FUTURE CAREERS - CHOOSING THE RIGHT PATH FOR YOU

With subject selection taking place over the next several weeks, it is time to start thinking about your future after school. What pathway are you interested in?

Employment? TAFE? Apprenticeship? Traineeship? University? Pretty straight forward really. It seems like it’s just expected that you will make a decision and go from there.

- But have you sat down and really thought about the next 5 years? Even the next 2?
- Is the course or training area you are thinking about the right one for you?
- Have you developed a pathway plan? Or are you just traveling along in the passenger seat, hoping things will fall into place.

Did you know?

- Between 20 – 30% of first year students drop out of or change their university course.
- About 50% of trainees drop out of their apprenticeship/traineeship.

Don’t become a statistic- make sure you don’t just fall into a course or job. You still have heaps of time to make the right decisions and put in the groundwork.

You will be making the wrong career choice if you base your decision-making solely on any of the following:

- It looks cool on TV (i.e., Boston Legal, CSI, Criminal Minds). This is NOT reality. People don’t walk around crime scenes wearing the latest fashions, or work in labs with their hair falling about their shoulders. Nor do they receive crime scene test results overnight.
- If you want to watch a good program, watch a reality series like Border Security, Recruits, or Customs etc., or read autobiographies of people working in the industry you are interested in.

- Your parents expect you to do it. This is a tricky one. You want to study history, but your parents expect you to study law, medicine or dentistry because in their eyes it is ‘more respectable’, ‘earns more money’, or simply it is just an expectation in your family that you will study a certain course. Following your parents’ guidance will make them happy, but it’s important that YOU are happy and fulfilled in your life.

- The job pays a lot of money. We know occupations like Dentistry, Law and Mathematics pay well. But would you want to sit through four years of Law if your heart wasn’t in it, and you didn’t enjoy things like researching, debating, reading and analyzing. And would you want to commit years of study to becoming a Dentist or Surgeon through taking subject after subject in sciences when you loved humanities?

- Your parents/siblings/second cousins neighbour does it. Sure, your Aunty likes accounting, but how do you know you will?

If you want to follow the path that will lead you to a satisfying career, there are a few things to think about.

- You don’t know what you don’t know: There is a world of opportunity out there with an enormous range of career options. There are jobs that will suit you that haven’t even been invented yet!
- How would you know that you would like to study biomedical engineering if you have only studied physics and math methods at school? How would you know that you would love anthropology if you have only studied sociology at school?
Entry into the Bachelor of Medical Science (Vision Science)/Master of Optometry for regional students at Flinders University.

Students who have lived in a rural/regional area for more than five years and would like to apply for this course are eligible to apply for the Rural and Remote sub-quota for entry. There are 20 places and students who achieve an ATAR of 85 plus (inclusive of bonus points) will be considered competitive for entry. For information on the scheme and entry requirements, go to www.flinders.edu.au/courses/undergrad/bmsmopt/

Check out the new Engineering and IT Building at UTS! The new building features the latest in cutting edge technology, including robotics, computer and human-centred design labs, and a 3D data visualization facility. It’s classrooms, public spaces and research spaces will accommodate up to 5000 students and staff. You will be able to go behind the scenes and view the new building on 4 September, http://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology

Exercise and Sports Science degrees at Victoria University (VU): Starting in 2015, VU will be offering four exercise and sport science degrees:

- Bachelor of Exercise Science (Sport Practice)
- Bachelor of Exercise Science (Clinical Practice)
- Bachelor of Sport Science (Human Movement)
- Bachelor of Sport Science (Exercise Science)

VU has partnerships with elite sport organisations such as the Western Bulldogs, Australian Sports Commission, CSIRO, Netball Victoria, and Universidad Europa Madrid (in collaboration with Real Madrid Football Club).

To find out about the different courses and pathway programs, go to http://www.vu.edu.au/about-us/academic-colleges

OPEN DAYS – 2 & 3 AUGUST

Dietetics and Human Nutrition at La Trobe University: Dr Sue Shepherd is a senior lecturer in the Department of Dietetics and Human Nutrition. She is the founder of the Low FODMAP Diet and she has won the Douglas Piper Young Investigator of the Year Award in 2006 for her FODMAP research, and Best Health and Nutrition Cookbook in Australia. Check out ‘Kitchen Academic’ videos where Sue will be making a low FODMAP recipe and discussing her revolutionary research, [http://www.youtube.com/user/thekitchenacademic](http://www.youtube.com/user/thekitchenacademic).

Meet amazing La Trobe University graduates: If you are considering studying at university in the future and not sure where a degree could take you, watch videos about the La Trobe graduates listed below:

- Ryan Murphy, Event Consultant/Musician  
- Jess Keogh, Lawyer at Clayton Utz  
- Mouhamed Assafiri, Project Coordinator, Telstra  
- Keegan FitzGerald, Physiotherapist  
- Erin Wallace, Sport Event and Operations Manager  
- Tia Spanos, Australian Government  
- Jordie French- High School Teacher


You can also check out videos from current students. Topics include- My pathway into law, placement preparation, a day in the microbiology lab, getting ready for the classroom, volunteering, what is the careers hub?, money to help you study overseas, save a life with CPR, doing your exams-the right way, eat, learn, love – La Trobe!

To watch the videos, go to [www.latrobe.edu.au/studentblogs/student-videos](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/studentblogs/student-videos)

Elite Athletes and Performers (EAP) Program at UNSW: The EAP Program supports students with a flexible entry process that considers both academic and elite achievements, as well as flexible study arrangements while at UNSW.

Students who have excelled in areas of sport, academia, performance, leadership, and/or music at a national or international level can be awarded up to five bonus points. Applications for the 2015 intake open Monday 18 August. For more information, go to [www.unsw.edu.au/eap](http://www.unsw.edu.au/eap)

**UPCOMING EVENTS - JULY**


**UPCOMING EVENTS - AUGUST**


**UPCOMING EVENTS - SEPTEMBER**