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CareerNews will be published fortnightly throughout 2014, giving you information to assist you to make important career decisions.

Choosing a career can be a difficult task. There are so many options, so many courses, so many institutions to choose from. Remember, it is likely that you will have several careers in your lifetime, so don’t think too far ahead. Careers that you may be involved in later on have not yet been invented! So, how can I choose? Important things to consider are:

- What do I enjoy doing?
- What subjects do I like most?
- How do I like to spend my spare time?
- What are my hobbies/interests?
- What do I value; what is important to me?

Answering these questions will tell you things about yourself that will assist you in gaining career ideas. For instance, perhaps you like designing things, enjoy Visual Communication, draw designs in your spare time, and have a passion for the environment. Clearly, you might consider architecture, perhaps designing buildings where heating and cooling costs are reduced as much as possible. Or perhaps you like helping people, are interested in studying Health and Psychology, and it is important that you work as part of a team. You might then consider nursing, health promotion, paramedics or counselling, for example.

1. NEWS OF MEDICINE AT MONASH UNIVERSITY – Monash has two medicine/surgery (MBBS) degrees. One is an undergraduate degree at Monash Clayton campus, the other is a Graduate-entry program run at Gippsland campus.

The Clayton undergraduate degree selects students on the basis of their Undergraduate Medicine and Health Science Admissions Test (UMAT) results, an interview, and the ATAR. Applicants for this program cannot have commenced another university degree.

The Gippsland Graduate-entry program currently selects students on the basis of undergraduate degree results in an appropriate degree and Graduate Australian Medical School Admissions Test (GAMSAT). However, from 2017, at least 50 of the 75 domestic places available into the Graduate Entry MBBS will be reserved for students who have completed Monash University’s Bachelor of Biomedical Science. The remaining 25 places in this program will be open to students who have completed the following Monash University degrees: Bachelor of Biomedical Science (including double degrees), Bachelor of Pharmacy, Bachelor of Physiotherapy and Bachelor of Science (dependent on the completion of designated units).

Selection of students for the Graduate-entry MBBS will include a multiple mini interview; the GAMSAT will not be required. Further info: www.med.monash.edu.au/medical/gippsland/mbbs-pathways.html; ph 1800 MONASH (666 274) or email future@monash.edu.

NOTE: Other institutions in Victoria offering medicine degrees are: University of Melbourne (post-graduate) and Deakin University (post-graduate). Many applicants for medicine degrees apply for interstate universities, and sometimes for NZ universities (Universities of Auckland and of Otago), to increase their chances of being accepted into a medicine degree, as competition for places is fierce.

2. WHAT IS THE UNDERGRADUATE MEDICINE AND HEALTH SCIENCES ADMISSION TEST (UMAT)? Results from this test are used as part of the selection process for some Australian and New Zealand university degrees. In Victoria the only university degree now requiring this test for Year 12 selection is Medicine at Monash (Clayton) (physiotherapy no longer requires it). However, some interstate and NZ universities also use it.

Registrations for UMAT2014 are now open, and close at 5pm (EST) on Friday 6 June. The test will take place on Wednesday 30 July 2014. The UMAT Information Booklet is available from the UMAT website: www.umat.acer.edu.au.

NOTE: Practice materials are available through the UMAT website and can only be completed online. There are currently three full-length tests available. There are also some ‘how to’ clips and a quiz available on the UMAT website. Watch the videos and complete the quiz questions before registering for the test. Further clips will be released over the coming months.
3. FINDING OUT ABOUT STUDYING AT MONASH UNIVERSITY - Prospective students have a great opportunity to find out more about courses which interest them. Monash is, once again, holding the ‘At Monash’ seminar series, where you can hear from current students, graduates and staff. The ones coming up shortly are (all 6.30-8.00pm):

- Business and Economics at the Peninsula campus, Tues 4 March
- Nursing, Midwifery and Emergency Health at Peninsula, Thurs 6 March
- Business and Economics at Clayton, Wed 12 March
- Science at Clayton, Thurs 13 March
- Physiotherapy and Occupational Therapy at Peninsula, Tues 18 Mar
- Information Technology at Caulfield, Wed 19 March
- Pharmacy and Pharmaceutical Sciences at Parkville, Thurs 20 March

More dates to follow in the next Newsletter, or check out dates for other seminars and register your attendance at: www.monash.edu/seminars. Information: 1800 MONASH.

4. UNIVERSITY OF MELBOURNE COURSES POPULAR – VTAC applications for 2014 indicated that Arts and Science degrees at Melbourne were the most popular undergraduate course choices across the state. Bachelors of Commerce and Biomedicine also fall in the top eight most popular courses. 2124 places were offered for Science, an increase of 11% compared with last year. Science offered the most places of any course at the university. About one third of all of Melbourne’s offers were made to Access Melbourne categories of disadvantage – financial background or rural and isolated areas.

5. ATAR RISES FOR DEGREES AT SWINBURNE – Swinburne reports that 2014 has started with an increase in the number of students applying for and being offered scholarships and degree places. Average ATAR scores have risen, while their Guaranteed ATARs provided more certainty for students when finalising preferences. The availability of CSP degree transfer places (Unilink diploma programs) also provided many students with a great opportunity to pathway to second year of their wanted degree from an ATAR of 50 and above. This year Swinburne offered 28 Vice Chancellor’s Scholarships for academic excellence and an additional 44 scholarships were awarded by university deans. This is almost triple the number of scholarships offered in 2013.

NOTE: Swinburne has university and TAFE programs. Hawthorn campus has university and TAFE programs; Wantirna and Croydon have TAFE courses only.

6. ARE YOU LOOKING FOR AN ARTISTIC EXPERIENCE? RMIT offers many short and single courses taught by experienced lecturers and established artists. Some examples are in: drawing, painting, photographic screen printing, lithography, sculpture, casting, jewellery and audio technology.


7. INTERESTED IN HEALTH SCIENCES, BUT UNSURE OF YOUR DIRECTION? Deakin University advises that if you are interested in a career in health but are unsure of your direction, the Bachelor of Health Sciences could be a good option. The degree draws from and complements the specialist fields offered by the Faculty of Health and enables you to structure your course and combine fields of study according to your interests and career ideas. Possible areas of study include: environmental health, exercise science, food studies, health promotion, nutrition, disability, psychology and sport coaching. Other universities offer a Health Science degree, but with different ‘major’ studies.

8. BOX HILL INSTITUTE NEWS – Seeking a career in the world of fashion merchandising, retailing or marketing? You want to travel the world as a fashion buyer, create exciting merchandising displays, develop a fashion website or market a fashion brand using social media? If you are creative, enjoy using social media and technology and are business minded, the Bachelor of Fashion Merchandising course will inspire you to pursue your ultimate fashion retail career. Check out YouTube clips: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RII0nU9C0ps http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vzVXe4Cgs_jw&list=UU_LweUp25BxY7NcaNTK8aNg.

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