Torrens University Australia (TUA) – Health Science

Frequently Asked Questions:

Why have the course updates been made?

The course updates have been made upon consultation with TUA Academic Executive, Course Advisory Committee that consists of professional association members, industry representatives, professional practitioners and alumni. Student feedback has also been taken into consideration in developing the course updates.

The BHS course updates are designed to:

- strengthen connection to industry via work experience opportunities
- scaffold the clinical learning experiences throughout the course
- improve clinic management skills and knowledge
- build student confidence and capability via an immersive clinical experience
- strengthen graduate employability by allowing students to choose elective subjects to encourage a desired career outcome
- recognise prior learning via inclusion of an unspecified elective credit

How will I learn in the new course?

The subjects have been developed with a flipped and active learning approach. Junior students learn health science in our dedicated health science laboratories. Practical and clinical skills are taught via task training. The core specialist subjects are designed to enhance student comprehension and retention of information by providing realistic learning experiences and assessments that reflect real world tasks.

Senior subjects incorporate a problem-based learning style to accelerate the development of critical thinking and problem-solving skills. This style of delivery also enhances student ability to work in a team and encourages the development of communication skills and ethical practice. Senior students apply learning in simulated case scenarios to sharpen their clinical skill development.

The updated BHS courses prepare students for contemporary practice by:

- encouraging student competence in managing a digital learning environment
- exploring professional identify, entrepreneurship and public health responsibilities
- providing a modern practice environment including the use of body composition analysis technology
- promoting evidence-based safe and effective practice
- scaffolding communication and clinical skill development throughout the course

Does the course include Clinical Practicum?

The clinical practicum component of the course is embedded in final year theory subjects. Please consult the Course Structure document on the Student HUB to see the required clinical subjects and hours.

I have completed part of a subject – what options do I have?

Students who have completed either the theory or practical clinical component for a subject may be eligible to apply for partial academic exemption. This means that students do not need to repeat the component of the
subject they have already completed. Students will only need to complete the component that has not yet been achieved. Partial academic exemption will not be displayed on your offer letter or transcript as a full credit. The grade will be updated when the outstanding component is completed.

Students who have completed the theory component for a work integrated learning subject but not the clinical management or observation component, may be eligible to apply for **conditional credit**. In this case, you will be given an opportunity to complete the outstanding work integrated learning component and, once completed, full credit for the subject will be applied.

**Are the TUA 8 Structure Course Fees the same as the 9 Structure Course fees?**
The 8 Subject Course fees are equivalent to the 9 subject course fees. However, as the total number of subjects in the program has decreased, there will be an increase in individual subject fees.

Students who wish to transfer to Torrens are advised to review the Torrens course fee schedule available on the Torrens website: [https://www.torrens.edu.au/apply-online/fees#opt-course-tuition](https://www.torrens.edu.au/apply-online/fees#opt-course-tuition)

You can use the subject fee breakdown information to gain further information on your individual subject cost. Information is on the Torrens website: [https://www.torrens.edu.au/apply-online/fees#opt-course-tuition](https://www.torrens.edu.au/apply-online/fees#opt-course-tuition)

Torrens University course fees are exempt from a 25% loading that is applied to fee-help loans for non-university RTO providers such as Think Education.

Your Torrens offer letter will have course fees information. Please review this important information. For more information contact the Finance Team on: [student.finance@tua.edu.au](mailto:student.finance@tua.edu.au)

**I am a current student, how does this affect me?**
Course codes have been updated to reflect the new course structure. Students in the 9 structure course will be transitioned to the 8 structure course prior to the launch of the program in Trimester 2 2020.

Think Education students may be eligible for voluntary transfer to the Torrens University course. Please consult with your Success Coach to discuss your eligibility.

The new course codes are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Course Code</th>
<th>Torrens University of Australia (TUA)</th>
<th>Course Duration (Full Time)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>DIPHSC20</td>
<td>Diploma of Health Science</td>
<td>1 year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHSCLNUT20</td>
<td>Bachelor of Health Science (Clinical Nutrition)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHSWHM20</td>
<td>Bachelor of Health Science (Western Herbal Medicine)</td>
<td>3 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>BHSNAT20</td>
<td>Bachelor of Health Science (Naturopathy)</td>
<td>4 years</td>
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</tbody>
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When were the Torrens courses first launched?
The courses were launched in May 2019 (Trimester 2 2019). This update is being launched in Trimester 2 2020.

How do I find the course structure?
The course structures and other important information are available on the Student HUB for your campus location (Brisbane, Sydney or Melbourne).

How are the courses delivered?
Torrens courses are delivered in a trimester model. There are 3 trimesters per year that are 12 weeks in length. Classes are delivered for all 12 weeks. Students must be available to attend class during this time period.

How many subjects is a full-time load?
Full time load is eight subjects per year. The recommended study pattern is:

- 3 subjects in study period 1
- 3 subjects in study period 2
- 2 subjects in study period 3

A part-time load is regarded as two subjects per trimester.

How much study time will I need per week?
Students will need approximately 10 study hours per week for each subject undertaken in the trimester. Your study week might consist of:

- Reviewing the learning materials such as readings or digital media
- Completing practice assessment tasks
- Engaging in online discussion or learning activities with your peers and facilitators
- Researching and preparing assessments
- Attending weekly classes

Subjects with both theory and work integrated learning components require additional attendance for the practical component of the subject. Please refer to the course structure document for full details.

Is the course designed for flipped learning?
The course is flipped so you need to review your online learning materials (readings, digital media and pre-class activities) before you attend class. We have created a modern platform that leverages podcasts, video and digital media that has been specifically produced for your learning needs.

What should I expect from the learning experience?
You should expect to engage with the learning content, your peers and the facilitator. The learning platform includes:

- Interactive online learning tasks
- Video case studies
- Problem Based Learning activities
- Interactive templates for building subject specific information
- Subject specific digital learning videos
- Simulation activities

**How are the classes delivered?**

Theory classes may be delivered either online or on-campus:

On campus classes require 3 hours of attendance per week.

Online classes offer weekly, real-time collaborate classes with an additional requirement for weekly online class participation.

**What subjects have compulsory attendance requirements?**

Practical subjects such as Botany & Herbal Manufacturing and Clinical Assessment require weekly attendance on campus or attendance at weekend workshops if you choose the online study mode.

Work Integrated Learning (WIL) is compulsory and full details will be provided in the subject outline and clinical handbooks. For external WIL observation of a practitioner in a health business, the industry team will support you to find a placement. For internal placements at The Practice Wellbeing Clinic, you will be allocated to attend clinic by the academic administration team upon your enrolment into the subject.

Clinical Skills and Practicum subjects require on campus weekly attendance. Clinical Skills classes prepare students for their clinical practicum experience and are a classroom-based experience. Clinical Practicum is conducted in The Practice Wellbeing Clinic and student practitioners consult with members of the public under the supervision of experienced practitioners.

View the course structure on the Student Hub for attendance details and WIL requirements.

**What type of assessments are required?**

Our online technology has an invigilation function so quizzes and tests can be completed online. Assessment tasks may include:

- Blogs
- Posters
- Portfolios
- Presentations
- Essays
- Reports
- Case analysis tasks
- Literature Reviews

**Are the courses accredited with professional associations?**

We actively liaise with industry bodies and the courses meet the standards of professional associations such as: ARONAH, NHAA, CMA, ANTA, ATMS, ANPA, NSA
How will the courses keep current?

In accordance with best practice education, the courses will continue to go through regular cycles of feedback and improvement.

Who can help me if I have further questions?

As always, we are here to support you every step of the way. Any questions can be forwarded to: healthsciencechanges@laureate.edu.au

Useful Links:

Student Hub (Sydney & Brisbane): studenthub.torrens.edu.au/Hub/health
Student Hub (Melbourne): studenthub.torrens.edu.au/fitzroy/home