University Foundation Studies — *Standard (Two Terms) Course or Extended (Three Terms) Course

Unit descriptions

Arts
(for students wishing to study Arts, Humanities, Social Science, Psychology, Education or Languages)

*These units are studied in both terms of the Standard (Two Terms) Course. They are also studied in Terms 2 and 3 of the Extended (Three Terms) Course which is available to international students only.

Academic English B (studied over two terms)
This unit provides students with the linguistic skills needed for the demands of university study. Topics include writing reports, writing summaries, making oral presentations, effective reading and note-taking.

Australian Contemporary Studies
Australian Contemporary Studies aims to inform students of some of the important physical, social, political and economic events which have helped shape the development of Australia as an independent modern nation.

The study of issues, events, attitudes and values in the Australian context, along with the development of academic skills, should assist students in their study of Humanities units at the tertiary level.

In addition, all students, especially international students, should acquire a better appreciation of the environment in which they live and learn to think more critically about issues facing people in the 21st century.

Australian Studies
Australian Studies provides an introduction to Australian history and society today. Topics include the first Australians, European exploration, Australian culture, Australia and the Asia-Pacific region, as well as contemporary issues.

Communication and Media
This unit examines the influence of new forms of communication and mass media, as well as providing an informed understanding of media, cross-cultural communication and the role of information technology.

Computer Competency
This units provides an introduction to basic computing with an introduction to Windows (including file management), Word, Excel, PowerPoint, the web and email. Students learn tips on what to look for when buying a computer system — hardware and software — and how to interpret computer jargon.

Cultural Perspectives
This unit introduces a number of themes including defining culture and the construction, transmission and interpretation of culture, as well as the influences of sociological, psychological, historical and political trends on individuals, groups and society.

Introduction to the Australian Legal System (Fast Track)
In this unit, foundation knowledge is provided on the origin and development of the Australian legal system, including historical influences on Australian law and Aboriginal customary law. It also examines the structure and role of parliament, the constitution, the courts and statute law, and provides an introduction to business law.

Literacy for Tertiary Studies
This skill-based unit is aimed at ensuring students are able to be effective in the study of the units in their chosen discipline at the Foundation Studies level and in future undergraduate study. The University Foundations Studies Literacy for Tertiary Studies unit aims to develop and consolidate some key academic skills which will assist students, especially those with limited exposure to quantitative and analytical study, to successfully complete their University Foundation Studies and future undergraduate study.