Why choose this course?

Genomics is a rapidly evolving field, critical to cutting-edge health care and personalised medicine. We offer the only Master of Diagnostic Genomics in Australasia.

During this course, you will develop advanced knowledge and research skills that prepare you to meet the requirements for HGSA professional accreditation as a diagnostic genomics scientist.

You may align your study with specific career goals by selecting speciality units in molecular genetics, cytogenetics, or biochemical genetics. During second year, you will build on this speciality or choose to complete elective units in cancer genomics, genetic epidemiology, or computational biology.

A six-month placement in an appropriate clinical or research laboratory is a key feature of the program. This placement may be completed in your current workplace or may be facilitated by QUT.

During this placement you will complete a research dissertation. The dissertation component allows you to address a specific human genomics question through the design, implementation, analysis, interpretation and reporting of a research project. Those completing a clinical laboratory placement will write up case studies in dissertation format which can then be reformatted for HGSA accreditation submission.

You will be taught by leading researchers from the Genomics Research Centre, a research facility that focuses on the identification of genes involved in common human disorders and the translation of this research into new diagnostics and therapeutics.

Guest lecturers will offer insight into cross-disciplinary professions including ethics, genetic counselling, medical genetics, law, and bioinformatics.

Flexible delivery
This course is delivered online and can be completed in full-time or part-time study mode.

Industry support

The Master of Diagnostic Genomics has been established with support from the Queensland Genomics Health Alliance – a Queensland Government initiative which aims to bring genomics into everyday health care.
Entry requirements

Academic entry requirements
A completed recognised bachelor degree (or higher award) completed within the last ten years in any of the following areas or relevant disciplines:

- biology
- biochemistry
- biotechnology
- biomedical sciences
- cell biology
- dentistry
- dietetics
- forensic science
- genetics
- medicine
- nursing
- pharmacy
- veterinary science

If your degree was completed more than ten years ago, you must provide evidence of graduate work experience and/or further studies since course completion with your application for it to be considered.

Careers and outcomes

This course is designed to qualify graduates as a diagnostic genomic scientist. Graduates are well positioned for employment as laboratory managers in diagnostic laboratories, or for a career in research. Furthermore, the composition of this masters degree means that graduates will be able to competitively apply for a Doctor of Philosophy and scholarship.

Professional recognition

Graduates of this course will have satisfied the exam component of the Human Genetics Society of Australasia (HGSA).

To be eligible for professional accreditation as a diagnostic genomic scientist, graduates must submit their testamur along with five case studies to HGSA. This course has been designed to ensure graduates are in a strong position to submit this material shortly after graduation.

Fees

FEE-HELP
You may be eligible for FEE-HELP, a loan scheme to help you pay your course fees, if you are an Australian citizen or hold an Australian permanent humanitarian visa. For other conditions read the FEE-HELP information.