2012
POSTGRADUATE
LABORATORY
MEDICINE

» Laboratory medicine
» Medical science

LIFESAVERS
IN THE LAB

RMIT UNIVERSITY
‘I wanted to develop my knowledge in transplantation sciences and the Master of Laboratory Medicine at RMIT was ideal for this. The program has an excellent structure and is flexible enough to allow me to keep working while I study. The rich learning environment has provided me with invaluable research and leadership skills, which will be highly sought after by future employers.

‘I have really enjoyed learning and updating myself with the recent advancements in transfusion and transplantation science, as my aim is to become a transplant surgeon.

‘I am a medical practitioner from India and am currently working on my Australian Medical Council Registration and hope to soon obtain a placement in a Melbourne hospital. My long-term goal is to be a successful transplant surgeon and contribute to research in this area of medicine.’

Arnab Roy (cover image)
Master of Laboratory Medicine
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CONTACTS

Location
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www.rmit.edu.au/medicalsciences

INTERACT WITH RMIT
You can now interact with RMIT through several web, mobile and social networking tools listed at www.rmit.edu.au/interact

Facebook
www.facebook.com/RMITUniversity

Twitter
http://twitter.com/rmit

YouTube
www.youtube.com/user/rmitmedia

WORK-INTEGRATED LEARNING
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 Laboratory Medicine provides an opportunity for education and training in all of the major disciplines of laboratory medicine. It is suitable for graduates from general science or biomedical science degrees that have a biological science focus. The program is designed to provide a professionally oriented qualification that will prepare you for employment in diagnostic pathology. As a graduate you may be employed as a medical scientist in hospitals and diagnostic pathology laboratories.

Pathway
Graduates of the Graduate Diploma in Laboratory Medicine who have been successful in gaining a place in the Master of Laboratory Medicine or the Master of Biotechnology programs may be granted up to 96 credit points towards that qualification.

Career outlook
Graduates are employed as medical scientists in the field of diagnostic pathology or in medical research. Medical scientists work in hospital laboratories, private pathology laboratories, state health laboratories and universities. In larger hospitals and private laboratories, medical scientists usually specialise in one of the professional disciplines.

Entrance requirements
You must have a three-year university degree in the biomedical or biological sciences area as a minimum. Other entrance requirements that are acceptable include a degree in medicine or a related health field.

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 5 for further information.

Additional costs
This program may incur extra costs for items such as textbooks, lab coats, gloves, program notes, field trips, special equipment, materials and bridging programs. Please contact the School of Medical Sciences for details (see left).

What you will study
The graduate diploma consists of 96 credit points with a minimum requirement of one major discipline stream.
The following discipline streams are available:
» Clinical biochemistry
» Clinical microbiology
» Cytopathology
» Haematology
» Histopathology
» Transfusion and transplantation science
The Master of Laboratory Medicine provides advanced training and education in the major disciplines of laboratory medicine. It is suitable for graduates from general science or biomedical science degrees that have a biological science focus.

This coursework program is designed to provide you with an advanced qualification and enable you to apply a range of diagnostic procedures in a clinical pathology laboratory. On completion you will have high-level skills in analysis and knowledge integration relevant to your area of specialisation.

Pathway
If you have completed the Graduate Diploma in Laboratory Medicine you may articulate directly into the Master of Laboratory Medicine.

Career outlook
Graduates are employed as medical scientists in the field of diagnostic pathology or in medical research. Medical scientists work in hospital laboratories, private pathology laboratories, state health laboratories and universities. In larger hospitals and private laboratories, medical scientists usually specialise in one of the professional disciplines.

Professional recognition
The Master of Laboratory Medicine is accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Sciences (IBMS) in the UK.

Entrance requirements
For the Master of Laboratory Medicine you must have a three-year university degree in the biomedical or biological sciences area as a minimum. Other entrance requirements that are acceptable include a degree in medicine or a related health field.

Professional practice in laboratory medicine

Research project

Systemic pathology

Viral infections

What you will study
The Master of Laboratory Medicine program will allow you to specialise in two clinical pathology disciplines.

The following discipline streams are available:
» Clinical biochemistry
» Clinical microbiology
» Cytopathology
» Haematology
» Histopathology
» Transfusion and transplantation science

The following is an example of courses offered.
» Advanced clinical biochemistry
» Advanced cytopathology
» Advanced haematology
» Advanced histopathology
» Advanced transfusion and transplantation science
» Applied biochemical methods
» Biomolecules and cellular regulation
» Biostatistics
» Clinical biochemistry 1
» Gene technologies 1
» Haematology 1
» Histopathology and cytopathology 1
» Laboratory medicine project
» Medical genetics and diagnostics
» Medical informatics and lab management
» Medical laboratory quality systems and accreditation
» Medical microbiology 1
» Medical microbiology 2
» Medical microbiology and immunology
» Outbreak: detection and control of infectious disease
» Pathogenesis of enteric infections
» Point of care patient testing
» Professional practice in laboratory medicine
» Research project
» Systemic pathology
» Viral infections
The Master of Applied Science (Medical Science) is conducted fully online and has been designed for medical scientists who want to broaden and extend their knowledge in a number of developing areas of medical science. The program provides an opportunity to examine the latest advances in laboratory medicine in an interdisciplinary and global context. The online program allows you to develop skills in the use and application of information technology, in the rapidly evolving fields of telepathology and e-health, via a course in medical informatics. Inclusion of management courses allows you to develop an understanding of business and management practices in the context of laboratory medicine. This is an articulated program consisting of a coursework component (makes up two thirds of the program) and a research component that may include:
» a laboratory-based project and thesis (conventional pathway) or
» a dissertation in conjunction with two additional approved elective courses (alternative pathway).
You have the opportunity to direct your own learning and acquire independent and life-long learning skills through contract learning activities.

Career outlook
Graduates are prepared for senior positions in diagnostic laboratories or in industry.

Professional recognition
The program is accredited by the Institute of Biomedical Science (IBMS) in the United Kingdom.

Entrance requirements
A directed degree in medical laboratory science/laboratory medicine from an Australian university and at least one year of work experience in the field of laboratory medicine, or a degree in biomedical science and at least two years’ relevant work experience, one of which must be postgraduate.

Academic performance in undergraduate studies must be at the level of a credit average or a grade point average of 2.5 or greater on a 4-point scale.

Where academic qualifications are deemed not to be equivalent to an Australian degree in medical laboratory science, consideration will be given to work experience and postgraduate professional qualifications, e.g. Fellowship diploma obtained by examination and postgraduate activities including publications. Where undergraduate studies have not been in English, an IELTS certificate completed within the six months prior to the application must be supplied, indicating that an overall score of 6.5 has been obtained, with writing not less than 6.5 and no other band less than 6.0.

Extra requirements
Computer requirements
To access program materials, students will require a personal computer with a minimum of Windows XP, MS Office and Internet Explorer 6 browser, or its equivalent. Students will also require internet access via an Internet Service Provider (ISP), preferably with a broadband connection.

Application procedure
RMIT direct application

Fees
Full fee-paying Australian residents
2012: A$11,520 per year full-time
Fees are payable at the commencement of each semester and are calculated annually. Please refer to money matters on page 5 for further information.

Additional costs
Fees for the management courses are paid to La Trobe University and cannot be covered by the FEE–HELP Scheme available to Australian citizens. The fee for the La Trobe courses and some electives may also vary and you are advised to confirm course fees with the School of Medical Sciences before enrolling.

What you will study
The Master of Applied Science (Medical Science) is a distance education program that uses online learning. The teaching approach adopted in this program acknowledges that all students will be adult learners who have wide and varied backgrounds. The experiences of students will be a major resource of learning material in the program and courses. The master consists of 144 credit points. This incorporates graduate diploma (96 credit points), the following is an example of courses offered.
» Biostatistics
» Contemporary issues in laboratory medicine
» Health services resource management (undertaken through La Trobe University)
» Healthy organisations (undertaken through La Trobe University)
» Immunology and cell biology
» Masters project 1
» Masters project 2
» Advanced medical informatics and laboratory management
» Medical laboratory quality systems and accreditation
» Molecular basis of disease

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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

MONEY MATTERS

Coursework degrees

What you pay will depend on whether you 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.
www.goingtouni.gov.au

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</td>
<td>$5648 p.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>studies, education, clinical psychology,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>foreign languages, visual and performing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>arts, nursing</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Computing, built environment, allied health,</td>
<td>$8050 p.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>other health, engineering, surveying,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>agriculture</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounting, administration, economics,</td>
<td>$9425 p.a.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>commerce, dentistry, medicine, law,</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>veterinary science</td>
<td></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.
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/fees

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.
www.rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/equity

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%.

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.

International/non-Australian residents

For the latest application procedures, please refer to our website: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/apply/international
For the latest fee information, please refer to our website: www.international.rmit.edu.au/info/programfees.asp
Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing. For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website before lodging your application.