount that will not exceed 7.5% each year (subject to rounding). For higher education fees, tuition fees are rounded up to the nearest $10 per credit point increment, and so the actual fee increase may exceed 7.5%.

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www.rmit.edu.au/programs/fees

Acceptance in a HDR place is very competitive and places are granted on the condition that you meet annual progress requirements and complete within the allotted time for your program and your status as a part-time or full-time candidate.

www.rmit.edu.au/graduateresearch

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International/non-Australian residents only
For the latest fee information, please refer to our website: www.international.rmit.edu.au/info/programfees.asp

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