

ERGONOMICS TERTIARY EDUCATION IN NEW ZEALAND

The following information was supplied by Massey and Auckland Universities

Ergonomics Postgraduate Diploma, Masters and Doctoral degrees at Massey University

The Ergonomics Postgraduate Diploma and Masters degree at Massey University are part-time (two or more years) extramural internationally recognised qualifications. Both courses are offered in the extramural mode for both domestic and international students. Suitably qualified students may be able to progress to a Doctor of Philosophy degree in Ergonomics.

Details may be obtained from the web site: <http://ergonomics.massey.ac.nz>

The programme provides a comprehensive postgraduate ergonomics education that is designed to meet the educational and part of the supervised professional practice components of the New Zealand Ergonomics Society certification scheme of the Board for Certification of New Zealand Ergonomists, which has been benchmarked against the European certification scheme. The programme is interdisciplinary with papers run by staff from the University's Colleges of Science, Technology and Engineering, Business and Design as well as by specialist ergonomics practitioners.

The Postgraduate Diploma in Ergonomics contains the following papers:

Advanced Research Methods in HRM; Work Capacity and Performance; Ergonomics Analysis; Micro/Macro Ergonomics; People, Technology and Design.

The Master of Ergonomics builds on the postgraduate diploma and contains the following papers: Masters Thesis; Research Report; Ergonomics Professional Practice; optional advanced taught papers, and provision for four alternative courses of study as follows: 1. Masters Thesis. 2. Research Report and Ergonomics Professional Practice. 3. Ergonomics Professional Practice and two taught papers 4. Research Report and two taught papers.

Doctor of Philosophy in Ergonomics. A full or part-time research based PhD programme is also offered.

Flexible extramural full or part-time study. All of the papers are offered in the extramural mode. Study Guides are sent out to students upon enrolment at the beginning of the academic year (February). Usually students should attend the University for one or two 3-5 day contact blocks of study to supplement the course work in the study guides.

Career opportunities. The international demand for professional expertise in human factors and ergonomics has risen greatly in recent years. This is reflected by an increase in the number and scope of tertiary ergonomics (in the European Community) and human factors (in North America) courses throughout the world and by the development of international professional certification schemes. Ergonomists are in increasing demand internationally within both large and small companies, private and government research agencies, tertiary institutes and most commonly professional consultancies. In New Zealand, the career opportunities are more limited. A qualification in ergonomics is commonly used to complement a person's existing skills and work, or to enhance their chances of gaining employment in allied professions such as physiotherapy, occupational therapy, psychology, medicine, engineering, technology, design and sport science.

Further details may be obtained from Professor Stephen Legg

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MSc (Ergonomics) degree programme at the University of Auckland

The Departments of Psychology and Sport and Exercise Science at the University of Auckland have joined forces to offer a new two-year, full-time post-graduate degree specialising in ergonomics.

Commenced in 2002, it is designed to give students a thorough grounding in ergonomics plus specific expertise in physical ergonomics (e.g. work physiology, industrial biomechanics, process control) and/or industrial psychology (e.g. behaviour analysis, human perception and performance, organisational psychology).

Opportunities for thesis topics in a huge range of fields allied to Sport and Exercise Science and/or Industrial/Organisational Psychology are available. The new programme builds upon the University's existing undergraduate and postgraduate courses and established research programmes in both departments. Enrolments are now open.

For further information, please contact *Dr Brenda Lobb*, email b.lobb@auckland.ac.nz or tel 09-3737-599 ext. 6870.