Physiotherapists practice in many specialised areas:

**Cardiorespiratory**
Providing healthcare services to people with heart or lung problems, including people in intensive care and following surgery as well as maintenance of cardiovascular fitness.

**Gerontology**
Providing healthcare to older people, including maintaining fitness and maximizing physical ability.

**Musculoskeletal**
Healthcare delivery in sports physiotherapy, spinal physiotherapy, exercise prescription and rehabilitation following surgery.

**Neurology**
Healthcare services for people with neurological conditions such as stroke, spinal cord injury, Parkinson’s disease and multiple sclerosis.

**Paediatrics**
Provision of healthcare services to babies, children, adolescents and their families.

**Animal**
Treating animals with musculoskeletal problems.

**Aquatic**
Treating clients in water.

**Education**
Teaching undergraduate and graduate students of physiotherapy and related disciplines.

**Health and wellbeing**
Design, delivery and promotion of age-specific activities for individuals or groups to promote strength, fitness and wellness in the community and prevent functional decline.

**Management**
Managing healthcare facilities, allied health services and coordinating other aspects of the healthcare system.

**Occupational health**
Analysis of biomechanics in the workplace, strategic management of risks of injury in the workplace and healthcare services for injured workers.

**Women’s health**
Promoting the wellbeing of women across the lifespan, including before and after childbirth and strategies for management of incontinence.

**Research**
Advancing fundamental knowledge and healthcare practices.

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**Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours)**

The Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) (BPT(Hons)) is a four-year undergraduate course within the School of Primary and Allied Health Care, in the Faculty of Medicine, Nursing and Health Sciences. It is based at the Monash Peninsula campus.

Monash physiotherapy education is a fully integrated curriculum and includes interdisciplinary studies. Commencing semester one, the curriculum is structured around case-based learning.

Conditions for which people typically seek physiotherapy provide the context for integrating learning about biomedical and behavioural sciences and physiotherapy skills.

In the later years of the course, the focus moves from campus-based patient scenarios to learning in a clinical environment. This provides opportunities for students to appreciate the relevance of ongoing learning in the context of supervised healthcare delivery.

Monash physiotherapy education facilitates development of skills through small group learning. Other features of this degree are opportunities to experience rural healthcare delivery and Interprofessional Education (IPE). In IPE, students spend some time each semester learning and collaborating with students enrolled in other health science courses such as occupational therapy.

Monash physiotherapy promotes the skills required for clinical and community practice and includes education in health promotion and disease prevention, as well as traditional approaches to healthcare delivery. In recognition that this is a time of exponential growth in knowledge, the course aims to produce graduates with a flexible skill-set who are well equipped to continue learning and advancing their skills throughout their careers.

**Career opportunities**

A degree in physiotherapy prepares you for a range of career opportunities in metropolitan, rural and remote settings. Physiotherapists may work independently or as part of a team of healthcare professionals. They work in public and private hospitals, health centres, sports medicine clinics, maternity hospitals, rehabilitation centres, aged-care facilities and in private practices, as well as in health promotion, education, management and research.

**Course outline**

The Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) is a challenging course. Students can expect to spend significant time in self-directed learning that supports the course of study. Students will be expected to be fit to undertake the course by accepting responsibility to maintain their health and take adequate rest. Students are also expected to demonstrate respectful and responsible behaviour towards each other and staff from the time of entering the course.

Clinical education is compulsory. In the third- and fourth-years of study, the majority of time is spent in clinical education. Some flexibility may be required of students, both in terms of hours worked at clinics, and scheduling of clinical education.

Students may experience clinical education in a rural environment during the course. Students should take these matters into consideration when considering casual employment.
Course structure

Years one and two
During the early years of the course, education in the biomedical and behavioural sciences (anatomy, biomechanics, kinesiology, pathology, pharmacology, physiology, psychology, radiology), foundations of physiotherapy practice and research are provided on-campus in the context of a patient-centred approach to learning.

Years three and four
On-campus learning continues in the early weeks of year three. The focus then changes to learning in the clinical setting. Clinical education aims to develop knowledge and practical experience in the delivery of physiotherapy services under the supervision of experienced physiotherapists.

Clinical education
Students will undertake clinical education in the public and/or private sector in rural and/or metropolitan locations in both the Victorian and Tasmanian healthcare systems. During clinical placements, students will develop a range of professional skills under supervision in a variety of authentic settings. Placements within these workplace environments give students the opportunity to practice and refine the theory and skills learned in the classroom, and put them into meaningful context.

Course themes
The four-year physiotherapy curriculum incorporates five themes:

THEME 1
Personal and professional development
This theme focuses on the development of personal attributes and related skills that assist the student in the transition from student to physiotherapist. It includes verbal and written communication skills, ethics and legal issues.

THEME 2
Population, society and health
Theme 2 provides the structure to develop abilities in dealing with broader society and population health and is underpinned by an internationally accepted socio-ecological model of health.

THEME 3
Fundamental knowledge of health science
Theme 3 provides the knowledge and skills that underpin physiotherapy clinical practice. It includes basic biomedical sciences such as anatomy, physiology, pharmacology, pathology and psychology as well as clinical sciences.

THEME 4
Applied practice
Theme 4 develops clinical competencies integral to physiotherapy practice. It focuses on the incorporation of the best available research evidence with the clinical reasoning skills of assessment and care of patients within a range of environments.

THEME 5
Research
Theme 5 focuses on the knowledge and skills that are required to locate, interpret and critically evaluate research relevant to physiotherapy practice.
Admission process

The Monash Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) has a two-stage selection process: completion of pre-requisite subjects and ATAR or GPA.

Course prerequisites

Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) Units 3 and 4—a study score of at least 35 in English (EAL) or 30 in any other English, and a study score of at least 25 in any two of chemistry, biology, mathematical methods (CAS), physics or specialist mathematics.

International Baccalaureate (IB) – a score of at least 4 in English SL or 3 in English HL or 5 in English B SL or 4 in English B HL, and two of the following: a study score of at least 4 in biology SL or 3 in biology HL, or 4 in chemistry SL or 3 in chemistry HL, or 4 in mathematics SL or 3 in mathematics HL, or a 4 in physics SL or a 3 in physics HL.

Non-school leavers must also meet these requirements either at year 12 level or equivalent university studies. Successful completion of two semesters (semester one and two) of tertiary studies in the prerequisite VCE subjects at a recognised tertiary institution would be considered comparable to VCE success in those subjects.

Additional requirements for entry

Current year 12 and non-year 12 applicants

Domestic students apply through VTAC by the timely application deadline

Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

40 Park Street
South Melbourne
Victoria 3205
+61 3 1300 364 133
www.vtac.edu.au

Credit provision or recognition of prior learning

Applicants applying for advanced standing must clearly demonstrate to the selection committee that the content of their previous studies is at least equivalent to the Monash Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) course components for which they are seeking exemption.

Due to the integrated nature of the curriculum, it is unlikely recognition of prior learning will be approved.

Health requirements and police checks

Upon enrolment, students will be required to comply with the mandatory immunisation requirements, police and working with children checks in readiness for clinical placements. Failure to hold satisfactory checks may result in students being unable to complete their course.

Visit monash.edu/medicine/study/student-services/mandatory-compliance for details.

University-wide undergraduate admissions application procedure:
monash.edu/admissions

Physiotherapy domestic admissions application procedure:
monash.edu/study/courses/find-a-course/2019/physiotherapy-m3002

Physiotherapy international admissions application procedure:
monash.edu/study/courses/find-a-course/2019/physiotherapy-m3002?international

Credit provision or recognition of prior learning

Applicants applying for advanced standing must clearly demonstrate to the selection committee that the content of their previous studies is at least equivalent to the Monash Bachelor of Physiotherapy (Honours) course components for which they are seeking exemption.

Due to the integrated nature of the curriculum, it is unlikely recognition of prior learning will be approved.

Additional information

Prospective students are advised that there will be additional costs associated with the course for text books and course support material, uniforms for clinical attachments, travel, accommodation, living costs associated with rural clinical attachments, a Police Check and precautionary procedures (such as immunisations) that are required prior to commencing the course.

Unsolicited written or electronic information – for example, letters to the physiotherapy selection officer, will not be considered in the selection process and are strongly discouraged.

Students will be registered by the Physiotherapy Board of Australia during their period of study.

Further information

Physiotherapy

Telephone: 1800 MONASH (1800 666 274)
Submit an enquiry at:
register.monash.edu.au/enquiry
monash.edu/medicine/spahc/physio

facebook.com/monash-university
twitter.com/monash_FMNHS

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