

University of Sydney

Choosing the Right Subjects

Subject Selection Advice

- When on main page of University of Sydney course catalog, click on the link ('Search for Units of Study') directly below the heading 'Units of Study'
 - On the following page, choose the course list under 'Find units of study'
 - Semester 1 – February semester
 - Semester 2 – July semester
 - To find courses, scroll through course list or use Ctrl + F to search for courses using a key word
 - For the description, click on the link in the far right column, under 'For more information,' from there you'll need to choose the link next to 'Unit of study handbook,' then choose the appropriate semester within the handbook to find the course description
- **When looking at classes pay attention to the campus the class is offered, if the class is offered at a campus other than Camperdown/Darlington please talk with your coordinator**

Please make sure that you have fulfilled the equivalent pre-requisites. For example, the University of Sydney will not approve Marketing 2001 if you have never taken a Marketing class.

Prerequisites

Some subjects may indicate prerequisites; the Australian University will review your transcripts to ensure that you have met these prerequisites with equivalent classes. They will not, in most cases, require that you have taken their exact class. For example, if the prerequisite is History 1001 - Australian History, you will need to have taken an introductory history class, not necessarily about Australia. Be sure that you have submitted updated transcripts to AustraLearn so that your prerequisites can be properly evaluated.

Approval

Based on availability and prerequisites, the Australian University will either approve or not approve the subject for you to take. If a subject is not approved based on prerequisites, you can approach the professor once you arrive and attempt to obtain approval in person.

Class Level

In general, Australians complete their Bachelor's degrees in 3 years. They do not have to fulfill core requirements in a variety of disciplines, so they start taking classes towards their major during their first semester. Therefore, 1st year classes in Australia are generally equivalent to 2nd year classes in the US; 2nd year Australian classes are equivalent to 3rd year US classes; and 3rd year Australian classes are equivalent to 4th year US classes. There are always exceptions to this, however, and it is up to your university to decide the credit and level they will award.

At the University of Sydney, you cannot take a 3000 level course unless you are considered a Senior at your home university. If you feel that you meet the requirements include the 3000 level course on your Intended Subject Plan, but please be advised that you may not receive approval unless you are a Senior.

Scheduling

Timetables at most universities are not published until just before the semester begins. Therefore, you will not actually finalize enrollment in your subjects until after you arrive. The International Office will pre-enroll students into units before the semester begins in order to hold placements within those units.

The majority of classes do not have quotas, so you shouldn't have to worry about space filling up. You will be pre-enrolled into units approved by both the Australian University and your US University, according to how they fit into your schedule. If you choose to enroll in any subjects that were not pre-approved by your US University, you should contact your university from Australia in order to obtain the necessary approval. Be sure to bring your advisor's fax number with you. We will be sending you more information about approvals once we receive your subject choices.

GRADING CONVERSION GUIDE

AustraLearn: Study in Australia, New Zealand and the South Pacific

Source: *Australia: Education & Training - An Update of the 1990 World Education Series Volume (2004)* by Edward Devlin is a Special Report that describes new certification/grading practices at the secondary level in each state/territory. Published by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO)

University of Sydney

Australian Qualification	US Grade
High Distinction (HD)	A+
Distinction (D)	A
Credit (Cr)	B
Pass (P)	C
Conceded Pass (PC)	C- (*See below)
Fail (F)	F

Recommended Credit: 18-24 credit points per semester = 12 -16 US semester credit hours

6 credit points at USYD = 3 – 4 semester credits in the U.S.

8 credit points at USYD. = 4 -5 semester credits in the U.S.

Full time students at USYD average between 18-24 credit points per semester.

The minimum full-time load per semester is 18 University of Sydney credit points and the maximum is 30 credit points without incurring additional tuition charges.

Examples of full time course load options:

4 x 6 cr. pt. classes = 24 cr. Pts. at USYD. or 16 U.S. semester credits

In each unit of study at the University of Sydney approximately 4% of students in a unit receive a HD grade, 18% receive a D grade, about 50% a C grade

***This information had been provided by The University of Sydney – September 2007**