

JACOB HAMPTON

JOINT MEDICAL PROGRAM

UNIVERSITY OF NEW ENGLAND

Senior School Subjects

- Year 11: English, Chemistry, Texts & Traditions Units 3 + 4 Early Advancement, Mathematical Methods Units 3 + 4 Early Advancement, Japanese, Specialist Mathematics.
- Year 12: English, Chemistry, Japanese, Specialist Mathematics, Extension Mathematics (Monash University).

Why did you choose these subjects? I decided to do these subjects because I knew I was good at them and I was aiming to get an ATAR in the 90's. I was hoping to get into Medicine, which at the time had no prerequisites, however chemistry was recommended.

What resources did you use to choose subjects? I had been using the Internet quite a bit to determine if there were any prerequisites for Medicine and to see what kind of mark I needed to get to be considered. In the end, I just chose the subjects I would be good at as I knew it was the mark that I needed.

What is your course like? I didn't manage to get in to Medicine right away, as it is an incredibly competitive course to get into. I did get an ATAR in the low 90's, which I was extremely happy with and this got me into a Bachelor of Biomedical Science at the University of Newcastle. After completing 1 year of this I was accepted into the Bachelor of Medicine at the University of New England in Armidale. This is a joint medical program with the University of Newcastle and I will be completing the degree this year. Medicine has been a fantastic course although it gets quite intense.

The years go on, your holidays become fewer and fewer. Our semesters go a lot longer than other courses, which can be very draining, but the content is fascinating! The first 3 years of the course are mainly lecture theatre and tutorial group study, with some exposure in the hospitals and GP practices. The final 2 years are all clinical learning in the hospital. There is still a LOT of study outside of your hospital hours but the content feels extremely relevant when you are seeing it at the hospital every day.

What have been some of the best parts of your course? The best parts of the course are the placements. In 2014 I was at Gosford Hospital full time for the year studying and last year I was at the John Hunter Hospital in Newcastle mainly. At the end of 3rd year, we got the opportunity to travel overseas and work in a place of health inequity. I travelled to the central highlands in India and worked in a rural missionary hospital for 2 months and it was an amazing experience.

I am also currently planning a 4-week placement in New York at the Lincoln Medical Centre, which is the busiest trauma centre in the U.S. As students, we get placed on a trauma team and work along side the medical staff assisting in the traumas that come in through the door. There are always opportunities that arise while studying Medicine- you just need to take them.

How did the subjects at school prepare you for your course? The subjects at school were great at building study habits. Medicine is a very busy course and you need to learn how to time manage and study efficiently. The subject that I feel would have helped quite a bit for my course would have been Biology, and I do regret not taking it, however at the time I felt I would have achieved higher picking the subjects that I did.

Course information: Joint Medical Program, University of New England, <http://bit.ly/29gnV9Q>