

# The Good Universities Guide 2018

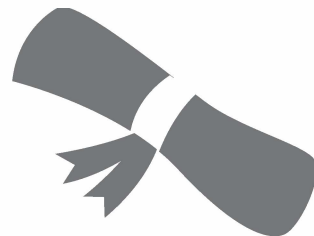
## REHABILITATION

This is a detailed profile of the rehabilitation field of study. It lists the range of specialisations available and compares degree-level courses. We examine the institutions that get the best ratings, based on real student experience and graduate outcome data, which will help you decide the right university for your educational journey.



# HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR DEGREE

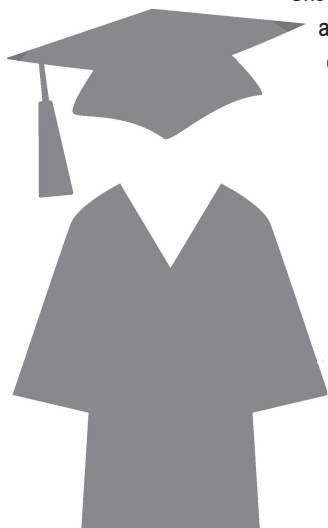
Every degree is a unique mix of many different ingredients — from the subjects covered to the career it leads to — and choosing the right course requires a lot of research. Once you have worked out the field in which you want to study, there are many factors to consider when you are weighing up courses and institutions.



- The first step to success is to ensure you will be studying subjects you are interested in and that lead to the career you want. Some courses require all students to complete the same 'core' subjects to meet industry requirements and don't allow a lot of room to choose electives or explore different subject areas. Others give you the freedom to choose a broad range of electives and graduate with a specialisation or major.
- Each course has a very different intellectual style, so make sure that it is suited to you. Some courses are mainly quantitative, while others are verbal or language-based. Some are conceptual and encourage you to express your own ideas through writing, while others require you to apply what you learn practically.
- A typical bachelor degree can be completed in around three years. Some degrees may require five or six years of full-time study plus an internship period to gain full accreditation. Double degrees and part-time programs will also take longer to complete.
- When choosing a course, you need to be sure that you will meet the entry requirements or investigate whether alternative entry is available. Some courses rely more heavily upon the submission of a portfolio, an interview or an audition.
- Some courses lock you into an occupation. Others are much broader in their scope. If you are sure about your future career, you might opt for a specialised vocational option that allows you to immerse yourself in your field. If you're not 100 per cent certain about what the future holds, you could enter a generalist degree that will give you room to explore.
- Different programs teach very different things — even courses in the same field may be taught differently at separate institutions. The university you choose should concentrate on topics you are interested in or that are professionally relevant.

# HOW TO CHOOSE YOUR TERTIARY PROVIDER

Choosing where to study is about more than how close the campus is to your home and whether it offers a course you like. These are important factors, but you should also consider the following points as you conduct your research:



- Public institutions, which includes most Australian universities, are funded by the government. Private institutions are independent and usually rely on full tuition fees to subsidise student places. While universities offer a range of fields, private education providers often focus on a particular discipline or provide a specialised campus environment.
- Would you prefer an intimate regional environment or a buzzing metropolitan one? Every institution has a different atmosphere, so be sure to take the time to visit before applying. Institutions differ in terms of the range of services and facilities on offer, such as sporting options and academic support, often depend on the university's size and location.
- Are most students studying on or off campus? Are there more school leavers or mature-age students? Does the student body contain a lot of international students to add to the cultural diversity? You may find that each institution offers different study modes for your course, such as part-time or distance options, which will shape your university experience.

# REHABILITATION

## WHAT YOU'RE IN FOR...

Rehabilitation courses prepare you for occupations that include fields such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology. Graduates in this field can work in a broad range of settings in both public and private healthcare.

### MEDIAN GRADUATE SALARY

**\$58,000**

**UNDERGRADUATE**

**\$63,900**

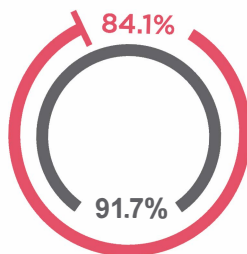
**POSTGRADUATE**



### FULL-TIME EMPLOYMENT

**undergraduate** **postgraduate**

Proportion of students who have secured a full-time job within four months of graduating



## WHAT CAN I DO?



Exercise  
Physiology



Disability  
Care



Personal Training



Health Care



Rehabilitation



Health  
Counselling

## COMPARE



Decide the categories most important to your university search and compare field of study ratings over the page to choose the right institution.



## DISCOVER

Find out more about career paths and potential jobs by picking up a copy of *The Good Careers Guide 2017* or visiting the website [www.goodcareersguide.com.au](http://www.goodcareersguide.com.au)

## NUMBER OF STUDENTS

UG = Undergraduate  
PG = Postgraduate  
UGI = Undergraduate international



1,058  
UGI



**GOOD  
EDUCATION  
GROUP**

Good Education Group is Australia's leading independent provider of high-quality education and career information.

# MORE ABOUT REHABILITATION

The following are just some of the majors you can study in this field:

- Audiology
- Chiropractic
- Occupational therapy
- Optometry
- Orthotics
- Osteopathy
- Physiotherapy
- Podiatry
- Speech pathology

Rehabilitation courses prepare you for occupations that are closely aligned with other health professions, particularly medicine. They are highly regulated and include fields such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy and speech pathology.

Graduates in this field can work in a broad range of settings in both public and private healthcare organisations. They may find themselves working in hospitals, rehabilitation centres, community health centres, private practice, schools, mental health services, sports clinics, sporting teams or fitness centres. They may also work in government departments or universities in managerial or research positions.

If you are interested in this field, you should also consider courses in dentistry, medicine, nursing, psychology and veterinary science. Also be aware that the mainstream health professions are increasingly being challenged by newer 'natural' therapies. See the health services and support profile for more information.

## Courses and specialisations

Courses in the rehabilitation professions typically involve four years of full-time study and several core subjects required to gain professional accreditation. Many involve practical placements, and considerable amounts of time may need to be spent in a clinical setting gaining hands-on experience.

## Where to study

You cannot practise unless you meet the very strict requirements set by each profession. This means that the courses within each field tend to be very similar no matter where you do them, although the sub-fields are obviously very different from each other. When considering your course options, you may want to check out what each institution offers in the way of clinical facilities and placements.

These courses are still in fairly limited supply, meaning that, depending on where you live, you might have to be prepared to travel to study your preferred course. Demand for entry is high, making them tough to get into in some cases.

## What the data tells

Notre Dame performed exceptionally well in virtually every category, culminating in 89.3 per cent of students being employed within four months of graduating. Other impressive results came in teaching quality (98.9 per cent), skills development (95.5 per cent), student support (91.3 per cent), learning resources (93.9 per cent) and overall quality of educational experience (97.8 per cent).

Most institutions generally hovered around between the mid-70s and early 90s in terms of percentage of students finding full-time employment but there was a noticeably large gap between ECU (52.5 per cent) and ACU (91.8 per cent).

Griffith had great results with majority of the student experience categories, highlighted by overall quality of educational experience (90.8 per cent) and learning resources (93.7 per cent). However, with no employment outcomes listed, it is difficult to know whether these scores correlate with finding work.

There can be a very fine line between making the top 20 per cent and just missing out. Griffith completed the five-star universities in learning resources with 93.7 per cent, however University of Sunshine Coast is close behind with 93.4 per cent and Newcastle another 0.1 per cent further back. Elsewhere, Deakin rounded out the five star leaders with 93.3 per cent in skills development, while ACU fell just short on 92.2 per cent. This suggests that because a university misses out on five stars in a category doesn't mean it has achieved poor results and may speak to the competitiveness between universities in this field of study.

## National average rate of retention

ATAR range	70-79	80-89	90-100	Non-ATAR criteria
ACU	78%	96%	91%	84%
CANBERRA		92%	100%	
CQUni	79%	92%		93%
CSU	82%	100%		75%
CURTIN	93%	86%	88%	91%
DEAKIN	83%	89%		90%
ECU	86%	100%	86%	20%
FLINDERS	11%		94%	83%
GRIFFITH		88%	88%	
JCU	74%	89%	100%	85%
LA TROBE	98%	87%	95%	95%
MACQUARIE		89%	90%	95%
MONASH	93%	88%	95%	100%
MURDOCH	90%	74%	100%	
NEWCASTLE		100%	94%	90%
NOTRE DAME				86%
QUEENSLAND			92%	92%
QUT			96%	100%
RMIT	86%	93%	85%	
SOUTHERN CROSS				89%
SUNSHINE COAST	69%	71%	87%	
SYDNEY		100%	91%	86%
UniSA			96%	90%
VU	94%	86%	100%	
WESTERN SYDNEY	82%	97%	84%	87%
<b>National average rate of retention by ATAR range</b>	<b>85%</b>	<b>90%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>90%</b>

Non-ATAR criteria may include entry via direct application, audition and/or portfolio submission, or via an academic pathway.

# STUDENT PROFILE

## Annalise — Bachelor of Health Science/Master of Speech Pathology



### **Why did you choose to study rehabilitation?**

I wanted to work in a field that helped people and heard about speech pathology. I looked into all the health fields and speech therapy caught my eye. I liked the fact that there are so many different areas to work in and that the need for speech therapists is high.

### **What is the best thing about your course?**

Definitely placements. I have had a number of placements with both adults and children. I have enjoyed each area of placement and gained a lot from participating in therapy sessions myself.

### **What is the worst thing about your course?**

The first year, as it was a general year of health science and had nothing to do with speech pathology — I felt as though it was a waste of time.

### **What does your course involve?**

First and second year included lab classes, tutorials and lectures. Third and fourth year were mainly made up of placement, lectures, tutorials and skills classes. In the final two years we've been given case scenarios each week and have been required to solve each case as a group and decide

which therapy methods we would use to help. I have found these classes really beneficial!

### **What are your job prospects after graduating?**

After graduating there are plenty of job opportunities, although the majority of these are with paediatric clients. An advantage of studying speech pathology is that, after graduating, you have the opportunity to travel and work in a number of countries all over the world.

### **What advice would you give to students considering studying rehabilitation?**

As the years of the course progress, the workload increases. I'm in my fourth (and final) year now, and as we are doing placement and classes at the same time I have found it too difficult to continue with part-time work. Also, the first two years of the course require a lot of motivation! I felt as though it was a waste of time and I wasn't really learning much about becoming a speech pathologist at all, but I am extremely pleased that I stuck it out and have now nearly finished the course.

### **Will you complete further study?**

No way — I think 13 years of schooling and four years of university is enough for me. I'm definitely looking forward to getting out into the workforce!



# FIVE-STAR UNIVERSITIES REHABILITATION

## EDUCATIONAL EXPERIENCE

NOTRE DAME	97.8%
CQUni	92.4%
ACU	91.9%
NEWCASTLE	91.5%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 87.2%**

## GRADUATE EMPLOYMENT

ACU	91.8%
NEWCASTLE	91.0%
QUEENSLAND	90.2%
CSU	89.7%
JCU	89.6%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 84.1%**

## LEARNER ENGAGEMENT

NOTRE DAME	87.0%
GRIFFITH	83.1%
CSU	83.0%
ECU	82.5%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 75.3%**

## LEARNING RESOURCES

DEAKIN	95.9%
NOTRE DAME	93.9%
CQUni	93.8%
GRIFFITH	93.7%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 89.5%**

## MEDIAN GRAD STARTING SALARY

NOTRE DAME	\$63,000
WESTERN SYDNEY	\$60,400
ACU	\$60,000
CURTIN	\$60,000
JCU	\$60,000
QUEENSLAND	\$59,500

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = \$58,000**

## SKILLS DEVELOPMENT

NOTRE DAME	95.5%
QUEENSLAND	94.4%
CSU	93.9%
DEAKIN	93.3%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 89.7%**

## STUDENT SUPPORT

NOTRE DAME	91.3%
GRIFFITH	89.8%
SUNSHINE COAST	87.2%
MONASH	84.6%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 77.5%**

## TEACHING QUALITY

NOTRE DAME	98.9%
ACU	94.2%
QUEENSLAND	93.6%
MONASH	92.2%
CANBERRA	91.8%
CQUni	91.5%

**NATIONAL  
AVERAGE = 89.1%**

### WHAT DO THESE NUMBERS MEAN?

The ratings above represent the top 20 per cent of results for each measure in this particular field of study. For overall institution results, see the ratings section at the front of the Guide.





# HOW TO USE THIS GUIDE

The graphs compare institutions in the rehabilitation field of study. If you are interested in this field of study you can see all the institutions that offer courses and how they compare.

## Universities compared

The “Five-Star Universities” graphs show the institutions whose results place them in the top 20 per cent of universities in rehabilitation.

## Student experience measures

These ratings compare the performance of universities across six student experience categories. For each category, the percentage of students who were satisfied with the university’s performance in the area is noted. For example, if a university achieves 75 per cent for Teaching Quality, this indicates that 75 per cent of students at the university were satisfied with the quality of teaching they experienced.

Data has been sourced from the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) and is based on the results of the Student Experience Survey. Please note that the QILT website provides confidence intervals that reflect the accuracy of these estimated values, which have not been included in this guide.

## Graduate outcomes

### Starting salary

This rating compares the median salary of graduates from different universities. Universities are awarded five stars if they fall within the top 20 per cent of all universities.

### Full-time employment

This rating compares the employment rates of graduates from different universities. It looks at the proportion of graduates who were employed full time four months after completing their course. Universities are awarded five stars if they fall within the top 20 per cent of all universities.

Data has been sourced from the Quality Indicators for Learning and Teaching (QILT) and is based on the results of the Graduate Destination Survey. Please note that the QILT website provides confidence intervals that reflect the accuracy of these estimated values, which have not been included in this guide.

### National average rate of retention

These tables show the rate of student retention at each university. The ability of students to complete their first year of study and progress to a second year may be affected by the tertiary entrance score they achieved in their final year of school. Often, students with high scores have higher rates of retention than students with low scores. These tables identify the rate at which students who achieved a tertiary entrance score within a specific band are retained through to a second year of study.

Non-ATAR criteria may include entry via direct application, audition and/or portfolio submission, or via an academic pathway.

Data published in these tables refers to the number of students who commenced studies in 2014 and were still enrolled at the same institution in 2015, as a proportion of all students who commenced in 2014 in rehabilitation. This data refers specifically to students who commenced a bachelor degree in 2014 on the basis of a tertiary entrance score and who came directly from secondary school.

Remember that rankings and ratings are indicators only. They help but do not present a full picture. Research your choices carefully!