

Australia - IP Academic Bulletin 2015

Introduction

The IP Academic Bulletin (also known as the IP Bulletin) is the International Programs "catalog" and provides academic information about the program in Australia. This document should be read in conjunction with the Academic Arrangements section of the Participant Guide.

General

The International Program is affiliated with six universities in Australia: Griffith University, Macquarie University, - University of Queensland, Queensland University of Technology, University of Western Sydney, and Victoria University. CSU students apply to an academic program in general rather than to a specific institution. The Office of International Programs reviews each student's application and makes placements based on the student's academic needs and preparation as well as programmatic considerations. Disciplines are strictly limited to those indicated below.

Students are selected for a particular field of study and expected to take courses in that field of study during their year abroad. The fields of study in which students can be placed in 2015 are:

- Agriculture and Horticulture
- Engineering
- Environmental Studies
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Kinesiology and Exercise Science
- Marine Biology
- Psychology
- Studio Art

Griffith University

One of the newest universities in Queensland, Griffith began in 1975 and now has over 30,000 students, including 5,500 international students in more than 140 undergraduate degree programs on five campuses from Brisbane to the Gold Coast.

Macquarie University

Located in Sydney's northern suburbs, Macquarie is also a fairly new university with a reputation for innovation.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

QUT was created in 1989; however, its origins go back to 1849 with the beginning of technical and teacher education in Queensland. It currently has three campuses in metropolitan Brisbane, enrolling over 28,000 students.

The University of Queensland (UQ)

The oldest university in Queensland, UQ is one of the leading universities in Australia and a world-class research institution. CSU students study at the St Lucia campus located in a bend of the Brisbane River in the city of Brisbane. UQ enrolls over 30,000 students in 350 programs through the Ph.D.

The University of Western Sydney (UWS)

UWS consists of six campuses located in the western suburbs of Sydney. Each campus has its own unique history with one dating back as far as 1813. UWS is gaining an increasing reputation for teaching and research excellence.

Victoria University (VU)

Generally known as Victoria University, VU is one of Australia's largest universities with 14 campuses in Melbourne, and enrolls over 50,000 students. Disciplines available are Business, Engineering, Hospitality and Tourism, and Human Movement (Physical Education). Students attend the Footscray Park campus, six kilometers from the Melbourne Central Business District.

Academic Calendar

The academic year in Australia is divided into two semesters. As the seasons are reversed from those in the Northern Hemisphere, the first term begins mid to late February and runs until the end of June. The second term begins late July and ends in late November or early December.

Academic Advising

The Australian system of higher education derives from the British model, although it has developed along unique lines. In that model, general education as a component of the undergraduate degree is unknown. Undergraduate students enroll in a program of study that is relatively fixed and highly focused within the particular subject. The degree program normally takes three years to complete except some specialized or professional fields such as Engineering, Teaching or Physical Therapy, which require a fourth year of study. CSU students will enroll only in courses within the approved field of study in which they are placed, following the same general plan as their Australian counterparts.

Since Australian undergraduate students cover a field of study in great detail, they spend two to three times as long in concentrated study as do typical American undergraduate students. It is not surprising, therefore, to find American seniors taking second or third year courses in Australia.

Students should be aware that there is a distinction between first, second and third year courses. First year courses are usually introductory courses and taken by students in their first year of university study. Depending on course content, these are generally considered lower division courses. Second and third year courses are more advanced and considered equivalent to upper division courses. American students will find that second and third year courses can require more prerequisites and students are expected to have met prerequisites if they wish to take the course. If in doubt about whether the course is a first, second or third year course, students should look at the course description or the outline online or ask their advisor at their host university during their academic advising sessions after arrival.

Students are expected to enroll in a minimum of 15 CSU semester units each semester. Since most courses in Australia are worth four CSU semester units, CSU student will enroll in the equivalent of 16 CSU units each semester. Full time courseload equivalents and unit value equivalents for most courses are explained in the following table:

Australian University	CSU courseload requirement at Australian University per semester	Unit equivalent
Griffith University	40 credit points = 16 CSU units	10 credits = 4 CSU units
QUT	48 credit points = 16 CSU units	12 credits = 4 CSU units
Macquarie University	12-14 points = 16 CSU units	3 or 4 credits = 4 CSU units
University of Queensland	8 units = 16 CSU units	2 units = 4 CSU units
University of Western Sydney	40 credit points = 16 CSU units	10 credit = 4 CSU units
Victoria University	40 credit points = 16 CSU units	12 credits = 4 CSU units

Based on the table above, students take at least four courses each semester. A minimum of three courses must be within the approved area of study in which they were accepted. The fourth course can be an elective course.

Below is an example of the academic schedule for each semester in Australia.

	<u>CSU Units</u>
Courses in approved area of study:	12
Elective course outside approved area of study:	<u>4</u>
Minimum number of units required:	16

Any exceptions to the above schedule (e.g., taking more than one elective course in a given semester, taking more than 16 units, etc.), must be approved by the Office of International Programs. To request an exception, email the Office of International Programs at: < IPacademics@calstate.edu >.

Assessment and Grading

A course at an Australian university usually combines both seminars/tutorials and lectures, and students are expected to perform a great deal of independent work (e.g., reading, library study and doing research) in order to achieve high marks. Participation in class discussions during the seminars and tutorials is expected in addition to regular assignments. Courses may require fewer assignments but these assignments are worth a higher percentage of the total grade. For example, it is not uncommon to have a large percentage of a final grade based upon only one or two exams.

Typically, the Australian grading system is based on a seven-point scale. The mark of "High Distinction" is the best grade a student can receive, followed by "Distinction". Both grades equate to an A. "Credit" equates to a B and "Pass" equates to a C. Students can get a general idea of the grading scale and grade conversion by reviewing the table below.

CSU Grade	Griffith	Macquarie	QUT	UQ	UWS	Victoria
A	7 (High Distinction)	HD (High Distinction)	7 (High Distinction)	7 (High Distinction)	H (High Distinction)	HD (High Distinction)
A	6 (Distinction)	D (Distinction)	6 (Distinction)	6 (Distinction)	D (Distinction)	D (Distinction)
B	5 (Credit)	Cr (Credit)	5 (Credit)	5 (Credit)	C (Credit)	C (Credit)
C	4 (Pass)	P (Pass)	4 (Pass)	4 (Pass)	P (Pass)	P (Pass)
D	----	PC (Pass Conceded)	----	----	----	----
F	1, 2, 3 (Fail)	F (Fail)	1, 2, 3 (Fail)	1, 2, 3 (Fail)	F (Fail)	N (Fail)

Attendance is graded, and failure to attend the majority of lectures and tutorials can result in a professor refusing admission into the final exam and/or giving you a much lower grade. Australian universities also have strict policies with regards to taking exams and may not allow a student to take an exam if the student arrives late. Therefore, it is important that you become familiar with the test-taking policies by reading these policies when you arrive at your host university and again before you take any exams. CSU students are expected to comply with the policies implemented by their host university.

Although some universities permit students to retake a final examination after the original examination period has taken place, IP participants are not permitted to retake exams once the academic year at their host university has ended. Also refer to the Academic Arrangements section of the Participant Guide for Australia.

Academic Reporting

In addition to units and grades, the OIP reports each course attempted to the student's campus by reporting the title of the course taken and the CSU home campus department in which the course is closely related. This method of reporting means that students will need to furnish course descriptions, syllabi, and other course materials to their advisors in order to apply for credit towards specific major, minor, or general education requirements. Students should expect to complete campus-based forms (petitions or course substitution requests) with the assistance of their advisor(s). If courses are not needed for specific degree requirements, then it is usually not necessary to complete any other forms.

Course Offerings

Students are advised to consult the university's websites for specific course offerings, keeping in mind that CSU students are limited to the disciplines indicated below, and sometimes to courses for international students.

Each semester, students are expected to take a minimum of three courses within the approved area of study in which they are placed, following the same general plan as their Australian counterparts. The fourth course can be an elective course. Note that admission to courses is subject to availability, approval of the host university and the particular department's prerequisites.

Most courses taken are equivalent to four CSU semester units. All students are required to take four courses each semester, which is equivalent to 16 CSU semester units.

Griffith University

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas of study:

- Engineering (Gold Coast or Nathan campus)
- Environmental Studies (Gold Coast or Nathan campus)
- Hospitality and Tourism (Nathan or Gold Coast campus)
- Psychology (Gold Coast)
- Studio Art (South Bank campus)

Below is a table containing subject area and the corresponding study areas at Griffith in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings".

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following study ("subject") areas at Griffith
Engineering	Engineering (Griffith School of Engineering)
Environmental Studies	Environment and Planning (Environmental Science)
Hospitality and Tourism	Tourism, Sport and Hostel Management in Griffith's Business School
Psychology	Psychology
Studio Art	Fine Art (Queensland College of Art)

To find a course listing and descriptions, go to <http://www.griffith.edu.au/programs-courses/course-search> and do the following:

- Below "Courses", click on "Course Search".
- On the left side of the screen, click on the "Undergraduate" under "Study Level", "Semester 1" under "Semester Offered", and appropriate campus for the area of study that you have been selected to study (Gold Coast, Nathan or South Bank) under "Campus".
- In the search bar, enter your area of study by keyword, e.g., , Tourism, Studio Art. Then click the grey 'Search' button.

You may also search by 'program'. In order to do this, click on the radio button "Programs" next to the search bar. This will give you additional filters on the left hand side:

- Area of study
- Discipline area
- Study level (undergraduate only)
- Semester intake (semester 1 or semester 2 only)
- Then click 'Update results'

Students who have been selected to study studio art can also go to the link at <https://www148.griffith.edu.au/programs-courses/Program/CourseListAndRequirements?programCode=1181&studentType=Domestic> to view courses that are offered at the Queensland College of Art.

If you have questions about courses, please email exchange@griffith.edu.au.

Course Codes and Levels

At Griffith, each course is given a unique course catalogue number (course code) in the following format: nnnnAAA. AAA is a three character alpha code for the School which is the academic owner for the course and nnnn is the four character numeric code providing the unique identifier. The first number represents the course level as follows:

- 1000-1999: First-year courses (lower division)*
- 2000-2999: Second-year courses (upper division)*
- 3000-3999: Third-year courses (upper division)

*Some exceptions will apply depending on course content.

Students are not permitted to take courses above 3999.

Macquarie University

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Environmental Studies
- Marine Biology
- Psychology
- Sociology

Below is a table containing the area of study and the corresponding department (and department abbreviation) at Macquarie in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings".

Area of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following departments:
Environmental Studies	Biological Sciences (BIOL), Environment and Geography (ENV, ENVE), Earth and Planetary Sciences (GEOS)
Marine Biology	Biological Sciences (BIOL)
Psychology	Psychology (PSY)
Sociology	Sociology (SOC)

To find a course listing and descriptions, go to: <http://www.handbook.mq.edu.au/2014/Units/UGByDepartment>.

- Click on the department of the area that you have been selected to study to view course offerings. Refer to the above chart to locate the department (or departments) for your study area.
- Click on the specific course or “unit” to access the course description. When reading course descriptions, carefully note the relevant prerequisites.

As the 2015 version of the handbook is not expected to be released until December 2014, the 2014 version should only be used as a guide and is subject to change. On the left side of the link provided above, you will also see that courses or “units” are also listed by the session they are available (“Units by offering”). Session 1 is February-June, and Session 2 is July-November.

If you have questions about courses, please email Sarah O’Reilly at sarah.oreilly@mq.edu.au.

Course Codes and Levels

Each course is assigned a departmental three-letter code (as shown in the above table) followed by three digits. The first digit represents the course level as shown below.

- 100-199: First-year courses (lower division)*
 200-299: Second-year courses (upper division)*
 300-399: Third-year courses (upper division)

*Some exceptions will apply depending on course content.

Students are not permitted to take courses above 399.

Queensland University of Technology (QUT)

CSU students are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Engineering (Gardens Point campus)

Below is a table containing CSU majors and the corresponding “faculties” and degree programs at QUT in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under “Course Offerings.”

CSU Major (approved area of study)	Relevant courses can be found in the following degree programs:
Engineering	Engineering

To find information on courses (or what QUT refers to as “units”) go to <http://www.student.qut.edu.au/studying/units>. For Calendar click on 2015 Semester 1 to find courses offered in your first semester at QUT. For Discipline click on the study area that you have chosen to study by selecting the name of the degree program as indicated in the right column in the above table) and click on “select”. A list of courses will appear. To find more information about courses click on the number or title of the course.

If you have any questions regarding courses, please email Natalie Pye at n.pye@qut.edu.au.

Course Codes and Levels

At QUT, each course is given a unique course catalogue number (course code) in the following format:

AAAAnnn. AAA is a three character alpha code for the School which is the academic owner for the course and nnn is the three character numeric code providing the unique identifier.

In the faculties of Business and Creative Industries, the first number represents the course level as follows:

- 100-199: First-year courses (lower division)*
- 200-299: Second-year courses (upper division)*
- 300-399: Third-year courses (upper division)

**Some exceptions will apply depending on course content.

Students are not permitted to take courses above 399.

The University of Queensland (UQ)

CSU students are admitted to study at the St Lucia campus in the following areas:

- Marine Biology
- Psychology
- Sociology

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding departments at UQ in which students can take courses (subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings").

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following undergraduate programs:
Marine Biology	Marine Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Aquaculture and Marine Biotechnology • Coastal Management • Marine Biology and Ecology • Marine Geology and Coastal Processes
Psychology	
Sociology	Sociology

To find course descriptions, click on the link related to the area of study for which you have been admitted:

Marine Biology

http://www.uq.edu.au/study/program_list.html?acad_prog=2200&year=2013

Psychology

http://uq.edu.au/study/program_list.html?acad_prog=2023

Sociology

http://www.uq.edu.au/study/plan_display.html?acad_plan=SOCIOX2320

In the top right hand corner of the screen, ensure that the year of study next to "Show information for" is the year that you will be studying at UQ. To access course descriptions and when the course will be offered, click on the "Course Code." Check their website regularly for updated information.

If you have any questions regarding courses, please email Karen Fisher at k.fisher@admin.uq.edu.au.

Course Codes and Levels

At UQ, each course is given a unique course number in the following format:

AAAAAnnnn. AAAA is a four character alpha code for the School which is the academic owner for the course and nnnn is the four character numeric code providing the unique identifier. The first numeric character reflects the following levels:

- 1 = First-year course (lower division)*
- 2 = Second-year courses (upper division)*
- 3 = Third -year courses (upper division)

*Some exceptions will apply depending on course content.

Students are not permitted to take courses above the third year level.

The University of Western Sydney (UWS)

CSU students are admitted to study at UWS in the following areas:

- Agriculture (including Animal Science) and Horticulture (Hawkesbury campus)
- Hospitality and Tourism (Penrith campus)
- Kinesiology and Exercise Science (Campbelltown campus)

Below is a table containing areas of study and the corresponding degree programs at UWS in which students can take courses subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings".

Areas of study	Relevant courses can be found in the following degree programs:
Agriculture (including Animal Science)and Horticulture	Agriculture
Hospitality and Tourism	Tourism Management
Kinesiology and Exercise Science	Sport and Exercise Science

To find courses, click on the link for your area of study that you have been selected to study. Scroll down the page and you will see list of courses (what UWS refers to as "units"). Autumn session courses are offered in Semester 1, and Spring session courses are offered in Semester 2. Click on the numeric code for more information about the course.

Agriculture (Animal Science)

<http://handbook.uws.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=3670.1>

Hospitality and Tourism

<http://handbook.uws.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=1664.1>

Kinesiology & Exercise Science

<http://handbook.uws.edu.au/hbook/course.aspx?course=4658.2>

If you have any questions regarding courses, please email studyabroad@uws.edu.au.

Course Codes and Levels

At UWS, each course is given a unique course number containing six digits. Courses have different levels and course level information is provided in the course description. The following is a general guideline for how courses translate back to the CSU system.

Level 1 = First-year course (lower division)*

Level 2 = Second-year courses (upper division)*

Level 3 = Third and fourth-year courses (upper division)

*Some exceptions will apply depending on course content.

Victoria University (VU)

CSU students attend the Footscray Park campus (six kilometers from the Melbourne Central Business District), and are admitted to study in the following areas:

- Engineering
- Hospitality and Tourism
- Kinesiology and Exercise Science
- Psychology

Below is a table containing CSU majors and the corresponding Schools at VU in which students can take courses from subject to the conditions stated under "Course Offerings".

CSU Major (approved area of study)	Relevant courses can be found in the following degree programs:
Engineering	College of Engineering and Science
Hospitality and Tourism	College of Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School of Hospitality, Tourism and Marketing
Kinesiology and Exercise Science	College of Sports and Exercise Science
Psychology	College of Arts

To find course descriptions, go to the webpage which describes the equivalent degree program at VU. (See links below which pertain to the disciplines above.) After clicking on the link, you will be directed to the webpage which explains the degree program for that discipline. Select and click on the undergraduate program that closely matches the academic area that you have been selected to study and/or click on "Units and electives." You will find a list of courses (what VU refers to as "units") which are listed according to which semester the course is taken by VU degree-seeking students. Click on the title to find more information about the course.

Engineering: <http://www.vu.edu.au/about-us/academic-colleges/engineering-science/courses-we-offer>. Click on "Undergraduate degrees." Select the degree program most similar to the program that you are enrolled in at the CSU and follow the instructions above.

Hospitality and Tourism: <http://www.vu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-business-tourism-management-bbus-bsptom> for Tourism Management and <https://www.vu.edu.au/unitsets/BSPIHM> for Hospitality Management. Click on "Units and electives" and click again on "Show units and electives".

Kinesiology and Exercise Science <http://www.vu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-exercise-science-clinical-practice-abhe>.and/or <http://www.vu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-exercise-science-sport-practice-abhd>. Click on "Units and electives" and click again on "Show units and electives".

Psychology: <http://www.vu.edu.au/courses/bachelor-of-science-psychology-abpy>. Click on "Units and electives" and click again on "Show units and electives".

Students must select courses related to your study area from the Footscray Park campus only.

The schedule of classes (timetable) was not yet available at the time of this printing. Check the University's website regularly for updated information.

If you have any questions regarding courses, please contact Clare Hawkins at Clare.Hawkins@vu.edu.au or Damian Tyson at Damian.tyson@vu.edu.au.

Course Codes and Levels

At VU, each course is given a unique course number in the following format: AAAnnnn. AAA is a three character alpha code for the School which is the academic owner for the course and nnnn is the four character numeric code providing the unique identifier.

There is a distinction between first and subsequent year courses. First year courses are usually introductory courses taken by students in their first year of university study which are generally considered lower division courses with some exceptions depending on course content. Second and third year courses are more advanced, considered equivalent to upper division courses, and can require more prerequisites with some exceptions based on course content. If in doubt about whether the course is a first, second or third year course, students should look at the course description or outline and ask their advisor at their host university during their academic advising sessions after arrival.