

## Choosing the Right Subjects \*\*

- To search for available classes please select "UWA Unit Outlines" on the Enter Outward menu
- You can search by Faculty, Alphabetical, Unit Code or Unit Title
- Click on the specific unit name for further details on that class
- To view courses that students from your home university have previously taken at UWA please select "Credit Database" on the Enter Outward menu.
- Make sure you select the correct semester: Semester 1 or Autumn refers to the February semester, Semester 2 or Winter refers to the July semester. If the University of Western Australia indicates that a class is "internal", this means that the class is offered on campus. If the class is "external", this means that the class is offered online; you may still be able to take the class as though you were a correspondent student.

### \*\* Some Notes on Unit Selection provided by the University of Western Australia:

Subjects of study at UWA are called units. Generally each unit is worth six points and all Student Exchange and Study Abroad Students are required to enrol in 24 points per semester while at UWA. All units at UWA will consist of four letters detailing the discipline of the unit (such as ECON for economics, PSYC for Psychology) and four numbers, which indicate the level of studies and internal faculty code for the unit. Please note that UWA restricts enrolment for Student Exchange and Study Abroad students to certain units such as medicine, dentistry and other quota restricted units.

You can view the units UWA offers here: <http://units.handbooks.uwa.edu.au/units>.

**Units with Numbers Starting 1-4:** Units at UWA with numbers from 1 to 4 are generally undergraduate units. A code beginning in 1 represents first year level studies, 2 represents second year level studies and so on. Please note that some units coded 4xxx and 3xxx are common to both postgraduate and undergraduate programs and are marked UG (Undergraduate) and PG (Postgraduate) in the handbook.

**Units with Numbers 5 and above:** Units with numbers beginning with a 7 are honours units and generally not available to exchange students. Units beginning with an 8 are generally Masters level, and students whom select these *should* hold a relevant bachelor's degree. Units beginning with a 9 are at the Doctoral or post-Doctoral level and are generally not available to exchange students.

**A note about teaching periods:** When a unit is offered in semester 1, this refers to the teaching period at UWA from February to June. Semester 2 refers to the period July to November. You should only choose units available in the period(s) you are coming to UWA. If you are studying at UWA for two semesters across two academic years, please note that the unit selection/availability for your second semester will not be available until later in the year, normally in late October/early November. If a unit is marked as being offered in a "Offshore teaching period" only, this unit is not available on the Crawley (Perth) campus and should not be selected. If you wish to do a unit marked "non standard teaching period" please consult this website for dates: <http://handbooks.uwa.edu.au/teachingperiods>.

These units may be available to you, and sometimes they require additional expenses (especially field trip units). If you select one of these units, your Exchange Adviser at UWA may need to amend your Offer and COE. Units marked “Summer teaching period” are generally not available, but if you wish to study these please contact your Student Exchange Adviser if a unit is offered during a trimester period, it is a MBA unit. These units are generally not available to Study Abroad and Exchange students, except in the case where the student is enrolled in an MBA course at their home institution, and this is part of the exchange agreement with UWA. Many of the MBA units content is offered in semester based studies. It is possible to mix semester and trimester based studies but not advisable as this can lead to timetable clashes.

## **Prerequisites and Course Approval**

Some subjects may indicate prerequisites; the University of Western Australia 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 101 - 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.

Based on availability and prerequisites, the University of Western Australia will either approve or not approve the subject for you to take. If a subject is not approved based on prerequisites, it may be a possibility to approach the professor once you arrive and attempt to obtain approval in person.

## **Course Scheduling and Enrollment**

The finalized timetable for the University of Western Australia may not be available until about a month prior to your departure. Most students therefore finalize their enrollment upon arrival to the University of Western Australia. The majority of classes do not have quotas, so you shouldn't have to worry about space filling up. You will choose your classes from your list of subjects approved by the University of Western Australia and your US/Canadian institution, according to how they fit into your schedule. If you choose to enroll in any subjects that were not pre-approved by your home institution, you should contact your home institution from Australia in order to obtain the necessary approval. Be sure to bring your advisor's contact information. We will be sending you more information about approvals once we receive your subject choices.

## **Academic Differences between Australia and the U.S./Canada**

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 home university to decide the credit and level they will award.

Often times it is expected that students spend a lot of time outside of the classroom doing their own research/study/reading. Every university varies somewhat, but in general, you should be prepared for some differences between the overseas and the U.S./Canadian academic systems and be aware that you may experience a period of adjustment.

**- Continue to next page for grading conversion guide -**

## Grading Conversion Guide: University of Western Australia

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The following information is provided from *Australia: Education and Training – An Update of the 1990 World Education Series Volume* (2004) by Edward Devlin. This is a special report that describes new certification and grading practices at the post-secondary level in each state or territory. The report is published by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (AACRAO).

Australian Qualification	Australian Percentage	U.S. Grade
High Distinction (HD)	80-100	A
Distinction (D)	70-79	B
Credit Pass (CR)	60-69	C
Pass (P)	50-59	D
Fail (N+)	45-49	F
Fail (N)	0-44	F
Ungraded Pass (UP)	N/A	
Pass Conditional (P*)	N/A	
Ungraded Fail (UF)	N/A	F

### Recommended credit

6 UWA credit points = 4 US semester hours/credits

The maximum semester point load for Study Abroad students at  
The University of Western Australia is 24 points per semester.