

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Graduate Certificate in Adult Sleep Science (51210)

GENERAL	2
Can I take units in any order?.....	2
How are the online courses delivered?	2
How is the course graded?.....	2
What is the compulsory unit ACE?	2
When do I get online access to the UWA library?	3
Am I allowed to take the laboratory-based units if I fail the online units?	3
When do I officially graduate from the course?	3
What grading system is used by the Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science?	3
When do I find out about my grades for the online units?	3
Are there any social functions planned during the course?	4
What is the pediatric content of the course?	4
Where can I stay during the 2-week residency in Perth?	4
Am I eligible to sit the Registered Polysomnography Technologist (RPSGT™) exam after completing the <i>Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science?</i>	4
Having completed the <i>Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science</i> are there other courses I can take?	4
Who is the course administrator?	5
ONLINE UNITS.....	6
Can I complete the online modules at my own pace?	6
What is a reasonable pace to complete the online modules?	6
I am taking the two online units concurrently. Should I do them at the same time or complete one unit before starting the other?	6
When can I take the final exam for a unit?	6
What format are the online units?.....	6
Do I have access to course instructors?.....	6
LABORATORY-BASED UNITS	7
Where will the laboratory-based units be held?.....	7
How are the two laboratory-based units spread over the two week period? 7	
Will I have the weekend off in between the two weeks?.....	7
Does the course have a clinical partner?	7

GENERAL

Graduate Certificate in Adult Sleep Science (51210)

Can I take units in any order?

No. You must have completed *Fundamentals of Sleep Technology* before you will be allowed to enrol in *Sleep Technology in Practice* or *Sleep Biology in Practice*. It is possible to enrol in both laboratory-based units after having completed only *Fundamentals of Sleep Technology*, however you will still need to complete the unit *Fundamentals of Sleep Biology* at a later date in order to graduate from the course with a *Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science*.

How are the online courses delivered?

The course uses WebCT (Course Tools) to deliver online lectures. WebCT is an online virtual learning environment system used by the University of Western Australia for e-learning. All of the online units for the *Graduate Certificate in Adult Sleep Science* are offered through WebCT, which can be accessed via the web from anywhere in the world using your username and password at <http://webct.uwa.edu.au>.

How is the course graded?

Continuous Assessment A continuous assessment model will be utilised for both the online and laboratory-based units. Each unit will be separated into 6 modules. Students will be required to complete a multiple-choice exam on completion of each of the 6 modules. Each exam will be worth 10% of the total grade. In the case of the online units students must complete the modules in order (1 through 6), however once an online exam for any given module has been completed it is possible to immediately move on to the next module. On completion of module 6 60% of the total grade will have been allocated.

Final Exam For the online units on completion of module 6 a final 90 minute online exam will be administered. This exam will consist of multiple choice and short written answer tests and be worth 40% of the total grade. For the laboratory-based units a final 90 minute practical exam will be administered on completion of module 6. This exam will be worth 40% of the total grade.

What is the compulsory unit ACE?

From 2008 it has been a University requirement that all students who are enrolled into a new course must complete the online module *Academic Conduct Essentials* (ACE) within the first 10 weeks of enrolment. ACE introduces students to the basic issues of ethical scholarship and the university's expectations of correct academic conduct. ACE is completed online through your WebCT page (<http://webct.uwa.edu.au>).

When do I get online access to the UWA library?

Web-access to the UWA Library will be provided once you have enrolled in the course and received your student card. You will have access to many medical and scientific journals and to the online version of *Principles and Practice of Sleep Medicine*, the major reference book for sleep medicine.

Am I allowed to take the laboratory-based units if I fail the online units?

You must pass the unit *Fundamentals of Sleep Technology* in order to enrol in the laboratory-based units.

When do I officially graduate from the course?

Shortly after completing all 4 units the course co-ordinators meet with the Board of Examiners. Your results will be released on-line on Student Connect <https://student.sims.uwa.edu.au/connect/webconnect> soon after this. Formal graduations occur twice a year, usually April and September. On completion of all your course requirements you need to apply to graduate. See student Connect for more details. You are welcome to attend this ceremony and receive your *Graduate Certificate* at this time, or you can opt to have the *Graduate Certificate* mailed to you. For further details of the dates : http://www.studentadmin.uwa.edu.au/welcome/important_dates/important_dates_2009

What grading system is used by the Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science?

The following classifications are used for final results:

Grades	Marks
Higher Distinction (HD)	80–100
Distinction (D)	70–79
Credit Pass (CR)	60–69
Pass (P)	50–59
Ungraded Pass (UP)	
Fail (N+)	45–49
Fail (N)	0–44
Ungraded Fail (UF)	
Failed Component (FC)	

When do I find out about my grades for the online units?

The course co-ordinators meet with the Board of Examiners early in the week of October 26th. At this time they will decide on the final grade for the unit. Your results will be available on Student Connect as soon as possible after this.

Are there any social functions planned during the course?

To mark the end of the course we will have an informal social function in the late-afternoon of Friday 27th November.

What is the paediatric content of the course?

While the *Graduate Certificate in Adult Sleep Science* has minimal paediatric content we have endeavoured to cover paediatric topics in sufficient detail to meet the guidelines and competencies required for an A-STEP equivalent course. The clinical, technical and scientific aspects of paediatric sleep science are different to those for adult sleep science. Those interested in paediatric sleep science should consider enrolling in the Postgraduate Certificate in Paediatric Sleep Science, also offered by UWA (<http://www.paediatrics.uwa.edu.au/go/paeds>).

Where can I stay during the 2-week residency in Perth?

A variety of short term accommodation is available, all in close proximity to the University. These include shared facilities, backpackers' accommodation, bed & breakfast, apartments, hotels, and University residential colleges. The University residential colleges are particularly well suited for students attending this course, as they are located midway between Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital and the University of Western Australia. For further information see the following website <http://www.studentservices.uwa.edu.au/ss/housing> (Advice for Visiting and International Students).

Am I eligible to sit the Registered Polysomnography Technologist (RPSGT™) exam after completing the *Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science*?

The RPSGT™ exam is developed, maintained and administered by the Board of Registered Polysomnography Technologists (BRPT). Eligibility requirements to sit the exam vary depending on your qualification and degree of paid clinical experience (<http://www.brpt.org/>).

When designing the *Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science* we were careful to consider the topics and competencies listed in: the A-Step Program; the Association of Polysomnography Technologists (APT) Curriculum in Polysomnographic Technology; and the BRPT Candidate Handbook. We intend to apply to have the *Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science* course accredited as an A-STEP equivalent course.

Having completed the *Graduate Certificate in Sleep Science* are there other courses I can take?

We are developing a *Graduate Diploma in Sleep Science* and a *Masters in Sleep Science*. These courses will be offered in future years (see Table below).

Current and Future Postgraduate Courses in Sleep Science at UWA

Year	Semester	Graduate Certificate	Graduate Diploma	Masters
2009	Semester 2	✓	-	-
2010	Semester 1	✓	-	-
	Semester 2	✓	-	-
2011	Semester 1	✓	-	-
	Semester 2	-	✓	-
2012	Semester 1	✓	-	✓
	Semester 2	-	✓	✓

Who is the course administrator?

Administrative support for the course is provided by the School of Anatomy & Human Biology (Faculty of Life and Physical Sciences). Any queries regarding the course should be directed to:

Administrative Assistant

School of Anatomy and Human Biology

University of Western Australia

35 Stirling Highway

CRAWLEY WA 6009

Ph: +61 8 6488 3290

Fax: +61 8 6488 1051

Email: postgrad.enquiries@anhb.uwa.edu.au

ONLINE UNITS

Fundamentals of Sleep Technology [ANHB 8431]

Fundamentals of Sleep Biology [ANHB 8432]

Can I complete the online modules at my own pace?

Yes. The online units have been designed with flexible delivery in mind. You must complete the modules in order (1 through 6). But once you have completed the online exam for any given module you can immediately move on to the next module.

What is a reasonable pace to complete the online modules?

Students can access the units from Monday July 20, but must have completed all modules and the final exam by Friday October 16, 2009. This provides a total of 12 weeks to complete the 12 modules and two online exams (if taking both online units concurrently). We expect students who have previous experience in sleep laboratories to be able to complete modules at a faster pace than those who are new to the field.

I am taking the two online units concurrently. Should I do them at the same time or complete one unit before starting the other?

The unit *Fundamentals of Sleep Biology* provides an introduction to history, anatomy, physiology, neurobiology and pathophysiology of sleep. As such we would recommend that you first complete the modules and final exam for *Fundamentals of Sleep Biology* (during weeks 1-6) and then complete the modules and final exam for *Fundamentals of Sleep Technology* (during weeks 7-12).

When can I take the final exam for a unit?

The final exam can only be taken once the online exam for module 6 has been completed. You can take the final exam anytime after completing module 6, up until Friday October 16, 2009, by which time it must have been completed.

What format are the online units?

All online units are accessed via the internet using WebCT. Each of the 6 modules contain between 2 and 3 lecture series consisting of PowerPoint slides. There is no audio with these slides.

Do I have access to course instructors?

Each student will be provided with email addresses of the course coordinators. We will endeavour to respond to any emails within 24-48 hours.

LABORATORY-BASED UNITS

Sleep Technology in Practice [ANHB 8433]

Sleep Biology in Practice [ANHB 8434]

Where will the laboratory-based units be held?

The laboratory-based units will be held at the School of Anatomy & Human Biology, University of Western Australia (UWA) and the West Australian Sleep Disorders Research Institute, Sir Charles Gairdner (SCGH). The two facilities are located about a ten minute walk from each other.

Sophisticated multi-user computer laboratories at UWA will be utilised for development and assessment of practical competencies associated with reading, scoring, analyzing and reporting laboratory-based and portable sleep studies. Clinical and research facilities at SCGH will be utilised for development and assessment of practical competencies associated with setup and monitoring of patients for laboratory-based and portable sleep studies, preparation and calibration of hardware and software and the application and titration of positive airway pressure therapy.

How are the two laboratory-based units spread over the two week period?

The course will run from Monday to Friday for two consecutive weeks. As a general rule, modules related to *Sleep Technology in Practice* will be held in the mornings and those related to *Sleep Biology in Practice* in the afternoons. There will be exceptions to this general rule as the course will include some evening and night classes, which will require modification of the start/finish times for the following day.

Will I have the weekend off in between the two weeks?

Yes. We do not intend running any classes over the weekend, although it is possible that clinical placements may occur on the Friday evening/night.

Does the course have a clinical partner?

Yes. The clinical partner for the *Graduate Certificate in Adult Sleep Science* is the West Australian Sleep Disorders Research Institute, a major research and clinical centre for the investigation and management of breathing disorders of sleep including snoring, sleep apnoea and sleep-related hypoventilation. The Institute consists of a 9-bed sleep investigations unit, accommodates about 70 staff members and performs in excess of 2,000 sleep studies per year. The Institute is based at Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital, one of Australia's largest public teaching hospitals, located about ten minutes walk from the University of Western Australia.