



# **BACHELOR OF HEALTH SCIENCE AND MASTER OF HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT**

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FACULTY OF HEALTH SCIENCES  
SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH: DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

## **New professional qualification Exciting new double Bachelor-Master degree!**

From 2009, La Trobe University is offering a new Health Information Management professional qualification. This exciting new double-degree, comprising combined Bachelors and Masters degrees, is unique. It opens the door to a vast range of career opportunities in health.

This new double degree takes just four years (full-time). Graduates complete the equivalent of a three-year Bachelor degree plus a two-year Masters degree, compressed into four years of study.

- Fantastic career opportunities – immediate entry into management-level positions
- Lots (and lots) of jobs
- Great salaries

Graduates are professionally qualified to work as Health Information Managers throughout the health system.

Victoria (and Australia) is facing a huge shortage of Health Information Managers. Health Information Managers work in the 'business' and management side of health and their work is essential for the running of hospitals and other parts of the healthcare system. Alternatively, graduates also have the opportunity to major in Health Informatics (health IT) and work at the cutting edge of health information technologies. This is a great course for people who would like to make an important contribution in healthcare, but do not want to deal directly with the 'hands on' aspects of treatment.

This is an exciting and rewarding career with excellent salaries and opportunities for career development in hospitals and in all areas of the healthcare system including government health departments, health software development firms, pharmaceutical firms, and health research centres. As this is a new course including a high-level Masters degree, previous ENTER scores do not apply. The indicative ENTER in 2009 is expected to range between 75-95; thus interested students should apply, regardless of ENTER.

### **Course content**

In Year 1, students in the BHSc & MHIM double-degree study the Common First Year units, plus *Medical Terminology* as their elective. They then study 'profession-specific' units for the remaining three years, with a couple of additional 'common' units in Year 2. *The course structure is over the page.*

### **A practical focus**

This course prepares students for important work in the healthcare system. Classes are held at La Trobe's Bundoora campus and the course also has several components of practical, 'hands-on' clinical/professional placements in hospitals and healthcare facilities/centres. These placements are all arranged by the University and provide invaluable and exciting workforce preparation.

### **'Early Exit' as a Clinical Coder**

Students who do not wish to proceed to complete the Masters degree may leave with a profession-specific Bachelor of Health Sciences after successful completion of Years 1, 2 and 3; they are qualified as Clinical Coders and may find work in hospitals and healthcare facilities, where there is a massive shortage of qualified Clinical Coders.

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Course Structure: Year 1

Semester	Unit Code	Unit Title
1	HBS1HBA	Human Biosciences A
1	HLT1IPA	Interprofessional Practice A
1	HLT1PHW	Perspectives of Health and Well-being
1	PHE1IDH	Individual Determinants of Health and Well-being
2	HBS1HBB	Human Biosciences B
2	HLT1IPB	Interprofessional Practice B
2	PHE1SDH	Social Determinants of Health and Well-being
2	HIM1MED	Medical Terminology

Year 2

Semester	Unit Code	Unit Title
1	HIM2HMA	Health Information Management A
1	HIM2IHA	Principles of Health Informatics A
1	PHE2AHR	Applied Health Research
1	HIM2PPA	Professional Practice A
2	HIM3HMB	Health Information Management B
2	HIM3IHB	Principles of Health Informatics B
2	HIM3CCA	Health Classification and Clinical Coding A
2	HBS3PAP	Pathology and Pharmacology

Year 3

Semester	Unit Code	Unit Title
1	HIM4HMC	Health Information Management C
1	HIM4CCB	Health Classification and Clinical Coding B
1	HIM4IEL	Health Information Ethics and Law
1	HIM4AHA	Health Data Analysis A
2	HIM5PPB	Professional Practice B
2	HIM5HMD	Health Information Management D
2	HIM5IHC	Principles of Health Informatics C
2	HIM5AHB	Health Data Analysis B

Year 4

Semester	Unit Code	Unit Title
1	HIM5PPC	Professional Practice C
1	HIM5CCC	Health Classification and Clinical Coding C
1	HIM5IHD	Principles of Health Informatics D
2	HIM5HME	Health Information Management E
<i>plus</i>	<i>Three of*:</i>	
2	HIM5IHE HIM5CCD HIM5ALH PHE5RMH	Principles of Health Informatics E Health Classification and Clinical Coding D Action Learning Project in Health Information Management Research Methods in Health E <i>[from the School of Public Health]</i> **
		<u>OR</u> An approved elective unit from within the University **

\* Streaming: Students take three of the four elective units listed. The electives allow for streaming according to the student's preferred professional specialisation.

\*\* The final elective option enables students to take an approved elective either from within the School of Public Health or from outside the Health Sciences Faculty, consistent with their preferred specialisation.

### Honours

Academically high-achieving students may be invited to undertake Honours, which involves an additional six months of researching and writing on a Health Information Management-related research project.