

# Southern Cross University

## health & human sciences



- Psychological Science ■ Nursing ■ Midwifery
- Clinical Sciences - Osteopathy, Naturopathy, Human Nutrition
- Occupational Therapy

## Bachelor of Psychological Science

### About this course

The Bachelor of Psychological Science provides the first three years (full-time or part-time equivalent) of study and training required to prepare graduates for employment as psychologists in professional practice and in research careers. The course focuses on providing a thorough knowledge of the theoretical basis of psychological science and prepares students to conduct an independent research project. Upon completion of the degree, eligible students may undertake a fourth year of study by enrolling in the Bachelor of Psychological Science with Honours or the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology. Completion of this fourth year of study is the minimal educational qualification for conditional registration as a psychologist in NSW.

The course strikes a balance between research, theory and application to provide relevant skills which are highly sought after by employers in the public and private sectors. Relevant Indigenous material is integrated into the curriculum to ensure graduates have a strong capacity for action in a regional and rural context.

### Career opportunities

The course aims to equip graduates with deep analysis skills regarding human, organisational or community-wide problems; competency in the design of research and interpretation of research findings; and a comprehensive understanding of statistical methods. Graduates of this course are highly suitable for employment within various government departments, particularly those connected with health, social and disability services, youth service, corrective services, the armed services, research agencies such as the CSIRO, and education. Private industry is also a large employer of psychologists in management, human resources and specialised consultancy services.

**Jobs might include:** (following completion of an Honours year) a psychologist with various government departments, particularly those connected with health, social and disability services, research agencies, and education.

### Professional recognition

Completion of the Bachelor of Psychological Science degree plus completion of the Bachelor of Psychological Science with Honours or the Postgraduate Diploma of Psychology meets the requirements for conditional registration with the NSW Psychologists Registration Board. Both of these degrees are accredited by the Australian Psychology Accreditation Council.

### Major areas of study

The structure moves from basic theory to application, with a strong emphasis on the Scientist Practitioner model. Some second and third year units involve applied skills (e.g. assessment techniques, behaviour change) or an introduction to applied topics (e.g. health psychology) while others emphasise areas in experimental psychology, statistics and research methods.

### Equipment and facilities

Psychology students are fully engaged in learning facilities which include research laboratories, psychology computer laboratory, and a test library. Students have access to University computer laboratories for individual study purposes. All enrolled students in Australia have borrowing rights to the University's considerable library collection and access to full text journals.

## Bachelor of Nursing

### About this course

Southern Cross University's nursing degree provides a combination of coursework and clinical experiences to prepare graduates for a career in the health sector. Clinical experience is gained at government and private hospitals and health agencies.

### Career opportunities

A range of clinical areas in the public and private health sectors including surgical theatres, paediatrics, community health and education, renal dialysis, as practice nurse in GP clinics, and in mental health.

**Jobs might include:** registered nurse in a range of clinical areas in the public and private health sectors including surgical theatres, paediatrics, community health and education, primary care, renal dialysis, child care, aged care, Indigenous health, remote area health, and mental health.

### Professional recognition

The degree is accredited by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia and provides the necessary qualification for graduates to be eligible to become a Registered Nurse within the Australian health sector.

### Professional placement

Nursing students undertake clinical placements throughout the course in settings relevant to the areas of study, including hospitals and health agencies throughout NSW and South Eastern Queensland.

### Major areas of study

Clinical experience at hospitals and health agencies provides students with hands-on practical experience in a variety of areas including:

- Community Health
- Surgical
- Aged Care
- Mental Health
- Medical
- Indigenous Health
- Child Health

### Equipment and facilities

Nursing students at the Lismore and Coffs Harbour campuses and at Tweed Heads Lakeside have access to clinical and science laboratories. Students have access to University computer laboratories for individual study purposes, and receive assistance from a designated student support team.

## Bachelor of Midwifery

### About this course

The Bachelor of Midwifery is specifically designed to develop graduates for entry to professional midwifery practice. The course prepares graduates with skills, knowledge and attitudes to provide high quality woman-centred care through safe and effective midwifery practice in accordance with the Australian Nursing and Midwifery Council National Competency Standards for the Midwife. Graduates will be equipped to apply sound evidence-based reasoning skills to their midwifery practice; work in continuity of care models in partnership with women; and collaborate effectively in multidisciplinary teams to promote effective outcomes.

The degree aims to produce graduates with the capability, confidence and flexibility to adapt to changes and contribute to innovation in the midwifery profession and the health care system,

focusing on women and their needs through a primary health approach.

### Career opportunities

Registered midwives may practise midwifery in various capacities in public and private hospital and community maternity and neonatal health care settings in urban, rural and remote areas, as practising midwives, group practice midwives, clinical midwifery consultants, midwifery educators, midwifery unit managers, community midwives, and researchers.

**Jobs might include:** registered midwife in public and private hospitals, community maternity and neonatal health care settings, midwifery consultant, midwifery educator, midwifery researcher.

### Professional recognition

The Bachelor of Midwifery is approved by the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia. The aim of this degree is to produce graduates who possess the knowledge, competencies and clinical/community experience required to meet the Nursing and Midwifery Board of Australia's registration requirements to practice as midwives in Australia.

### Professional placement

Students will be required to undertake supervised placements that will enable them to focus on woman-centred care and provide continuity of care with women across their pregnancies; attend antenatal and postnatal assessments/visits with women; provide direct care to women during labour, assist women during birth; support women and their babies with diverse needs across pregnancy, labour and birth and the postnatal period, and experience the full scope of midwifery practice.

### Major areas of study

- Midwifery Theory and Practice
- Anatomy and Physiology
- Women's Health
- Psychosocial Sciences
- Primary Health Care

### Equipment and facilities

On-campus clinical facilities, fully equipped electronic resources, medical technology, motion analysis laboratories, anatomy laboratories.

## Bachelor of Clinical Sciences

### About this course

This broad-reaching degree is a springboard to a career in a diverse range of health science fields. It enables students to develop an understanding not only of health and wellbeing, but also an appreciation of those factors leading to ill-health and disease.

The course allows students to tailor their study program to meet their specific needs and interests, including those wishing to pursue a career in osteopathy, psychology, naturopathy and human nutrition.

The Bachelor of Clinical Sciences also provides a potential pathway into graduate entry medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, dietetics and physiotherapy.

In particular, Southern Cross University has an agreement with Sydney University to set aside a limited number of postgraduate places at the University of Sydney for achieving SCU graduates who are Indigenous or of rural origin (being of rural origin is defined as having lived in a rural area for at least five years - consecutive

or cumulative - from the commencement of primary school). Up to 10 places in medicine, up to four places in dentistry and up to five places in pharmacy will be set aside annually for SCU graduates who meet the entry requirements which include specific academic criteria.

### Career opportunities

This course provides a pathway into graduate entry osteopathy, psychology and dietetics and a potential articulation into physiotherapy, medicine, dentistry, pharmacy and naturopathy. It also prepares students for a variety of career directions in the health and education sectors, including at medical centres, health centres, pharmacies, resorts and retreats, in research, as natural health or nutrition consultants to the industry sector and within the media.

**Jobs might include:** allied health professional in a health centre, resort, retreat, hospital, medical centre or health clinic; natural health and medicine consultant in a pharmacy, natural foods outlet, workplace clinic, or in government, business or private industry; health writer; health researcher.

### Professional placement

Students of the osteopathic or naturopathic study stream have the opportunity to undertake a supervised professional placement.

### Professional recognition

The Bachelor of Clinical Sciences provides the foundation to enter a career in industry or private enterprise, or to progress to further postgraduate study in specific fields such as naturopathy, osteopathy, medicine, dentistry, pharmacology, psychology, dietetics and physiotherapy.

Students who wish to become naturopaths must do the three-year Bachelor of Clinical Sciences with a double major in Complementary Medicine and Naturopathic Studies. Graduates of this program need to complete further clinical training in order to be able to work in private practice.

For the Master of Osteopathic Medicine (for which the Bachelor of Clinical Sciences is a prerequisite) it is anticipated that the degree will have been accredited by the Osteopathy Registration Board of Australia in late 2011, allowing graduates in every state and territory of Australia to register as an osteopath. Reciprocal registration in New Zealand may also be available.

The Human Nutrition major offers students the underpinning knowledge to work as nutritionists as well as the potential to further their qualifications through postgraduate nutrition/dietetics studies. Graduates of this major may work as nutritional advisers. They will be eligible to apply for membership of both the Dietitians Association of Australia (as associate members) and the Nutrition Society of Australia.

The psychology major has Australian Psychology Accreditation Council (APAC) accreditation for entrance into postgraduate training.

### Major areas of study

- Osteopathic Studies (only available as a double major with Human Structure & Function)
- Naturopathic Studies (only available as a double major with Complementary Medicine)
- Ecosystem Management (only available as a double major with Human Nutrition)
- Human Structure & Function
- Complementary Medicine
- Psychology
- Human Nutrition

The degree can also be completed without a major, providing the option to pursue a general study program where students can choose units from a wide range of options.

### Equipment and facilities

Facilities include up-to-date clinical and science laboratories. The Lismore campus also has a fully operational clinic for clinical osteopathy student training and a modern wet-lab. The modern SCU Health Clinic assists students to gain professional experience under supervision treating members of the public, staff and students.

## Bachelor of Occupational Therapy

### About this course

This program aims to develop an understanding of the theoretical and practical components of occupational therapy, with a focus on both generalist and specialist knowledge and skills. The course is taught by dedicated professionals, both academic and clinical, who have a wide range of work experience.

Southern Cross University's Occupational Therapy degree provides a combination of both coursework and clinical experiences to prepare students to commence employment in the health and human services sectors. Teaching facilities comprise computer assisted technologies, simulation and clinical laboratories. Clinical experience is gained at hospitals, community and health agencies both in Queensland and NSW, providing students with hands-on experience in a variety of areas.

The degree is taught at SCU's Lakeside campus in Caloola Street, Tweed Heads. Some elements of the human anatomy unit in first year utilise new, specialised laboratories located at the School of Health and Human Sciences in Lismore, with transport provided by the University.

### Career opportunities

Occupational therapists provide services to people whose ability to cope with everyday life is impaired by developmental deficits, the ageing process, physical injury, psychological or social disability or disadvantage.

An occupational therapist works with clients to identify problem areas, assess a client's abilities, interests and lifestyle, and then to plan appropriate treatment. Clients may be individuals or groups of people whose functional abilities are affected or at risk of limitation.

Treatment may include providing activities to encourage development of physical and perceptual abilities; recommending equipment and/or environmental modifications to help individuals become more efficient and independent with daily activities; counselling; and group work to develop skills when psychological or social problems are interfering with function.

**Jobs might include:** being an occupational therapist in public and private hospitals, medical rehabilitation units, community health settings, community home care services, aged care facilities, mental health clinics, hostels and hospitals, tertiary education centres, independent living centres, schools, pharmacies, industry and in private practice.

### Professional recognition

Occupational Therapy Australia (OT AUSTRALIA) is responsible for monitoring standards of ethical behaviour for occupational therapists who are members of the Association. The OT AUSTRALIA Code of Ethics promotes excellence in occupational therapy practice. Southern Cross University's Bachelor of Occupational Therapy was developed in consultation with OT AUSTRALIA, to ensure it meets accreditation standards of both

the World Federation of Occupational Therapists (WFOT) and OT AUSTRALIA. The course has interim accreditation and will apply for full accreditation in 2012. This is the usual process for the accreditation of occupational therapy programs in Australia. Graduates of accredited programs are eligible for membership of OT AUSTRALIA and national registration. National registration for occupational therapists will be introduced in July 2012.

### Professional placement

Students gain clinical experience in all four years of the course in a range of settings that may include aged care, hospitals, community health, mental health services, schools, industrial environments, private practice and other agencies where they are supported by clinical educators and supervisors.

### Major areas of study

In order to meet the Australian Competency Standards for Entry-Level Occupational Therapists this program is structured in accordance with professional body recommendations. All students complete units in the following areas:

- Professional areas: Occupational therapy theory and practice; occupational therapy related to body structure and function; occupational therapy related to activities and participation; lifespan development and occupational transitions; evaluation of occupational therapy programs; health promotion; and professional experience/fieldwork.
- Social Sciences: Psychology and sociology for health sciences, Australian health care system, indigenous studies, research methods, and complementary medicine.
- Biological Sciences: Anatomy, physiology, kinesiology, and neuroscience.

### Equipment and facilities

Facilities include access to up-to-date laboratories and teaching areas (e.g. activities of daily living laboratory, splinting facilities, interview areas and anatomy wet-lab). A fully equipped computer lab is also available.





Mark Weaver, Registered Nurse, John Flynn Private Hospital, Gold Coast  
Bachelor of Nursing, 2010

*As a Registered Nurse (RN) my role covers being involved with a team of nurses, doctors and allied health professionals who all work together to try and get the best outcomes for our patients. I love nursing – it is such an exciting career with many different specialties and avenues that can be explored.*

*I found my studies prepared me very well for my work role. The course content was extremely useful and relevant. The different practicum placements gave me a great insight into many different areas of nursing.*

Degree	ATAR/OP	Locations	Delivery mode	Duration
B Psychological Science	73/12	CH	OC	3F/6P
B Nursing	68/15	TH-L, L, CH	OC	3F/6P
B Midwifery	84/10	TH-L	OC	3F/6P**
B Clinical Sciences ( <i>naturopathy, nutrition, osteopathy, complementary medicine, human structure &amp; function, ecosystem management, psychology</i> )	68/15	L	OC	3F/6P
B Occupational Therapy	72/12	TH-L	OC	4F/8P

\*\* Students will be required to study in all three sessions to complete this course within the duration indicated.

L: Lismore CH: Coffs Harbour GC: Gold Coast (Bilinga, Qld) TH-R: Tweed Heads - Riverside, (Brett Street, Tweed Heads)  
TH-L: Tweed Heads - Lakeside, (Caloola Drive, Tweed Heads)

OC = On-campus DE = Distance Education MM = Mixed Mode F = Full-time P = Part-time N/A = Not Applicable

## How to Apply

For full details go to

[scu.edu.au/howtoapply](http://scu.edu.au/howtoapply)

If you are planning to study on-campus, either as a full-time or part-time student, you will need to apply online through either the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) or Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC). Either can process your application. If you are planning to study by distance education you must apply direct to the University.

Contact details for UAC:

[uac.edu.au](http://uac.edu.au)

Phone: 02 9752 0200

Contact details for QTAC:

[qtac.edu.au](http://qtac.edu.au)

Phone: 07 3858 1222

**Tip:** When applying through UAC or QTAC, first list the courses that interest you, in your preferred order. Then list your second choices – courses you'd be prepared to study if you missed out on your first choices, and which might assist you to get into one of your first choice courses later on.

Applications to begin Session 1 studies via UAC or QTAC generally need to be lodged by the last working day in September of the previous year, as applications after that date will incur a late fee.

### Applying to study by distance education

If you are planning to study by distance education, you can apply direct to Southern Cross University via the Direct Application for Admission form.

Download it from:

[scu.edu.au/howtoapply](http://scu.edu.au/howtoapply)

or email: [enquiry@scu.edu.au](mailto:enquiry@scu.edu.au)

Freecall: 1800 626 481

More information regarding closing dates can be obtained by calling Southern Cross University's closing date hotline on 1800 555 405.

International students sitting for a current Australian Year 12 examination should apply through UAC or QTAC.

All other international applicants should apply direct to our International Office.

Phone: 02 6620 3876

[scu.edu.au/international](http://scu.edu.au/international)

## Key Dates

### Teaching calendar

Southern Cross University has a teaching calendar of three equal sessions. Depending on the course of study, this enables some students to spread their study load, or to accelerate and complete their degree in less time than the usual duration.

The teaching calendar is available at

[scu.edu.au/teachingcalendar](http://scu.edu.au/teachingcalendar)

## Contact

### School of Health and Human Sciences

email: [healthscience@scu.edu.au](mailto:healthscience@scu.edu.au)

phone: 02 6626 9585 or 1800 626 481

[scu.edu.au/healthscience](http://scu.edu.au/healthscience)

## 2012 important dates

UAC & QTAC applications for 2012 entry (Session 1) close* <a href="http://uac.edu.au">uac.edu.au</a> <a href="http://qtac.edu.au">qtac.edu.au</a>	30 September 2011
SCHOLARSHIP applications for 2012 close* <a href="http://scu.edu.au/scholarships">scu.edu.au/scholarships</a>	30 September 2011
Session 1 teaching dates	20 February - 2 June 2012
Orientation	Feb 15, 16 and 17
UAC & QTAC applications for 2012 entry (Session 2) close*	June 2012
Session 2 teaching dates	18 June - 29 September 2012
Orientation	June 13, 14 and 15
QTAC applications for 2012 entry (Session 3) close* (entry via UAC not available)	September 2012
Session 3 teaching dates	15 October 2012 - 2 February 2013
Orientation	October 10, 11 and 12
For the most up-to-date enrolment information, including enrolment by direct application to the University, please visit: <a href="http://scu.edu.au/howtoapply">scu.edu.au/howtoapply</a>	

\*QTAC, UAC and scholarship application dates are subject to change. Please refer to their websites.

[scu.edu.au](http://scu.edu.au)

*This brochure is a guide to Southern Cross University and the undergraduate studies offered by the University. The information set out in this brochure is an expression of intent only and should not be taken as a firm offer or undertaking.*

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