

INFORMATION FOR PARENTS



University of South Australia

The first year of university is full of new experiences and it's also a time of rapid personal growth. Every student's journey will be unique, and they will manage challenges in their own way. This booklet is designed to provide you with some key insights into university life, so that you can be prepared to have discussions and offer additional support.

HIGH SCHOOL vs. UNIVERSITY

Attendance is closely monitored by both home group and subject teachers.	Attendance	Students are independent learners and are responsible for managing their attendance.
Students are known by staff and other students.	Identification	Students will have to proactively form connections.
Classes are generally small.	Classes	Class sizes vary from small tutorials to large lectures.
School hours are routine and regular.	Timetable	Classes are scheduled from early morning to mid-evening to give more flexibility. Every student's timetable will look different and vary each study period.
Classroom learning is essential to success.	Learning	Independent learning is a huge part of university study.
Teachers may allow extra time for assignments.	Deadlines	Formal extensions are available, however they are only given with significant reason.
Teachers manage assessments and provide prompts and reminders.	Assessment	Assessment information is available from week one. Students are responsible for managing their deadlines and submissions.
School reports are sent to parents/guardians.	Results	Results are confidential and are only available through an online student portal. This information is not shared with others without written permission from the student.
Classroom teachers manage most student issues.	Support	Students can access a wide range of support services on campus and online.
Students must leave school grounds after hours.	Access	Students can study on campus 24/7.
Some students have casual jobs.	Jobs	Most students work part-time.

WORKLOAD EXPLAINED



Each academic year is typically broken into two main study periods (similar to high school semesters). Here is a breakdown of the workload expected in each period.

Indicative of one study period, which usually consists of four courses (subjects).

WEEKS 1–5

- Workload increases at a moderate rate.
- One assignment per course.
- Some assignments will share due dates.

WEEKS 6–7 *+ two week teaching break*

- Workload increases to a medium rate.
- One assignment per course.
- Assignments increase in size and value.
- Some assignments will share due dates.

WEEKS 8–13 *+ swot vac and exams*

- Workload increases to a maximum rate.
- One assignment per course.
- Assignments increase in size and value.
- Major assignments and exams might share dates.



Full-time study load: 40 hours per week

12–26 class contact hours
14–28 independent study hours



Flexible learning

We offer over 70 flexible online degrees, giving students greater flexibility with their studies and other commitments.

SETTING UP FOR SUCCESS

Finding the right degree

It's really important for students to explore the many degree options on offer and to understand what interests them most. Here is a quick checklist of questions we recommend to help in the decision making process.

- ✓ Does this degree match my career goal?
- ✓ Do I like the courses in this degree?
- ✓ Why does this degree interest me?
- ✓ What will my study schedule look like?
- ✓ Will I meet the entry requirements?

Explore our full range of degrees at unisa.edu.au/study

SA's No.1 UNIVERSITY FOR GRADUATE CAREERS

QILT: Graduate Outcomes Survey 2016–18 – Full-time Employment Indicator (Undergraduate). Public SA-founded universities only.

University study tips

- ✓ Attend classes regularly.
- ✓ Develop academic and social networks with other students.
- ✓ Proactively research information as needed.
- ✓ Dedicate study hours to each course (subject) every week.
- ✓ Ask for help if things are confusing.
- ✓ Be engaged during tutorials and participate in online forums.
- ✓ Complete internships, placements, an overseas exchange or international study tour.
- ✓ Be organised and balance extra curricular activities.
- ✓ Read assignment details carefully and submit them on time.
- ✓ Learn from feedback provided by markers.

SUPPORT SERVICES

We offer a wide range of support services, so students can perform at their best. This includes:

Study support

Peer mentoring

Personal counselling

24-hour IT support

Access and inclusion services

Library services

We also have administration support via local Campus Central teams, affordable healthcare through our range of community clinics, and access to on-campus health and fitness centres. All UniSA students also have access to the free Safezone App, providing 24-hour security services while on campus.

STUDENT LIFE

Life beyond the classroom is also an important part of the university experience. We encourage our students to get involved with the following:

Orientation week / Campus events and activities /

Volunteering opportunities / Student clubs / UniSA Sport /

USASA (student association) / Career Services / UniSA+

No.1 IN SA FOR STUDENT SATISFACTION

QILT: Course Experience Questionnaire 2016–18 – Overall Satisfaction Indicator (Undergraduate). Public SA-founded universities only.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

FEES

If you are an Australian citizen, your place as a student at UniSA is Commonwealth-supported. This means you are charged for a portion of the cost of your studies and the Australian Government contributes the rest. If eligible, students can defer their contribution through a HECS-HELP loan and repay it later through the taxation system. The contribution will vary depending on what is studied.

FINANCIAL COSTS

Beyond the payment of fees, there are some additional costs involved with university study.

The Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) was introduced by the Federal Government to improve non-academic services for tertiary students. Parents should be aware that this fee is compulsory.

Students will also be required to purchase textbooks and materials for each course (subject). Second hand textbooks are available through the online company Zookal and new text books at the local Co-Op shops located on campus.

There may also be additional costs involved in placements, field trips, uniforms, stationery etc, and this will be outlined to students before the start of each course.

Note: University fees and associated costs may vary year to year. For the latest information, visit unisa.edu.au/fees

SCHOLARSHIPS AND GRANTS

Every year, more than 2,500 students benefit from a wide range of scholarships and grants at UniSA. Not only do they provide financial assistance, but they also often include valuable work experience, mentoring opportunities, and even overseas travel. Scholarships and grants are not just for high achieving students, but also for students in financial need, rural students, Aboriginal students and more.

Visit our scholarships search engine at unisa.edu.au/scholarships to see what is available and to check the eligibility criteria.

ACCOMMODATION

There are a variety of student accommodation options including the new UniSA Student Accommodation by Urbanest, offering modern apartments in the Adelaide CBD. There is also dedicated student housing, homestay options, private rentals, non-profit housing and more. To explore all of these options, access our dedicated UniSA Rental Database at unisa.edu.au/accommodation

HOW TO APPLY

For all the information you need about how to apply to UniSA, visit unisa.edu.au/apply



University of
South Australia

If you have any questions relating to the information in this guide, please contact our Future Student Enquiries team.

(p) 08 8302 2376

(e) unisa.edu.au/enquire

To learn more about UniSA, visit unisa.edu.au

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For information specific to international students, please visit unisa.edu.au/international