

CHART A COURSE

Muscling in on physiotherapy

Course Master of health science (osteopathy).

A career focused on the musculoskeletal system doesn't need to be limited to physiotherapy.

The osteopathy course co-ordinator at Victoria University's school of biomedical and health sciences, Associate Professor Gary Fryer, says the discipline is a complementary healthcare approach "that emphasises the role of the musculoskeletal system in health" and one of Australia's fastest-growing allied health professions.

The program is a full-time double degree comprising a three-year bachelor of science (clinical science) and the two-year master of health science (osteopathy). Fryer says most osteopaths work in private practice and the program "emphasises evidence-informed practice, an approach which we see as highly important for modern healthcare".

Duration Five years full time (the bachelor and master's degrees are both required for registration).

Time About 40 hours a week (23 hours in class).

Where Victoria University's Flinders Street campus, Melbourne, with one day a week at the St Albans campus for anatomy laboratories during the bachelor component.

When Next intake semester 1, 2013.

Link vu.edu.au.

SUE WHITE