

Doctoral Studies

Welcome to the Faculty of Health and Environmental Sciences Doctoral Programme, open to graduates from a variety of health professional disciplines.

Postgraduate studies within the Faculty provide an opportunity for graduates from a variety of health and professional backgrounds to advance their scholarly and clinical knowledge in an interprofessional learning environment. Programmes of learning are flexible and responsive to the changing needs within the health care and service sectors, wider New Zealand society and the international health environment.

The Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) and the Doctor of Health Science (DHSc) are the highest supervised degrees offered by the University. Applicants for admission to a doctoral degree are required to submit a brief research proposal with their application for admission.

Health Doctorate Programme

Doctor of Philosophy (PhD)

- Total points 360
- Programme code: AK3518

The degree of Doctor of Philosophy consists of a thesis. The thesis is a systematic exposition of a piece of independent research carried out over the period of enrolment. It makes an original contribution to knowledge or understanding in the field of study and

meets recognised international standards for such work. The thesis constitutes the entire body of work on which the qualification is judged.

Doctor of Health Science (DHSc)

- Total points 360
- Programme code: AK3664

The Doctor of Health Science will provide an especially tailored programme of high-level study and research to support candidate's ongoing professional development and education. Applicants have the chance to use multiple methodologies to contribute new knowledge, or the application of critical thinking to an existing health professional practice.

Applicants for the Doctor of Health Science must have no less than five years professional experience in the field to which their research relates.

The Doctor of Health Science comprises course work papers totalling 120 points and a thesis of 240 points. Candidates provide a full research proposal when nearing the end of coursework, before commencing the thesis paper.

Papers

698911 Practice and Philosophies

Examines the influence on the ever-changing world of health practice through a variety of philosophical approaches. Identifies issues, concerns, tensions, contradictions, strengths, weaknesses, ideas, possibilities of specific health

practice interest. Considers possible research question(s) and methodological preference.

698903 Health Systems Analysis

- Prerequisite paper 698911 or 698912
- 40 points

Critically analyses New Zealand's health reforms, policy developments, and health law in relation to professional practice and the possibilities afforded by local, community, national and international circumstances. Provides the opportunity for the student to take an active role in shaping the future health care system.

698912 Research Practice and Methodology

- Prerequisite paper 698911
- 40 points

Clarifies a research question focussing on an area of health practice. Identifies and develops a research approach appropriate to the identified research interest. Achieves congruence between methodology and method. Identifies pre-understandings influencing the study. Articulates the ethical issues. Acknowledges the limitations of the proposed plan. Defends the research proposal.

698913 Thesis in Health Science

- Prerequisites – all course work
- 240 points

Provides the opportunity to undertake a sustained piece of research and make a significant contribution to knowledge and understanding in an identified area of practice. Makes explicit the practitioner – researcher link that brings issues from practice to the scrutiny through the research process.

Duration

Three years full time / maximum six years part time

Application Closing Date

PhD – applications welcome at all times.

Doctor of Health Science

- For semester 1, 2011 applications close 1 January 2011
- For semester 2, 2011 applications close 1 June 2011

Intake commences February and July each year

Entry criteria for Doctoral degrees

Normal admission is a Masters degree with honours or a Bachelors degree with honours. The degree must have included advanced learning in research, a research project and a research report / thesis.

In addition, the DHSc applicant must have at least five years of professional experience in the discipline or field relevant to the proposed thesis topic.

For further assistance, please contact

Associate Professor Dr Marion Jones
Associate Dean Postgraduate
Postgraduate and Research Office
Faculty of Health & Environmental Sciences

Phone: (09) 921 9999 ext 7871
marion.jones@aut.ac.nz

Or visit:
<http://www.healthpostgraduate.aut.ac.nz>

The information in this brochure was correct when it was printed.
DOCTORAL_300_Nov10



Doctoral Studies

Opportunities for Health Professionals



0800 AUT UNI
www.authealth.ac.nz

HEALTH
Faculty of Health +
Environmental Sciences