## Human Physiology and Anatomy Transcript

**Text on Screen:**

Human Physiology and Anatomy  
Dr Johannes Schuijers

“Hi, my name is Johanne Schuijers and I’m the head of the department of human biosciences and human biosciences basically is a collective term for areas such as anatomy, physiology, which is basically what most people do and a few staff also teach and do research in pathology and pharmacology. As well as being head of department I’m also the head of the Bachelor of Health Sciences Anatomy & Physiology stream, so I coordinate most of the aspects of that.

Most people would understand what anatomy and physiology is, but Anatomy in its simplest form is basically, a study of the structure of the body. Physiology which works also very closely with Anatomy is basically a study of understanding how the body functions. We look at those structures and work out how those structures function. I guess a lot of students are drawn to the study of Anatomy and Physiology because most people have it an inherent curiosity of how the body is structured and how it works. So I guess that is why a number of students would be interested in that process. In terms of why they should study at La Trobe uni, I guess there’s a number of reasons for that. The staff at La Trobe are really student focused and student centred so we’ve developed a series of subjects really trying to engage and maximise the students learning in learning physiology and anatomy. As well as that we’ve got the latest instrumentation in our Physiology labs, physiology would have a lot of laboratory tasks, associated with learning Physiology and we’ve got state of the art instrumentation. The type of instrumentation that we might see in clinical settings. As well as that with Anatomy we again have very comprehensive laboratory facilities where we not only use models and texts to learn anatomy but we use prosected models and specimens as well as human cadavers to maximise and assist you in learning human anatomy. The other thing is that we have a number of staff who not only teach in Anatomy and Physiology but do research in Anatomy and Physiology. So we can bridge that divide between experiments undertaking research in these areas and deliver that to the classroom to students. And finally I guess we’ve got a number of staff who have been awarded in their teaching experiences in Anatomy and Physiology. So we’ve got staff that have been recognised both at University and at national level in terms of excellence in teaching anatomy and physiology. I guess most people wouldn’t become anatomists and physiologists although they can and this department would support that. In order to become an anatomist or physiologist you would need to do a series of postgraduate degrees or a PhD in that area, and as I said we can support that. Most students obviously wouldn’t go to that degree. So in fact what we try and do is teach towards these graduate attributes. So what we are trying to do is make sure that students who complete Bachelor of Health Sciences and Physiology and Anatomy have a series of attributes and qualities that makes them very competitive with other students who would be applying for similar type science and health science jobs. It’s quite clear that the evidence suggests there is a shortage of science and health science graduates. And so industry, government, education, all looking for students who have these specific skills that a health science or science graduate would have and we work very hard to make sure that our students have those skills and as such are very competitive with other students applying for the same jobs.”