

## Choosing the Right Subjects

### Campus Details:

The main campus at Monash University is the Clayton Campus. Please note that you can only study at The Clayton or Caulfield Campuses, however, due to the fact that they are 30 minutes away from each other by bus, we strongly recommend that you select classes from 1 campus instead of commuting between the two.

### Course Selection:

To select classes, please do the following:

1. Select “Units Indexed by Faculty” link
2. Select Faculty, i.e. Business and Economics
3. Select Alpha-numeric unit code
4. Make sure the class is offered in the semester you are attending Monash and at the Caulfield or Clayton Campus
5. If a class description is not listed in the “Synopsis” field, please click on the link in that field for a description.

When filling out the AustralLearn Intended Subject Plan (ISP), please do the following:

1. Enter the name of the department with the subject # in the Subject # field (ex: AIS1020)
2. Enter the campus location (ex. Clayton or Caulfield)
3. Enter the subject name in the Subject Name field (ex: Intro to Australian Indigenous Societies)

### Choosing the Right Subjects:

Make sure you select the correct semester: **Semester 1 or Autumn refers to the February semester, and Semester 2 or Winter refers to the July semester.** If Monash University 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

Generally speaking, students will take four courses while studying abroad. The minimum requirement for your student visa is three courses. Students are responsible for knowing the home university academic or financial aid requirements as they apply to study abroad course enrollment.

## **Prerequisites and Course Approval**

Some subjects may indicate prerequisites; Monash 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 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 AustralLearn so that your prerequisites can be properly evaluated.

Based on availability and prerequisites, Monash 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.

## **Course Scheduling and Enrollment**

Timetables at most universities are not published until just before the semester begins. Therefore, you will not actually enroll in your subjects until after you arrive. 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 both Monash 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.

## **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 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: Monash University

---

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 Grade	Australian Qualification	U.S. Grade
HD	High Distinction	A
D	Distinction	A-
C	Credit	B
P	Pass	C
N	Fail	D, F

### Recommended credit

6 credits = 3 - 4 semester credits

Average semester credit point load at Monash = 24 credits

Total credit point load to earn a degree at Monash = 144 credits