

Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene)



Why study oral health?

Government analysts predict that the demand for dentists and oral health therapists will continue to increase in Australia. As a graduate of CSU's Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene), you will contribute to combating the workforce shortage and increasing demand for oral health professionals Australia-wide, while also significantly improving the health of our local communities.

Career opportunities

Oral health therapy provides rewarding and diverse career paths. CSU graduates are registered immediately upon graduation and job prospects are excellent. Most oral health therapy students will know if they have a graduate position by December of their final year. You could follow a career in any of the following:

- general dentistry practice
- specialty dentistry practice
- public sector dental health
- Australian defence forces (Army, Navy or Air Force)
- hospital dental clinics
- international healthcare
- education
- research industry.

What is CSU's Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene)?

CSU's Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene), a three-year full-time program offered in Wagga Wagga, was developed in close consultation with industry to prepare graduates who are qualified to practise as both dental therapists and dental hygienists.

Qualified dental therapists are clinicians that examine and treat diseases of the teeth in children and adolescents through primary to secondary school in NSW.

Oral health therapists provide skilled preventative services to patients of all age groups. Qualified dental therapists are clinicians that examine and provide routine dental care for infants, children and adolescents in NSW. Qualified dental hygienists work in collaboration with a dentist to determine treatment therapies for the soft tissues of the mouth.

Some reasons for studying oral health at CSU

- graduates will be qualified to work as dental therapists and dental hygienists
- CSU's strong industry links ensure students have access to various clinical placement opportunities
- students gain experience using state-of-the-art learning facilities
- graduates will have excellent job prospects.



What will I learn?

During years one and two, you will focus on core biomedical and oral sciences. Foundation theory will be presented in lecture style and small group seminars, and case-based interactions will feature throughout the curriculum.

In years two and three, the focus is on understanding the medical, dental, social and community context of dental hygiene and dental therapy clinical practice.

Workplace learning

Learning through experience is an integral part of studying oral health at Charles Sturt University. Clinical placements make up around 60% of your course, ensuring you are confident and job ready when you graduate. You will begin your practical placements in real clinics from year one, which leads to extended clinical practice in your third year.

The program offers you the opportunity to undertake clinical placements in a mixture of generalist and specialist disciplines in university, community, rural and metropolitan clinics.

Learning facilities

Students develop their hand skills in CSU's state-of-the-art simulation clinic, dental technology/clinical support laboratory, biodental science learning suite, and anatomy teaching facilities, including a PC2 teaching laboratory and a dry (computer) laboratory.

Students hone their knowledge and develop patient communication skills in CSU's Dental and Oral Health Clinics in Albury-Wodonga, Bathurst, Dubbo, Orange and Wagga Wagga, which include private and specialist practice areas. Students also have the opportunity to witness specialists treating patients via video conference with the assistance of dental tools equipped with cameras.

Your course is recognised by industry

CSU's Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene) commenced in 2008 and the process of gaining Australian Dental Council accreditation is underway. Graduates will be eligible for licensure in any Australian state or territory and in New Zealand. There are no additional exams or requirements. You may also be eligible for registration in some countries overseas.

Scholarships

Students have access to various scholarships, including the:

- Bila Muuji Health Service Scholarship
- Orange Aboriginal Medical Service's (OAMS) Peter Andren Memorial Scholarship
- Nursing and Allied Health Scholarship and Support Scheme



Jackie Edmunds

Oral health student

"CSU's Bachelor of Oral Health (Therapy/Hygiene) has allowed me to gain an understanding of the medical, dental, social and community context of oral health, while developing my practical skills with hands-on experience in the simulation clinic.

"CSU offers brand new facilities with state-of-the-art equipment, and I feel extremely privileged to be a part of this exciting new course.

"I was inspired to further my career in the dentistry field after working as a dental assistant for four years.

"I have really enjoyed my time at CSU so far and even with full-time study, my social life has not been disadvantaged. I have no doubt that the new friendships I have made will last a lifetime."

www.csu.edu.au

For more information about courses and how to apply, please contact info.csu:

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