ECU EDITH COWAN UNIVERSITY

Careers in Healthcare

Alcohol & Other Drug (AOD) Counsellor Data Scientist Environmental Health Officer Exercise Physiologist Exercise Scientist Health Promotion Officer Geneticist Medical Sonographer

Nutritionist Occupational Health & Safety Manager Occupational Therapist Paramedic Speech Pathologist Sports Scientist Strength & Conditioning Coach

Creative thinkers made here.

2026

Shape the future

Creative thinking. It's essential for tackling challenges. Seizing opportunities. For today. But more importantly, tomorrow. Creativity is how we move forward. It sparks innovation. In every industry. And at ECU, it's at the core of everything we do.

Creative thinkers made here.

At ECU, we recognise and respect the significance of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' communities, cultures and histories.

We also acknowledge and respect the Noongar people as the traditional custodians of the land on which our campuses are located.

Front cover features ECU Bachelor of Occupational Therapy student Hannah Pearson



ECU City represents the future of university education – a place where technology, industry and creativity meet to deliver the creative thinkers the world needs.

Located at the heart of Perth's commercial, cultural and entertainment districts, ECU City will feature state-of-the-art spaces for study and collaboration, cutting-edge learning and technology facilities, and world-leading performance venues.

ECU City will open to students from semester one, 2026.



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Find out more – ecu.edu.au/degrees/ecu-city

Why study at ECU?

There are so many good reasons to choose ECU for study. Here are some of the better ones.



Get career ready while you study

During your studies, we'll help you build your personal brand to prepare you for a new career.



Travel overseas as part of your studies

In lots of courses, you'll have opportunities like study exchanges with other unis, study tours and more.



Know you'll be supported

We'll help you adjust to your new life as a student, whatever your study or personal challenges.

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Get practical experience outside the classroom

You'll quickly turn theory into practice with work experience opportunities like internships, practicums and more.



Industry partnerships open doors to you

Exciting internship or prac placements through our partnerships with IBM, West Coast Eagles, state-wide schools, hospitals and more.



Become a creative thinker

Creative thinking is a skill that's highly valued by employers and we'll help you make it your superpower.



Experience 5-star teaching and student support

Your lecturers and tutors will help you get the best out of yourself and will introduce you to new networks and possible employers.



Build your own degree

For many courses, you can choose major subjects and electives to tailor your studies to your passions.



Apply for a scholarship

Our scholarships are awarded to students from all kinds of backgrounds and for all kinds of reasons. It's not just the academically brilliant ones. This includes people who've had a challenging life without the same opportunities as others. A scholarship can help you realise your ambitions by paying for fees, textbooks and living expenses.



Find out more – ecu.edu.au/scholarships

Top rated university



Ranked in the world's top 100 universities under 50 years old.



The top public university in Australia for undergraduate overall experience.



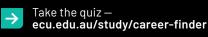
Rated 5 stars for undergraduate teaching quality for 18 straight years in a row.

Start your career

It's not unusual for uni students to be unsure about careers or what course to study. Here are some ways to help you decide what to study.

Try our 5-minute Career Finder quiz

This quiz might surprise you with a suggested career direction and courses that take you there.





Check out our study areas

Our eight study areas cover courses that lead to different careers and industries.



Find out more — ecu.edu.au/degrees/study-areas



Parents' guide to university study

Whether your child is the first in the family to go to university or you've been here before, this little guide will help you understand some of the mysteries of higher education.



Download the guide – ecu.edu.au/industry/careercounsellor-resources



Come to an event

Visit one of our campuses and attend an Open Day or information session.



Find out more – ecu.edu.au/events

Life as a student

It doesn't matter if you've just left high school or you haven't been a student for a few years, study at uni is a whole new world.

The good news is, no matter what your study challenges, we're ready to help you succeed.

Adjusting to study whatever your situation

At ECU, we'll support you through your studies whatever your personal circumstances.

Our Access and Inclusion team will work with you to identify reasonable adjustments to your study and uni life.

This includes if you have a medical condition or disability or have responsibilities for caring for a family member in a similar situation. It might also include ensuring you can continue to observe any cultural or religious practices.

Adjusting to academic life

Learning at university can be a bit daunting to begin with, but we've got you covered whatever help you need.

That includes help with preparing assignments, help with researching or referencing, help with online study and loads more. You can even get a peer leader in your first semester!

Free counselling service

If you need to discuss any personal issues that may be affecting your ability to study, we have a free, professional and confidential counselling service.

Career advice and job skills

You can get support and resources to help you plan your future career, as well as find work or volunteering experience while you're a student.

This includes career-based workshops, industry events, one-to-one career advice and more.

Student health services

All ECU campuses have health centres with doctors (GPs), nurses and allied health services to assist you if you need them.

Sport and fitness

Staying active can help sharpen your mind and reduce the stress of assignments and exams.

ECU has fantastic sport and fitness facilities, designed to support your health and wellbeing. You can also join group fitness classes tailored for everyone, or drop into fun social sports and competitive representative events.

Childcare for parents

If you're a student with children, our campuses provide short term care (Crèche) and long term care (Day Care) at select locations.

Wellbeing and mental health

The Living Room is a safe and inclusive space where you can drop in to have a relaxed chat with a trained peer who understands the journey you are going on as a student.



Do you identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander?

If that's your background and you'd like assistance with choosing a university entry pathway, please let us know.

Our team at the Centre for Indigenous Australian Education and Research, called Kurongkurl Katitjin, can also help you better understand and adapt to university life.

And we provide services on campus like:

- Nala Karla Student Rooms and facilities
- Tutorial Assistance
- Elder-in-Residence Program



Find out more — ecu.edu.au/indigenous

Travel overseas while you study

University study is way more than lectures, reading and assignments. As a student, you might also have opportunities to travel overseas as part of your studies, where you can immerse yourself in a new culture and develop lasting friendships. Not only will this look good on your résumé, but it's also an excellent opportunity for you to challenge yourself and broaden your horizons.

Student exchange

This is a program where you apply to study units related to your university course for one or two semesters in another country.

ECU has partnerships with 90 institutions in 35 countries around the world, so there's plenty to choose from.

Go on a study tour

Overseas study tours are possible during your time at ECU, and they usually run for one to two weeks.

You'll join a group of classmates and learn in another country, while developing your cultural communication skills. And having fun!

International Dual Degrees



Study in the UK

ECU has a partnership with the University of Portsmouth in the UK that provides students from each university with the opportunity to spend a year in the other campus as part of their studies.

This leads to you graduating with a unique dual degree in disciplines such as Biomedical Science, Cybercrime, Security and Intelligence, Environmental Science, Psychological Science, Exercise and Sports Science, Media and Communication and Global Sport Business. The number of courses is expected to grow, but it's another way you can spend time in another country, build contacts and experience, and have two degrees on your résumé.



Find out more ecu.edu.au/uni-portsmouth

Careers in Healthcare

Imagine a career where you're helping people to have a happier and healthier life. Now imagine the possibility of there being many such careers.

In this guide, you'll discover courses and major subjects to help you start one of those rewarding careers as a professional in health-related industries.

Not all courses have them, but a major is your chosen area of in-depth study or specialisation in an undergraduate course. It's usually one-third of the units you'll study in a 3-year degree.

If a course interests you, follow the QR code to our web page where you can check out the finer details.

Interested in making a difference to the health of others?

Pursue rewarding careers in healthcare or the performance and fitness industry by studying one of our many health related degrees. We have grouped our courses into common themes to help you decide what best suits your strengths and interests:



Community champions - page 10

Find courses and careers where you'll take a strategic view of health-related issues in communities or workplaces.



One-to-one therapists - page 18 Learn how to work closely with individuals to improve their quality of life.



Medical investigators - page 22

Investigate the function of cells, organs and systems in the human body, helping us better understand and treat human diseases.



Emergency responders - page 26

Learn the critical thinking and clinical decision-making skills to be there for those in need as you manage emergencies or disasters.



Health and performance heroes - page 28

Help people improve general health and fitness or enhance their sporting performance.



ECU meets future demand for allied health professionals

An osteopath is an allied health professional who provides direct manual therapy interventions including exercise prescription and lifestyle advice to improve movement, reduce pain, and manage and/or treat a range of physical impairments.

Osteopaths are among the fastest growing registered health professions and are in demand with strong growth for the profession predicted in Western Australia^{*}. ECU is seeking accreditation for a course that will prepare you for Ahpra registration as an Osteopath. To register your interest and ensure you are first to know when this course becomes available, contact our team on **134 328**.

*Source: jobsandskills.gov.au November 2024

Looking for Nursing studies?

We have a separate guide for Careers in Nursing.



Read more — ecu.edu.au/nursing-and-midwifery

Clinical Training Opportunities for Allied Health Students

The Joondalup Community Clinical School is a purpose-built clinical training facility located at Joondalup Health Campus. Students provide services to the community, including nutrition and dietetics, exercise physiology and speech pathology.

The student-led Joondalup Community Clinical School benefits the community, with the provision of high-quality, interprofessional, evidence-based care to a wide range of clients to assist with the management of chronic disease, mental illness, neurological conditions and general health.

ECU Health Centres provide hands-on experience

Our students also have access to ECU health centres in Wanneroo and Yanchep. These clinics provide opportunities for exercise and sports science, occupational therapy and paramedicine students to contribute to client assessments and interventions.

Read more – ecu.edu.au/ecu-health-centre/overview

Learn with world leading technology

In 2025, we will be transforming our approach to teaching anatomy and physiology by introducing the most advanced real-human-based medical education system available in the world: The Anatomage Table. As a student, you will benefit from access to digitised cadavers, real patient cases and simulation of real-tissue physiology. Anatomage Bodies demonstrate physiologic functions similar to living bodies, so you can accurately understand and visualize these functions. This state-of-the-art equipment will be available to all undergraduate students studying with the School of Medical and Health Sciences.

New 'one-stop shop' for patients and families in northern suburbs.

ECU recently opened the ECU Health Centre Yanchep, offering a one-stop shop for patients and families in Yanchep and the rapidly growing surrounding area. ECU is thrilled to offer more clinical training and research opportunities for our students and staff through this centre, contributing to the development of the future health workforce.



> Read more

Community Champions

Courses and careers where you'll take a strategic view of health-related issues in communities or workplaces.

Bachelor of Health Science

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 3 years

Location: Joondalup, South West, Online

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

Health Science is about enhancing the health of communities, including tackling health-related societal problems such as obesity, harmful alcohol and drug use and even dealing with a global pandemic.

At ECU, you'll develop skills to not only assess and monitor health situations, but you'll also learn intervention strategies so you can make a difference to the lives and health of others. And you'll gain valuable industry experience through a work placement in your final year.

You have a choice of one or more major subjects in this degree, so you'll learn specific skills in an area that interests you.

Career Opportunities

You'll be surprised how many diverse workplaces have career opportunities for our Health Science graduates. Depending on your chosen major(s), this includes aged care facilities and hospitals, rural and regional locations, asthma/diabetes/cancer/ injury prevention councils, heart foundations, family planning associations, alcohol and other drug agencies, mining, oil and gas industries, community development and local government organisations, disability services, justice and correctional agencies, research institutes, international aid organisations, and mental health support agencies.



See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/K97



Majors you can study



Addiction Studies *

Understand how to reduce the harm associated with excessive behaviour, with a focus on alcohol and other drug use.



Health Promotion

Promote health and wellbeing by influencing human behaviours, creating supportive communities, embedding health policies and designing health campaigns that address complex health and social inequities.



Nutrition ^

Apply science-based knowledge about nutrients and nutritional status throughout the life cycle. Explore community nutrition, food habits and trends and the relationship between nutrition and public health.



Nutrition Bioscience *^

Delve into understanding nutrition with a focus on human physiology and nutritional biochemistry, providing a pathway to postgraduate studies in dietetics.



Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety

Ensure local communities have safe and healthy food and water, and environments that promote positive health outcomes.



Occupational Safety and Health

Work with people to understand, promote, apply and ensure safety, health and welfare at work.

*Not available at ECU South West. ^Not available online.



"ECU's educators prioritise teaching us how to think critically and make independent decisions."

Jessie McLaren ECU Health Science student

Diploma of Environmental Health

Indicative ATAR: Not Applicable Minimum Duration: 1 year Location: Joondalup, South West, Online Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: All students will be required to attend a 200 hours practicum with Local Government Authorities, and State Government Agencies.

Overview

Want to join a profession that's fit for a pandemic? This course is ideal for starting a career in environmental health. You'll learn about population health, epidemiology, communicable disease control, health promotion planning and much more.

You'll graduate with the ability to think critically about prevention and control of communicable and environmental disease and other environmental health issues, and to plan and coordinate environmental health projects.

The course also includes an industry placement in an environmental health department.

After graduating, you can study the Bachelor of Health Science (Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety major) and receive 8 units of credit.

Career Opportunities

As a graduate, you'll be employable in State Government, Shire and City health departments in a support role to Environmental Health Officers.



See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/C54



Want to be a health professional with a difference?

If you care about the health and safety of people and communities, but don't see a medical career as your thing, you should explore the growing employment opportunities in environmental health. There's a serious and growing shortage of professionals in this field, especially in regional areas of Western Australia*.

*Source: **jobsandskills.gov.au** November 2024



Read more

Community Champions: Careers in Focus

Want a career where you get away from a desk and visit all kinds of workplaces?

Careers in focus

- Environmental Health Officer
- Occupational Health and Safety Manager
- Occupational Hygienist

Do you like the idea of helping people stay safe at work? Interested in problem solving? What about communicating with people, or delivering training?

If you answered yes to these questions, maybe you should explore a career in environmental health, occupational health and safety (OHS) or occupational hygiene.

What do environmental health officers do?

- Implement prevention programs and strategies for the control of communicable diseases, such as major outbreaks like coronavirus.
- Mitigate health risks associated with environmental disasters such as those caused by bushfire and floods.
- Ensure public safety during major events and in public places.

Where will you work?

Environmental health officers are appointed as authorised officers under various acts and regulations. They work in local, state and federal government health departments, as well as in the resources sector and many private organisations that handle large quantities of high-risk food, such as supermarket chains, airlines and hotel groups.

What do OHS officers do?

• Visit a workplace and talk to people about what they do. Analyse this information along with research about what could go wrong.

- Develop and communicate recommendations to the workforce and the management team to ensure they comply with laws and good practice.
- Investigate workplace incidents to find out what actually happened, and provide recommendations to prevent future incidents.

Where will you work?

Most occupational health and safety professionals work in government or in medium to large organisations, all over Australia.

In Western Australia, many of our occupational health and safety graduates work in the mining or oil and gas industries.

What do occupational hygienists do?

Occupational hygienists are usually more highly qualified than OHS professionals and investigate a range of chemical, physical and biological hazards.

Occupational hygienists:

- Collect and analyse samples to assess worker exposure to physical, chemical and biological agents.
- Evaluate the effectiveness of control strategies implemented to protect against workplace exposures and hazards, e.g. personal protective equipment, ventilation systems.
- Interpret the results of exposure evaluations and determine risk to human health, based on scientific research, and recommend ways to control workplace hazards through engineering methods, improved work procedures and protective equipment.

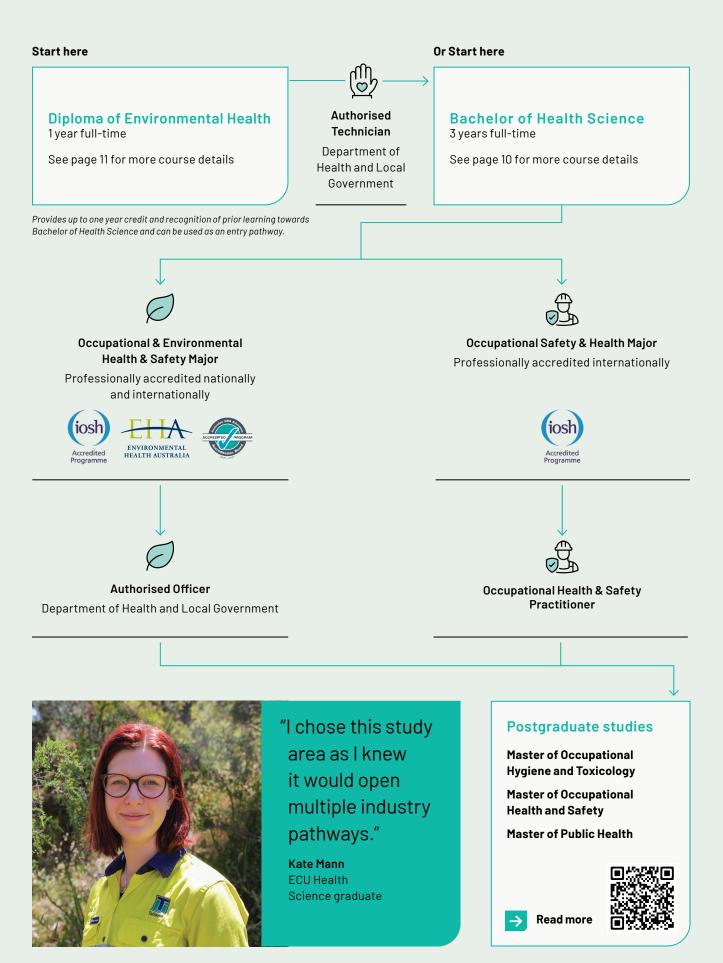
What does the future look like?

There is currently a shortage of Environmental Health Officers throughout regional Australia^{*}.

*Source: jobsandskills.gov.au, November 2024.

How do you get started?

ECU's Bachelor of Health Science course is a great starting point for a career in environmental health, occupational health and safety or occupational hygiene. There are different study pathways available to best suit your needs:



Community Champions: Careers in Focus

Are you interested in healthy eating and what's in the food we eat?

Careers in focus

- Health Promotion Officer
- Nutritionist
- Dietitian

Do you like the idea of helping people or communities to improve their health? Would you be comfortable communicating dietary and health information to lots of people?

If you answered yes to these questions, maybe you should explore a career in nutrition or dietetics.

What do nutritionists do?

- Provide evidence-based nutrition services related to public health nutrition, policy, research and community health.
- Plan diets and menus for groups and populations, calculate nutritional values of food served and help people understand how to plan and prepare food to improve health and wellbeing.
- Design, conduct and evaluate nutrition and population health intervention programs, and compile educational material.

What do dietitians do?

Dietitians can provide the same range of evidence-based nutrition services as nutritionists, but are also qualified to:

• Provide evidence-based nutrition services as well as individual dietary counselling, medical nutrition therapy and group dietary therapy.

- Work with other allied health professionals to manage the dietary and nutritional needs of individuals.
- Influence food providers and governments on foodrelated policies and practices that support health.

In order to be eligible to practise as a dietitian, you will need to complete postgraduate study after your Bachelor's degree.

What do health promotion professionals do?

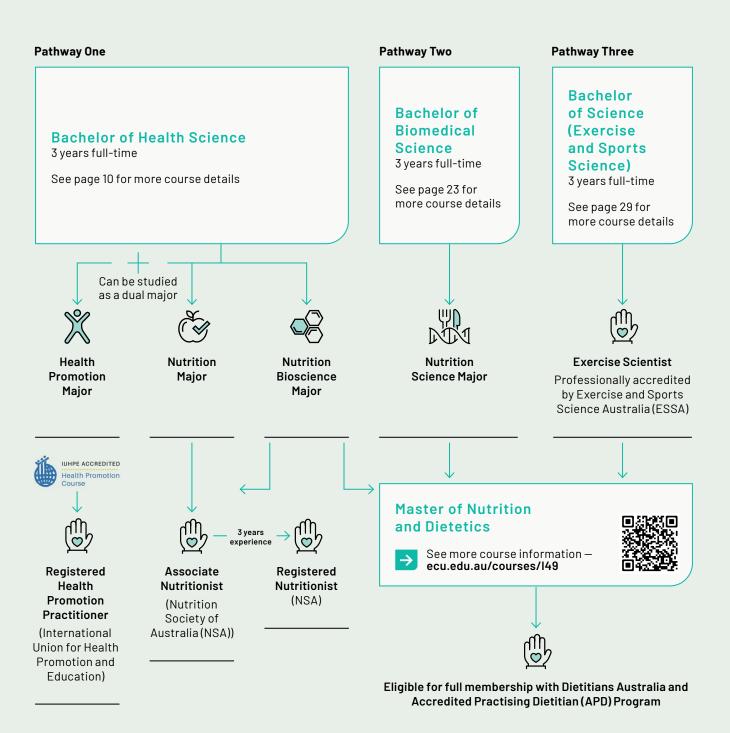
- Use creative and scientific methods to plan, implement and evaluate public health initiatives and campaigns.
- Engage with communities, schools, industries and government agencies to devise solutions to complex health and social issues.
- Design programs and policies that enhance quality of life, human rights and the health of the planet.
- Undertake research and surveillance to ensure health information is up-to-date, relevant and understood by at risk and vulnerable groups.

Where will you work?

Nutritionists, dietitians and health promotion professionals work in many regions across Australia, and in industries such as health care and social assistance, local government, hospitals, education and training.

How do you get started?

ECU offers different pathways to become a nutritionist, dietitian, or health promotion professional. To become an Accredited Practising Dietitian, you can apply to study for a Master's degree after you've finished your Bachelor's degree.





"There is so much support from ECU staff, and making connections with lecturers has provided me with a lot of opportunities."

Michaela De Paolis ECU Nutrition and Health Promotion student **Community Champions: Careers in Focus**

Want to make a difference for people experiencing addiction?

Careers in focus

• Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) Counsellor

Are you a good communicator, able to relate to all kinds of people? Are you empathetic, patient, and passionate about helping people turn their lives around?

If you answered yes to these questions, maybe you should consider a career that involves a qualification in Addiction Studies.

ECU's Addiction Studies major can be studied within the Bachelor of Health Science or the Bachelor of Psychology, allowing you to pursue a career in a diverse range of roles including as an Alcohol and Other Drugs (AOD) counsellor, a policy officer, a youth worker or as a psychologist.

What do AOD Counsellors do?

- Assess the clinical needs of people with AOD-related problems and their significant others.
- Develop shared care treatment plans to ensure client care is coordinated across other services with whom clients are engaged, providing referral where appropriate.
- Deliver evidence-based psychotherapeutic interventions to people with AOD-related problems and their significant others.

Where will you work?

AOD Counsellors work in a range of environments, including not-for-profit organisation and government funded AOD services that provide a range of services to clients including voluntary and court-mandated outpatient counselling services, group programs, residential rehabilitation, community development and healthcare services. They can also work with Corrective Services at courts and in prisons.

What does an AOD case manager for youth do?

- Assist young people to solve social, emotional and financial problems.
- Assess clients' needs and plans, develop and implement educational, training and support programs.
- Interview clients to assess the nature and extent of difficulties, and monitor and report on client progress.

Where will you work?

AOD clinicans who work with youth are employed in a diverse range of roles, such as with the education department, as local government youth officers, community development, mental health, accommodation, and youth arts.

What do psychologists do?

- Conduct and interpret assessments of cognitive, behavioural and emotional symptoms and formulate treatments.
- Develop, administer and evaluate individual and group treatment programs.
- Consult with other health professionals on details of cases and treatment plans.

Where will you work?

Psychologists work in a range of settings, including community services, community development, psychology services, counselling, government, defence, not-for-profit organisations, healthcare and correctional services.

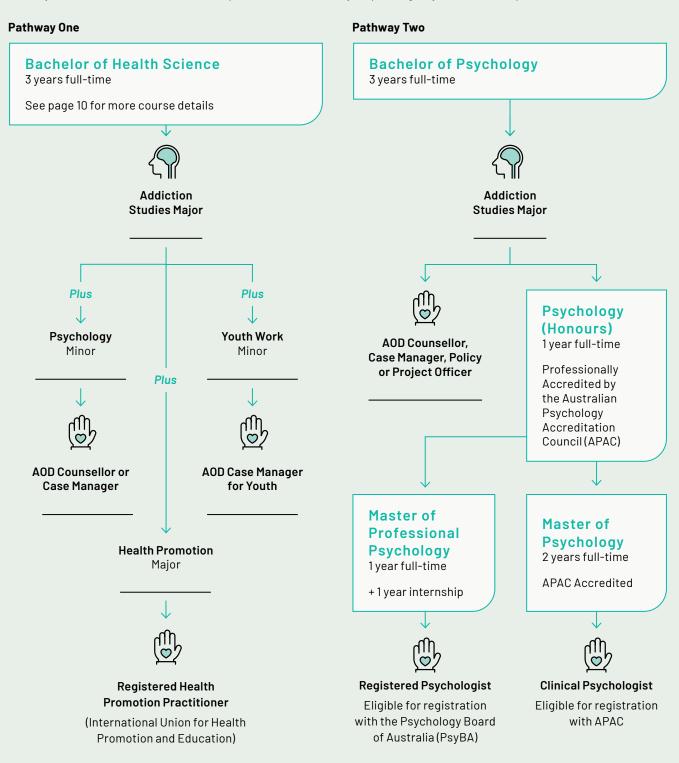
What does the future look like?

Demand for AOD counsellors, case managers and youth workers continues to be strong, with a shortage of AOD counsellors reported for WA.*

*Source: jobsandskills.gov.au, November 2024.

How do you get started?

There are two starting points to kick off a career that requires a background in Addiction Studies. And as you can see below, there are also options for further study, depending on your choice of specialisation.





"The relationships I formed throughout the course provided me with many opportunities."

Joe Panaia ECU Psychology and Addiction Studies graduate

One-to-one Therapists

Courses and careers where you'll learn how to work closely with individuals to improve their quality of life.



Bachelor of Science (Exercise Science and Rehabilitation)

Indicative ATAR: 80

Minimum Duration: 4 years

Location: Joondalup

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

Are you interested in using exercise to improve people's health, fitness and general well-being? In this degree for aspiring exercise physiologists, you'll gain knowledge, skills and experience in clinical exercise delivery, healthy lifestyle intervention and wellness programs for people living with chronic conditions, disabilities or injuries. And for healthy people too.

Career Opportunities

This degree leads to a career as an Exercise Physiologist. Exercise Physiologists help other people improve their lifestyle and recover from injuries and chronic conditions through exercise. More qualified professionals are expected to be needed as the population grows and ages, with employment opportunities in public and private hospitals, workplace health and rehabilitation, aged care facilities, sports organisations and more.

Professional Recognition

Exercise and Sports Science Australia (ESSA) has accredited this course. Graduating students will be eligible to apply for accreditation credentialing with ESSA. Please refer to the ESSA website for further information regarding the application process: www.essa.org.au

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See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/M90





Why you should consider a career in exercise physiology

Exercise physiologists are accredited professionals who prescribe and deliver exercise and lifestyle interventions to improve and maintain health and wellbeing. They are specialists in the use of exercise therapy for the management of people with acute and chronic complex medical conditions.

Read more



Bachelor of Science (Occupational Therapy)

Indicative ATAR: 80

Minimum Duration: 4 years

Location: Joondalup

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

If you're a good communicator and a creative thinker with an interest in science, Occupational Therapy might be the career for you.

Many of us take our independence for granted, comfortably performing all kinds of tasks and activities at home, school, work and in the community. But for someone with an injury, illness, disability or psychosocial issues, it can be a different story.

A qualified Occupational Therapist, or OT, can make all the difference. An OT helps people of all ages to develop, sustain, or restore participation in their day-to-day activities and improve their quality of life.

At ECU, you'll start your practical experience in your first year. Fieldwork placements continue throughout the 4 years, supervised and assessed by registered occupational therapists.

Career Opportunities

Australians are living longer, and our population is growing. So it's not surprising that occupational therapy is one of the fastest growing health professions in Australia. Graduates are in high demand across a wide range of employment sectors.

There is currently a shortage of Occupational Therapists in both WA and Australia wide. This profession is on the 2024 Occupation Shortage List published by Jobs and Skills Australia.

Source: jobsandskills.gov.au, November 2024

Professional Recognition

The World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) has approved this course. The Occupational Therapy Council of Australia Limited has accredited this course.





See more course information ecu.edu.au/courses/H96





"The Occupational Therapy educators are incrediblepassionate, supportive, and truly dedicated to helping students succeed."

Charlyn Legapsi ECU Occupational Therapy student

Bachelor of Speech Pathology

Indicative ATAR: 80

Minimum Duration: 4 years

Location: Joondalup

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

If you're passionate about communicating, and have an interest in science and thinking creatively, Speech Pathology might be a career for you.

Most of us take communication for granted, but for people with a disorder, it's a daily challenge. Thankfully, a trained Speech Pathologist can make a huge difference to the quality of someone's life.

Speech Pathologists provide diagnostic assessment and management of disorders of communication and swallowing for people of all ages, from babies to the elderly. They work with a wide range of problems like stuttering, voice problems, language disorders and physical and intellectual disabilities.

At ECU, you'll start your practical experience in your first year. And with our smaller student cohort, you can expect greater personal attention from our experienced lecturers.

Career Opportunities

Speech Pathologists are employed in child development centres, schools, hospitals, private practice, disability organisations, in the performing arts, and even in universities.

There is currently a shortage of Speech Pathologists in both WA and Australia wide. This profession is on the 2024 Occupation Shortage List published by Jobs and Skills Australia.

Source: jobsandskills.gov.au, November 2024

Professional Recognition

Speech Pathology Australia (SPA) has accredited this course.

See more course information -

ecu.edu.au/courses/Y02



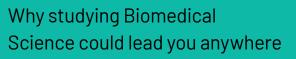


"Speech Pathology at ECU is set apart as the course provides work experience from the first year."

Jaimee Klaassen ECU Speech Pathology student

Medical Investigators

Courses for careers where your work on genetics, cells, organs and body systems improves human health and treatment of disease.



Biomedical science leads to diverse career paths, from groundbreaking research and healthcare innovation to pharmaceuticals and genetic therapies. The interdisciplinary nature of the course produces versatile and adaptable graduates prepared for diverse professional careers worldwide.

→ Read more





22 Healthcare

Bachelor of Biomedical Science

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 3 years

Location: Joondalup

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: Students will complete a minimum of 100 hours of unpaid placement outside of the timetabled class activities during their final year.

Overview

Biomedical scientists focus on genetics, cells, organs and body systems in the human body. Their work generates important knowledge in maintaining human health and preventing and treating disease.

In this course you will learn about the theory and hands-on practical application of genetics, anatomy, microbiology, pathophysiology, biochemistry, immunology and other topics. You'll also gain extensive practical experience in our cutting edge PC2 laboratories.

This course presents various career opportunities. If you know you want to pursue a career in healthcare but aren't sure what direction you want to go in, this course is structured to give you a taste of a range of subjects in your first year. This flexibility means you can design this course for the job you want by selecting from the diverse pathways our majors provide.

Career Opportunities

Biomedical science is a fast-developing dynamic field with diverse career opportunities, including specialised laboratory work, education, management and research. Our graduates work in a variety of roles, from genetic counsellors to leaders in medicine and research, locally and internationally. As a biomedical science graduate, you can progress to a Master of Medical and Health Science by Research and specialise in one of these fields: medical science, medical microbiology, genetics, haematology, histopathology, anthropology, cytology, human biology, immunology, medicine, nutrition science, biochemistry, data science, clinical chemistry or evolutionary medicine.

See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/K05



Majors you can study



Applied Chemistry

Develop your analytical and instrumentation skills and use diverse methods to investigate the chemical nature of all kinds of substances.



Data Science

Become an expert in statistics so you can analyse and visualise complex data sets from diverse sources, including biomedicine or business.



Forensic Science

Understand forensic investigations by developing a holistic approach that spans evidence collection, testing and analysis techniques, and even prosecution.



Human Biology

Learn about biomedical analyses of human health and disease, including traditional studies in genetics, anthropology, anatomy and physiology and evolution.



Human Genetics

Study the latest in genetics research and become highly skilled in molecular biology and genetics, including the emerging field of bioinformatics.



Medical Sciences

Study haematology, histology, biochemistry and microbiology while building your practical experience in our cutting-edge Superlabs.



Nutrition Science

Learn how to solve future nutrition-related health needs of the community. Study mechanisms and functions of the human body, focussing on the role of nutrition in health.

"The prac placement really helped me to determine the type of work I'd like to pursue after I graduate."

Emily Williams ECU Biomedical Science Student



Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Bioscience)

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 4 years

Location: Joondalup*

Study Mode: Full-time

Note: *The first two years are delivered by Edith Cowan University on the Joondalup Campus. The third year is delivered by the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom on-campus, and the fourth year is delivered by Edith Cowan University on-campus. Students will complete a minimum of 100 hours of unpaid placement outside of the timetabled class activities during their final year.

Your two degrees

- Bachelor of Biomedical Science (Bioscience)
- Bachelor of Science (Hons) Biomedical Science with Human Biosciences (University of Portsmouth)

Overview

At a glance, you might think this is the same course as the previous one. But this is one of our exciting international dual degree courses that provides you with an opportunity to gain valuable international experience while receiving two degrees.

In this course you will learn about the theory and hands-on practical application of genetics, anatomy, microbiology, pathophysiology, biochemistry, immunology and other topics.

Majors you can study in this course are the same as for the Bachelor of Biomedical Science. These are described on the previous page.

- Applied Chemistry
- Data Science
- Forensic Science
- Human Biology
- Human Genetics
- Medical Sciences
- Nutrition Science

Career Opportunities

Biomedical science is a fast-developing dynamic field with diverse career opportunities, including specialised laboratory work, education, management and research. Our graduates pursue careers in a variety of roles, from genetic counsellors to leaders in medicine and research, locally and internationally. As a biomedical science graduate, you can progress to a Master of Medical and Health Science by Research and specialise in one of these fields: medical science, medical microbiology, genetics, haematology, histopathology, anthropology, cytology, human biology, immunology, medicine, nutrition science, biochemistry, data science, clinical chemistry or evolutionary medicine.

Your year studying in the UK will introduce you to new networks and could open up international employment opportunities.

See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/T89





Bachelor of Preclinical Foundations of Imaging Science

Indicative ATAR: 80

Minimum Duration: 3 years

Location: Joondalup

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

Medical sonographers are in high demand. They are highly skilled medical imaging professionals who operate an ultrasound machine to perform diagnostic medical sonographic examinations. Could that be you?

Ultrasound has become the first line of investigation in a wide range of medical care situations. The use of sound waves instead of radiation or magnetic resonance, enables a less invasive investigation, and advances in technology and practice have seen sonography become increasingly relied on in many areas of medicine.

In this course, you'll acquire knowledge and skills in applied anatomy, physiology and pathophysiology, application and operation of ultrasound imaging systems, ultrasound image recognition and comprehension, patient assessment, and more.

Career Opportunities

Sonography can be used to examine many different parts of the body to help diagnose a range of medical conditions.

Medical sonographers play an important part in the first line of investigation in diagnosing many health conditions, using ultrasound technology. Qualified sonographers are also in high demand in Australia. Qualified sonographers can specialise in different areas, including:

- Obstetrics/Gynaecology assessment of pregnancy and the female reproductive system
- Musculoskeletal assessment of joints, muscles, tendons, ligaments and bones
- Vascular assessment of blood flow, particularly peripheral and abdominal blood vessels
- Paediatrics assessment of diseases of childhood and adolescence

There is currently a shortage of sonographers in both WA and Australia wide. This profession is on the 2024 Occupation Shortage List published by Jobs and Skills Australia.

Source: jobsandskills.gov.au, November 2024

Professional Recognition

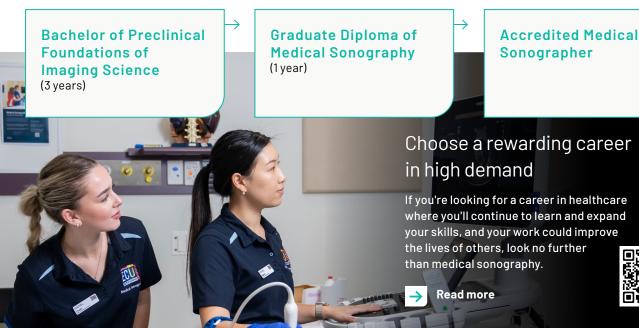
The Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry has recognised this course together with the Graduate Diploma of Medical Sonography.

Important: To become an accredited Medical Sonographer, you must complete a degree that is recognised by the Australian Sonographer Accreditation Registry (ASAR). ECU has obtained accreditation from ASAR for the Bachelor of Preclinical Foundations of Imaging Science and the Graduate Diploma of Medical Sonography courses, which, together, make up four years of study and include two consecutive years of clinical placements (minimum 3 days a week). The Graduate Diploma of Medical Sonography will commence in 2027.

See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/T78



Your pathway to becoming a medical sonographer



Emergency Responders

Critical thinking and clinical decision making in a life-and-death situation is not for everyone. Thankfully, we can rely on highly trained emergency professionals to not only respond to, but also manage emergencies or disasters. Will you answer the call?



"The paramedical science course at ECU has given me the clinical skills and confidence to handle any situation as an ambulance officer."

Johanna Stirling ECU Paramedical Science graduate

Bachelor of Science (Paramedical Science)

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 3 years

Location: Joondalup, Online

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: Students are required to attend skills workshops and clinical practicums outside of the standard timetable. Skills workshops require attendance at the Joondalup Campus, and clinical practicums require attendance at partner healthcare organisations in Western Australia.

Overview

A highly trained, clear-thinking professional paramedic regularly faces life and death situations as a first responder. It's unpredictable. It's demanding. And it's exciting. But is it for you?

Studying our Paramedicine degree will help you answer that question. Here, your studies will include many hours in work placement experiences with WA-based healthcare providers. And our realistic on-campus simulations will help you develop practical skills, like pre-hospital diagnostic techniques, that are critical in this profession.

Career Opportunities

This course will prepare you to practice high quality evidence-based paramedicine in a wide range of health and cultural settings either in Australia or overseas, and to lead Australian and international paramedicine development.

Your future job could be as a critical care paramedic, community paramedic, industrial paramedic, ambulance officer, intensive care paramedic or a retrieval paramedic.

Professional Recognition

You'll be taught by Australian Health Practitioner Regulation Agency (Ahpra) registered industry professionals with on-road experience, with many still actively working in the profession. They'll help you develop an understanding of professional and ethical practice, communication and safe practice within the public health, social, cultural and clinical paramedical science environments.

When you graduate, you can consider further specialisation across a range of postgraduate courses, including Critical Care Paramedicine and Community Paramedicine.



See more course information ecu.edu.au/courses/K89



Turbocharge your career by working in the US

ECU paramedicine students can leap into high-octane work experience and get exposure to international environments and a pathway to work in the US through our industry partnership with Acadian Ambulance.

Read more



Health and Performance Heroes

If you're interested in a career helping people improve their general health and fitness or to lift their sporting performance, these courses could be for you.



Bachelor of Science (Exercise and Sports Science)

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 3 years Anticipated Location: Joondalup, City (Sport Business major)

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

Are you interested in health, fitness and general well-being? If you like the idea of helping other people improve their lifestyle or sports performance through exercise, you should explore a career in Exercise Science.

This course will give you the skills to design, implement and evaluate programs targeted at improving general health and well-being, helping to prevent or reduce the impact of chronic disease and enhancing athletic performance.

You can study units for this degree on-campus with weekly lectures and laboratories and some units will also be available through a blended format that involves weekly online content, accompanied by timetabled, intensive on-campus laboratory/seminar/tutorial sessions twice per semester.

The course can also be your pathway to further study in areas such as clinical exercise physiology, education, dietetics and strength and conditioning coaching.

Career Opportunities

This degree will prepare you for a variety of professional roles – you could work with elite sportspeople, promote health in the community, work in corporate health, work in sports administration or coaching, become a PE teacher or a wide range of other exciting sporting, corporate or community environments.

Professional Recognition

Exercise and Sports Science Australia (ESSA) has accredited this course. Graduating students will be eligible to apply for accreditation credentialing with ESSA. Please refer to the ESSA website for further information regarding the application process: **www.essa.org.au**

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See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/M89



Majors you can study



Football Performance

Learn how to apply the exercise and sports science skills of coaching, performance analysis, player monitoring, leadership, injury management and athlete development to soccer and AFL.



Health Promotion

Learn to increase people's ability to make healthy choices and promote preventive health and wellness to reduce health inequality in the community.



Nutrition

Apply science-based knowledge about nutrients and nutritional status throughout the life cycle. Explore community nutrition, food habits and trends and the relationship between nutrition and public health.



Nutrition and Bioscience

Develop a strong foundation in the science of exercise and nutrition, including human anatomy and physiology and biochemistry, together with practical skills in assessment, design and implementation of exercise programs and general nutrition advice.



Occupational Safety and Health

Learn how to identify and investigate occupational hazards and risk management processes to ensure safer workplaces.



Sport Business

Learn about sports science, human resources, marketing, finance, sports law, event operations, public relations and more in preparation for a career or business in sport.

Bachelor of Science (Exercise and Sports Science)/ Bachelor of Commerce (Sport Business)

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 4 years Anticipated Location: Joondalup, City (Commerce component) Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: Students are required to complete a minimum of 110 practicum placement hours.

Overview

This double degree includes concurrent study in the disciplines of Exercise and Sports Science and Sport Business and is ideal if you're seeking a career in management positions within sporting industries.

You'll study the human body and focus on the application to exercise and sport including exercise physiology, exercise and sports psychology, biomechanics, motor learning and control and strength and conditioning.

You'll also be introduced to the sport industry and the application of key business principles and practices including accounting, marketing, business analytics, sport delivery systems, strategic and human resource management, funding and finance, legal aspects, sport venue and event management, and sport business planning.

Career Opportunities

The Sports Business degree equips you to function as a professional and industry leader in contemporary sport agencies and organisations, as well as managing your own sport business.

The Exercise & Sports Science degree equips you to specialise in the design, implementation and evaluation of programs spanning from improving general health and well-being to enhancing sport performance in elite athletes.

Potential career opportunities exist for managers within a range of global sport organisations and businesses, including professional sport organisations, national and state sport associations, high performance sports centres, health and wellness case management, private exercise, fitness, sport and rehabilitation franchise operations, personal training businesses, and elite and high performance sport organisations.



See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/W31





Bachelor of Science (International Exercise and Sports Science)

Indicative ATAR: 70

Minimum Duration: 4 years

Location: Joondalup*

Study Mode: Full-time, Part-time

Note: *The first two years are delivered by Edith Cowan University on the Joondalup Campus. The third year is delivered by the University of Portsmouth in the United Kingdom on-campus, and the fourth year is delivered by Edith Cowan University on-campus. This course includes a practicum component. Please see the course page on our website for further information.

Overview

If you're interested in health, fitness and general well-being, and like the idea of helping other people improve their lifestyle or sports performance through exercise, this international dual degree provides you with an opportunity to gain valuable international experience while receiving two degrees.

That's a Bachelor of Science (International Exercise and Sports Science) from ECU and a BSc (Hons) Sport, Health, and Exercise Sciences from the University of Portsmouth (UK).

You'll learn skills to design, implement and evaluate exercise programs targeted at improving general health and well-being, helping to prevent or reduce the impact of chronic disease and enhancing athletic performance.

The course can also be your pathway to further study in areas such as clinical exercise physiology, education, dietetics and strength and conditioning coaching.

Majors you can study in this course:

- Football Performance
- Health Promotion
- Nutrition
- Nutrition and Bioscience
- Occupational Safety and Health
- Sport Business*

If selecting this* major, note it is anticipated this will be delivered at ECU City.

See page 29 for a description of these majors.

Career Opportunities

Your degrees will prepare you for a variety of professional roles in specialty areas such as exercise science, sports administration, sports coaching, strength and conditioning, corporate fitness, workplace health, sports development and sports performance analysis plus the opportunity for further study in teaching, exercise physiology and dietetics.

And your year studying in the UK will introduce you to new networks and could open up international employment opportunities.

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See more course information – ecu.edu.au/courses/W97



Learn how a year studying in the UK could change your life.





2026 Careers Guide 3



Are you interested in health, fitness and general wellbeing?

Careers in focus

- Exercise Physiologist
- Exercise Scientist
- Sports Scientist
- Strength and Conditioning Coach

Do you like the idea of helping other people improve their lifestyle or sports performance through exercise? Are you a good communicator, able to relate to all kinds of people?

If you answered yes to these questions, maybe you should explore a career in Exercise Science. ECU offers courses which lead to accredited professions in the health and fitness and professional sports industries. For example, you could study to become an exercise scientist, sports scientist, exercise physiologist, or a strength and conditioning coach.

What do exercise scientists do?

- Assess, design and deliver exercise and physical activity programs.
- Use exercise to improve people's health and fitness, wellbeing or performance.
- Use exercise to prevent chronic health conditions.
- Promote and implement the adoption of physical activity and/or exercise with individuals, communities, and specific populations.

Where will you work?

Exercise scientists work worldwide in varied roles, including fitness, coaching, sport, community health, health promotion, corporate health, wellbeing, employment screening and aged care.

What do exercise physiologists do?

In addition to the roles undertaken by exercise scientists above, Accredited Exercise Physiologists (AEPs) are qualified to:

- Assess, plan and implement exercise programs for preventing and managing chronic diseases and injuries, such as cardiovascular disease, diabetes, osteoporosis, depression, cancer and arthritis.
- Assist in restoring optimal physical function, and health and wellness.
- Educate people in rehabilitation procedures, including home exercises and lifestyle changes, to enhance patients' health and wellbeing.

Where will you work?

AEPs work in varied settings, including public and private hospitals, multidisciplinary clinics, workplace health and rehabilitation, residential aged care facilities, sporting settings, government and education.

What does the future look like for exercise scientists and exercise physiologists?

More professionals will be needed in these fields to address Australia's growing and ageing population, to tackle trends such as the rise in obesity levels and the emergence of exercise as medicine for cancer patients.

What do strength and conditioning coaches do?

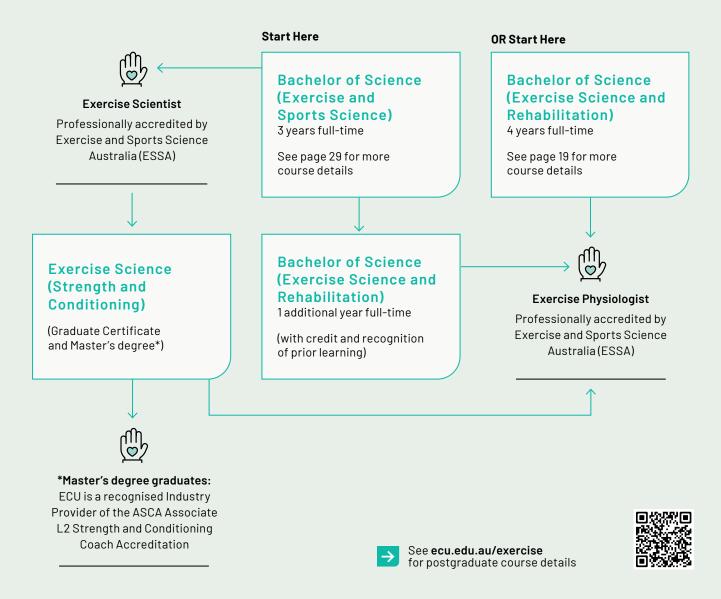
- Design and implement strength training and conditioning programs in-season, off-season, and pre-season for athletic programs.
- Work in cooperation with sports medicine or athletic training staff in the rehabilitation and strengthening of injured athletes.
- Develop systems for tracking athlete attendance and athlete progress in conjunction with the sport coaches.

Where will you work?

Strength and conditioning coaches are employed across Australia and throughout the world. This includes working in professional and amateur sports, as well as in workplaces with high physical demands, such as the military, police and fire and emergency services.

How do you get started?

There are two starting points to kick off a career in Exercise Science and, as you can see below, there are also options for further study, depending on your choice of specialisation.





"One of the things I loved through my studies at ECU was the support I received not only from the staff and lecturers but also from the students."

Joel Skinner

ECU Exercise Science and Rehabilitation graduate, Accredited Exercise Physiologist, Accredited Exercise Scientist, Team Leader, Absolute Balance



Postgraduate studies

When you first come to university you study an undergraduate degree, like the courses featured earlier in this guide.

Postgraduate courses are what you might choose to study after you graduate with a Bachelor of Science, for example.

There are different types of postgrad courses and different reasons why people study them.

Some, like Graduate Certificate courses, can be completed in a short time, allowing you to add to your existing skills in your field, or even help you change career direction with new skills.

If you think you'd like to explore your chosen field in greater depth, including some research, then a Master of Medical and Health Science by Research or a PhD are the postgraduate courses you would study.



ECU's School of Medical and Health Sciences offers a wide range of postgraduate courses, allowing current students to progress their qualifications, or enabling working healthcare professionals to add a specialisation to their skillset.

Postgraduate study is available in the following disciplines:

- Community Paramedicine and Critical Care Paramedicine
- Exercise Science (Strength and Conditioning)
- Nutrition and Dietetics
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Occupational Hygiene and Toxicology
- Public Health

If you are seeking professional development or would like a taster of study before committing to full postgraduate study, our short courses are also available throughout the year.







ECU is a leader in healthcare research in the following areas:

- Cancer and Oncology
- Neuroscience and Neurorehabilitation
- Cardiometabolic Health
- Sports Science and Exercise Medicine
- Nutrition and Dietetics

Discover more

- Population Health
- Occupational and Environmental Health



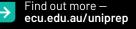
What pathway can you take?

If you don't have an ATAR, or you do but got a lower ATAR than expected, you still have pathway options into university courses.

For some of these pathways, you may need to have completed WACE or meet English competency requirements.

University Preparation pathway*

Our free UniPrep course is recommended for students who didn't get the ATAR result they were hoping for, or don't have an ATAR. This short enabling course is even available over the summer break, from November to January, in time to start uni in Semester 1.



Experience Based Entry pathway

This pathway allows school leavers and other applicants to be considered for entry to an undergraduate course by providing a portfolio of evidence that proves your ability to succeed in higher education.

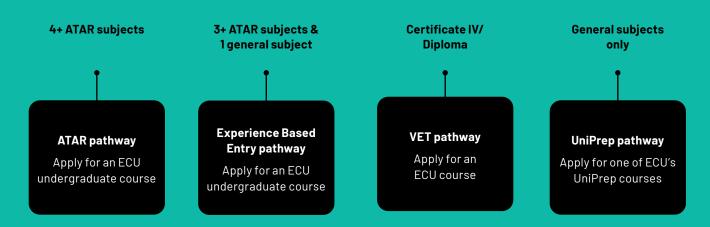
Find out more – ecu.edu.au/experience

VET pathway

If you've completed or started a VET course at a TAFE or another training organisation, this pathway is for you. A completed Cert IV or higher might make you eligible to go straight into an undergraduate course.

Find out more – ecu.edu.au/pathways

What are you studying this year?



Notes

- 1. All Year 12 students applying for ECU courses need to apply via TISC, meet English competency requirements and achieve WACE.
- 2. Depending on your current school, you may qualify for an adjustment to your ATAR (higher). Ask us about this.
- * This pathway also applies to Year 12 students completing a recognised university enabling program that leads straight into an undergraduate course.

How to apply

Application options can vary, depending upon your situation and your chosen pathway.

Australian universities have 4 standard categories that cover student applications. These are:

- Recent secondary education (typically most school leavers)
- Work and life experience (people who left secondary education 2+ years ago, haven't studied a VET course and have professional or work experience)
- Vocational education and training (VET) - includes TAFE students and other VET providers
- Higher education student (people who may have studied a higher ed course or completed a bridging or enabling course)

We won't try to explain these here, but we suggest you visit our Applying page and see which category is your best fit. The page also details your different entry requirements and options.

If you're ready to apply now, don't forget to have scanned copies of qualifications, your résumé or other required paperwork, ready to upload.

Find out more ecu.edu.au/apply

Become an ECU student in 6 steps

Choose your course

2

3

4

5

6

Consider having a back-up course in case you've applied for a popular course, and it's oversubscribed. You can apply for up to 3 courses at once.

Check course entry requirements Some courses have special admission or 'inherent' requirements so check these too.
Check the application date Don't miss the deadline for your chosen course(s).
Apply for a scholarship These are awarded to all kinds of people, not just high achievers. You can do this when you apply for a course.
Have your paperwork ready and go onlin You'll need scanned copies of other qualifications, your résumé or other required paperwork ready to upload.

Accept your offer

If you're successful, we'll send you an offer of a place. We hope you accept it and become an ECU student!



If you'd rather talk to us about applying for courses, we'd love to hear from you.

Call 134 328 or drop into your nearest ECU campus. online

It all started with Edith Cowan

The Edith Cowan story holds a special place not just at ECU, but in Australian history.

She influenced the course of education in Australia, paving the way for many people to access education they could previously only dream of.

It's why we didn't just take Edith's name. We embraced everything she stood for.

Before she became the first woman elected to an Australian Parliament, everyone told her it would be a tough nut to crack. So she celebrated by giving her fellow members a gumnut brooch, known today as the 'tough nut'.

We love this story so much, we've included the gum leaf as part of our new logo. It is our pledge to carry on her beliefs and continue to transform the way we learn.

Creative thinkers made here.



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Greening ECU

Edith Cowan University is committed to reducing the environmental impact associated with its operations by conducting its activities in a socially and environmentally responsible manner. This includes implementing strategies and technologies that minimise waste of resources and demonstrate environmentally sensitive development, innovation and continuous improvement.

Disclaimer

Every effort has been made to ensure that the information in this publication is correct at the time of production. The information is subject to change from time to time and the University requests the right to add, vary or discontinue courses and impose limitations on enrolment in any course. The publication constitutes an expression of interest and is not to be taken as a firm offer or understanding. This publication is intended for Australian citizens and permanent residents only. Some information contained in this publication may not be applicable to international students.

Creative thinkers made here.



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