The UWA Master of Surgery (MS) course is a unique and innovative program for junior doctors who are pursuing a career in Surgery. In addition to undertaking academic competencies, students gain practical experience by participating in advanced surgical skills workshops in a specialised training lab environment.

About the course

The course aims to develop technical skills in surgical procedures and provide students with the skills to initiate and progress research effectively and independently. Students will expand their knowledge and learn how to design, conduct, analyse and evaluate surgical research. Throughout the course, students will gain a deeper understanding of the importance of basing their clinical practice on evidence based medicine.

About CTEC

The course is offered through the Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences and is facilitated by CTEC, the Clinical Training and Evaluation Centre. CTEC is a state of the art facility specialising in the teaching of surgical skills outside the operating theatre. CTEC offers students a rare opportunity to learn new and complex skills on high quality cadaveric material in a risk-free simulated environment.

Course structure

The UWA Master of Surgery course offers small classes with high calibre teaching staff. A variety of teaching methods are used including: small group teaching, lectures, interactive discussion and practical skills workshops.

Students learn how to design clinical research studies, organise the study team, apply for funding, collect, manage and analyse data, report their results and ensure that high ethical standards are maintained. Students will interact frequently with experienced teaching and research staff and will be mentored by Surgical Consultants. Students will also have the opportunity to mentor peers and/or medical students.

The course consists of 30 per cent coursework and 70 per cent written thesis, as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THREE CORE UNITS</th>
<th>18 POINTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Biostatistics I</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Clinical Epidemiology</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical Speciality Core Skills</td>
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<tr>
<th>PLUS THESIS RESEARCH (30,000 – 50,000 WORDS)</th>
<th>48 POINTS</th>
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<tr>
<td>Plus ONE Elective Unit from the following list</td>
<td>6 POINTS</td>
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<tr>
<td>Surgical Speciality Advanced Skills</td>
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<tr>
<td>Leadership and Management of Health Services</td>
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<td>Economic Evaluation of Health Care</td>
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<td>Principles of Teaching and Learning</td>
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<td>Clinical Teaching and Supervision</td>
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<td>Professional Portfolio</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biostatistics II</td>
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<tr>
<td>Development and Communication of Research</td>
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| TOTAL POINTS | 72 POINTS |
Course duration

The anticipated completion time is from 18 months to 4 years.

Areas of interest

Undertaking the Master of Surgery course will allow development of surgical and research skills in the student’s chosen surgical sub-specialty. As well as generic surgical skills, professional supervision and expertise is offered in the following sub-specialties:

- Cardiacthoracic Surgery
- Ear, Nose and Throat Surgery
- General Surgery
  - Breast/Endocrine
  - Colorectal
  - Upper Gastrointestinal
- Head and Neck Surgery
- Neurosurgery
- Orthopaedics
- Surgical Education
- Urology
- Vascular Surgery

Admission requirements

Subject to University General Rule 1.1.1.2(5), the admission requirements are:

(a) a Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery of this University, or equivalent as recognised by the Faculty; and
(b) a minimum two years postgraduate professional experience; and
(c) (i) undertaking a surgical traineeship through the Royal Australasian College of Surgeons Surgical Education and Training Program); or (ii) qualified surgeons (FRACS or equivalent), or qualified medical practitioners desirous of an academic career in surgery; and
(d) Eligible for registration with the Medical Board of WA

Fees

Research Training Scheme (RTS)

RTS places are available to Australian citizens, Australian permanent residents and New Zealand citizens.

Further information

For further information please contact Meagan Connor at CTEC on +61 8 6488 8044 or email meagan.conner@uwa.edu.au.

Faculty of Health and Medical Sciences

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