

Understanding Dementia

FREE Massive Open Online Course (MOOC)



FREE Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) Cost **FREE**

- Study method Fully online
- Duration 7 weeks
- **Estimated effort** 3 hours per week
- Accessibility Available on your computer, tablet or phone, 24/7
- **Enrolments** mooc.utas.edu.au

Do you want to learn from leaders in the field of dementia research and education? Are you interested in engaging with the international community on the major issues surrounding dementia, and ways to improve quality of life? Then join the Understanding Dementia FREE online course.

Understand the condition - improve dementia care

Understanding Dementia is designed to be accessible and appealing to people from diverse backgrounds including:

- People living with dementia, their families, friends and carers
- Community and residential facility support staff
- · Health professionals
- · Health policy makers
- · Individuals with a general interest in dementia

What is involved?

Understanding Dementia

The course draws upon the expertise of neuroscientists, clinicians, carers, people living with dementia and other experts from the Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre and its international colleagues.

Dementia has a profound impact on individuals, families and communities, and the number of people with dementia across the world increases every year as our global population ages. Dementia is now one of the most significant health, social and economic issues of the 21st Century.

Understanding Dementia examines the diseases that cause dementia, how they impact the person with dementia and the treatments and care practices that enhance quality of life across the trajectory of dementia for people with the condition, their families and carers. It provides avenues for engaging with this major international health issue with participants from around the world.

What is a MOOC?

MOOC is an acronym for Massive Open Online Course. MOOCs offer free online learning, with institutions such as the University of Tasmania sharing their expertise and knowledge in an open environment that is accessible to any and all interested parties.

The people behind the MOOCS

The Wicking Dementia Research and Education Centre is a global leader in dementia research and education, with a mission to transform the understanding of dementia and risk reduction worldwide and to enable positive change in dementia prevention and care.

It combines quality research in the themes of Care. Cause and Prevention of dementia, with advanced online learning technologies, to achieve its purpose of addressing the global impact of dementia. In addition to the Understanding Dementia MOOC, the Wicking Dementia Centre offers the Preventing Dementia MOOC and award courses from Diploma to Master level.

The Wicking Dementia Centre was established with core funding from the J.O. and J.R. Wicking Trust (Equity Trustees) and is located at the University of Tasmania.

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To find out more and to enrol visit mooc.utas.edu.au

✓ ud.mooc@utas.edu.au Understanding Dementia

utas.edu.au/wicking

Understanding Dementia Course Outline

1. The Brain

Provides a background on basic nervous system anatomy and function, followed by a discussion of the diseases that cause dementia, current dementia research and future directions.

2. The Diseases

Explores differences between normal ageing and dementia, risk factors, symptoms of dementia, issues surrounding diagnosis, as well as medical management.

Understanding Dementia

3. The Person

Addresses identifying and responding to symptoms, living with dementia, progression and staging, palliation, behavioural and psychological symptoms, and nonpharmacological therapies.