



# Bachelor of Medicine/Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS)

UNDA Course Code 3342  
Unavailable for International Students  
2011

## INTRODUCTION

The University of Notre Dame Australia School of Medicine, Fremantle will, through a university education imbued with Catholic values of compassion, respect and service, graduate professionals who are knowledgeable, skilful, dutiful and ethical.

## IMPORTANT DATES

Mid-October 2009	Registrations for GAMSAT open
20 March 2010	GAMSAT test date
1 May 2010	The University of Notre Dame Australia Supplementary Information Form available
May 2010	GMAC Application Form available
Mid-May 2010	GAMSAT Results available
Early June 2010	Application Deadline GMAC and Notre Dame
28 - 30 Sept 2010	Interviews at Notre Dame, Fremantle

## COURSE OUTLINE

The Notre Dame course aims to produce graduates with a wide variety of medical skills who will be able to satisfy all expectations of the community for its doctors, including:

- Excellent communication skills with patients and their families
- The ability to work effectively with other health professionals
- The ability to act ethically for their patients' good, and the public good, and with the capacity to recognise conflict between these interests
- The ability to monitor their own performance and to improve continuously by ongoing educational and personal development

These aims are achieved through the admissions process and through the design and delivery of the course curriculum.

All students attending Notre Dame study Theology, Philosophy and Ethics. In medicine, these three core programs have been integrated carefully with the curriculum, and their principles interpreted with relevance to the demands of day to day medical practice in a multicultural society.

## COURSE STRUCTURE

The Notre Dame medical course is designed to equip students with the content knowledge and personal skills needed to be a successful medical practitioner. The problem solving and decision making skills of practitioners in a wide range of settings are used as part of the educational experience which will produce doctors uniquely equipped to deal with the full range of problems presenting to medical practitioners in modern society.

Medical practice may be an isolating experience in that many doctors practice alone or in small groups with little opportunity for discussion of professional or ethical issues. The curriculum at Notre Dame recognises this and focuses on developing group structures and communication methods to allow professional and personal support of its graduates to continue into their future career.

Students will gain sophisticated skills in locating and using professional resources that may be accessed quickly and effectively in the medical workplace. Availability of these resources to graduates will continue after graduation.

The Notre Dame School of Medicine, Fremantle utilises active learning strategies. The learning program is Problem Based Learning in the first two years and includes clinical skills, basic and clinical sciences, communication, empathy, ethics, therapeutics, medical informatics and partnerships with medical, nursing and paramedical peers.

In years 3 and 4 the students study different disciplines of medicine e.g. surgery, paediatrics etc. They complete 8-9 week discipline-based rotations usually in a hospital setting.

The Notre Dame School of Medicine, Fremantle utilises national and international referencing and benchmarking with other Australian Universities and professional bodies to ensure the highest quality of medical graduate.

## LOCATION

The first two years of the course are taught mainly at the University Campus in Fremantle. Medical students access the basic biomedical science expertise and laboratory facilities at the Bentley Campus of Curtin University of Technology. Clinical attachments take place at doctors' surgeries off-campus and some laboratory sessions are held at other universities in the Perth metropolitan area. The School of Medicine provides purpose-built facilities including a state of the art clinical skills laboratory.

During the second two years of the course, students attend clinical schools based in private hospitals, public hospitals and private medical practices in urban and rural locations. Some clinical rotations in Year 4 will be located in outer metropolitan and rural locations.

## MODE OF STUDY AND ASSESSMENT

The course is full-time. After selection into the course, no deferrals will be approved therefore application should be made in the year preceding the planned year of admission.

There are compulsory field trips to rural and remote locations. The first field trip is in Year 1 of the course. There is a one week rural trip in Year 2 and a four week rural placement in Year 4.

Twenty five percent of students in Year 3 will be offered a place in the Western Australian Rural Clinical School (RCSWA). RCSWA students will spend the entire academic year in a rural setting.

## ADMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Applicants must satisfy the requirements of both Notre Dame and GMAC (Graduate Medical Admissions Centre). It is important to note that there are two different application forms, both available in May.

The GMAC application form is available from ACER at [www.acer.edu.au/tests/university/gamsat/intro\\_gmac.html](http://www.acer.edu.au/tests/university/gamsat/intro_gmac.html)

Notre Dame's application material includes a Supplementary Information Form. Completion of this form is an essential component of the application process.

Each set of application documents must be completed and submitted by the published deadline, one to Notre Dame and the other to GMAC. Failure to submit either application form excludes an applicant from further consideration.

## SELECTION PROCESS

Candidates are selected for admission on the basis of:

- Personal qualities and motivation
- GAMSAT Score
- Grade Point Average (GPA)
- Interview

The following information is a guide to the requirements for admission:

### Application

- The GMAC application form must be submitted directly to GMAC.
- The Notre Dame Supplementary Information Form, Personal Statement and Curriculum Vitae are submitted directly to Notre Dame. The Personal Statement should outline the applicant's background and reasons for wishing to pursue a career in medicine and to train at Notre Dame.

### Grade Point Average (GPA)

- Completion of a prior bachelor's degree (usually within the last 10 years) is mandatory. The degree may be in any field of tertiary study, and is not restricted to health or science based degrees.
- There are no prerequisite subjects.
- The required Grade Point Average is set at 5.0 on a scale of 0-7 and is calculated by GMAC. The GPA is based on the final three full-time equivalent years of the most recent completed Bachelors degree (see the Australian Council for Education Research site at [www.acer.edu.au](http://www.acer.edu.au) for information on how this is calculated).

### Graduate Australian Medical Schools Admissions Test (GAMSAT)

- The GAMSAT was developed by the Australian Council for Education Research (ACER) in collaboration with medical schools. It is divided into three sections designed to assess certain aspects of knowledge and performance in the areas of humanities and social sciences, written communication, biological and physical sciences. Detailed information about GAMSAT is available on the ACER website at [www.acer.edu.au/tests/university/gamsat/intro\\_gamsat.html](http://www.acer.edu.au/tests/university/gamsat/intro_gamsat.html)
- Satisfactory performance in the GAMSAT, in line with the Graduate Medical Admissions Centre (GMAC) regulations, means achieving 50% or greater in each of the components and at least 50% overall, although exact scores required may vary slightly from year to year. A GAMSAT score may be used for two years following the test.

### Interview

- Interviews are granted to those applicants who have demonstrated high levels of achievement in the areas outlined above.
- The interview process gives each applicant the opportunity to demonstrate personal qualities including communication skills, empathy, motivation, and a range of other characteristics. Interviews are conducted by trained teams with representatives gathered from the general, academic and medical community.
- All interviewers have achieved accreditation of competence as interviewers after undertaking a course of detailed training, to ensure uniform standards in the evaluation of applicants. Interview teams are not provided with any personal information about the applicant.

## OTHER REQUIREMENTS

Students must also fulfill the following requirements by the commencement of their first semester of enrolment:

- Completion of a registered senior first aid course
- Evidence of full immunisation
- Provision of a current:
  - Working with Children card
  - Department of Health clearance card
  - National Police Clearance

The requirements above are mandated by the accredited host hospitals and exemption cannot be granted.

The School also requires students to complete its Fitness to Practise form.

## PLACES

In 2011 the School of Medicine Fremantle is expected to admit 100 students. These 100 places are currently available for Australian citizens/permanent residents and New Zealand citizens only and are divided up as follows:

- 72 Commonwealth Supported Places (CSP)
- 3 Medical Rural Bonded Scholarships (MRBS)
- 25 Bonded Medical Places (BMP)

**Please note that the admission requirements for CSP, MRBS and BMP students are exactly the same and selection for all 100 places is in order of ranked position at completion of the selection process.**

## CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Employment as an intern, and satisfactory performance in that year of employment, are required before medical registration is possible. Although the School of Medicine, Fremantle will ensure that students have performed at a level appropriate to compete for these positions, it is not possible to guarantee employment and registration after graduation. Employment of interns in Australia is decided by hospitals and is not influenced by the University where training took place.

## FURTHER INFORMATION

We welcome visitors to the University at any time. If you would like to view the University facilities or if you would like further information pertaining to admissions, fees or the University itself, please contact the Prospective Students Office on (08) 9433 0533 or at [future@nd.edu.au](mailto:future@nd.edu.au)

**There are no places available for International Students for the 2011 intake.**

Visit our website at [www.nd.edu.au](http://www.nd.edu.au)

### PROSPECTIVE STUDENTS OFFICE

For further information on The University of Notre Dame Australia, contact the Prospective Students Office  
Tel: (08) 9433 0533 FREECALL: 1800 640 500 Fax: (08) 9433 0544  
E-mail: [future@nd.edu.au](mailto:future@nd.edu.au) Internet: [www.nd.edu.au](http://www.nd.edu.au)  
19 Mouat Street (PO Box 1225), Fremantle Western Australia 6959

### ADMISSIONS OFFICE

For further information on the admissions process at The University of Notre Dame Australia, contact the Admissions Office  
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