



MACQUARIE  
University

# What's uni really like?

GUIDE FOR STUDENTS IN YEAR 10 AND 11



Kurt Fahey  
Bachelor of Marine Science, 2015

# Go beyond books

You'll learn from more than just books and lectures at Macquarie, thanks to our pioneering approach to study. Picture yourself interning at an international corporation like Microsoft, helping local communities in Peru, working with local councils to develop community engagement strategies, or assisting with a land rights claim in the jungles of Borneo.

Through our pioneering programs like PACE (Professional and Community Engagement) and the Global Leadership Program (GLP), you'll get outstanding opportunities to develop important leadership and cross-cultural skills. You'll become more attractive to potential employers and increase your ability to get a great job while making a real difference in the world.

[mq.edu.au/reasons](http://mq.edu.au/reasons)

*Life at uni is nothing like you'd expect. Like school, you're always around your friends and having a good time – except you get to choose to do things you enjoy rather than things you don't. With flexible timetabling, you can make time for work, gym and some fun. It's always nice to feel in control of what you do and when you do it rather than being told what to do.*

*The flexibility of uni also means I really can study exactly what I want and in the way I want to. Unlike high school, I've been on so many field trips and unique practicals, as well as having opportunities to get involved in research. With the facilities at Macquarie, field trips and varied modes of delivery, learning is rarely boring. Some of my practicals have taken me 52 kilometres offshore of Sydney, as well as into a research lab that sits on the Great Barrier Reef.*

*I've made a lot of friends through the gym, sporting groups and student groups. The best part is everyone in your group is interested in the same thing you are – which means you can be a proud nerd in whatever it is you do.*

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## CALLING ALL HIGH ACHIEVERS

Are you in Year 10 but thinking ahead to Year 11 and 12? Have you demonstrated outstanding academic achievement including undertaking accelerated completion of one of your HSC subjects (Band 6 or E4) before you commence Year 12?

If so, we've got the program for you. With our Gifted and Talented Entry Program, you could join a select group of high-achieving students in studying at Macquarie while you're still at high school.

In Year 11, you'll tackle our first-year Critical Thinking unit, which will help you gain analytical and reasoning skills that will benefit you in your HSC study. Then you can pursue your passion with another Macquarie first-year study unit in either Year 11 or Year 12.

You'll get a head start on everyone else with two completed units already under your belt.

[mq.edu.au/gifted-and-talented](http://mq.edu.au/gifted-and-talented)



CAN I AFFORD TO GO TO UNI?

When estimating how much uni study will cost, you need to consider course fees as well as other costs such as student services and amenities fees, textbooks and general living expenses. The good news is if you're a domestic undergraduate student in a bachelor program, the Australian Government will pay part of your fees to help you on your way.

[mq.edu.au/ug-fees-and-costs](http://mq.edu.au/ug-fees-and-costs)

CAN I GET A SCHOLARSHIP?

Each year, Macquarie University awards more than \$2.5 million in scholarships – some to help those with a financial need or other hardship, some to reward high achievers, and some recognising leadership or voluntary experiences. That's a lot of cash, and you may find that you're eligible for some of it.

[mq.edu.au/scholarships](http://mq.edu.au/scholarships)

WHAT IF I NEED HELP?

Uni is really different from high school. It's hugely exciting, but it can also be challenging, especially when you're a new student. We provide a comprehensive support system that you can access throughout your time on campus – including study skills, health and wellbeing, and careers advice. If you have a disability or health condition that affects your ability to study, you can register for specific support.

[students.mq.edu.au/support](http://students.mq.edu.au/support)

WHAT IF I NEED A PLACE TO STAY?

At Macquarie, we offer an array of safe, supportive and friendly options including university housing, residential colleges, self-contained studios, apartments and private listings to suit all needs. Some options even come with perks like free membership to our Sport and Aquatic Centre, internet, or parking passes.

[mq.edu.au/accommodation](http://mq.edu.au/accommodation)

WHAT ARE YOU EVEN SAYING?

Understanding university terms is essential to succeeding in your studies. We'll be honest, though – sometimes the words we use can be a bit tricky to get your head around. Here's a quick guide to help you make sense of it all.

	<b>ATAR</b> The Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) is calculated by the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) and helps universities determine who receives a place. Not to be confused with a mark, it's a score between 0 and 99.95 that ranks you against your peers.
	<b>COURSE</b> A course is a program of study that you are enrolled in. When you have successfully completed a specified number of credit points in your course, you will be awarded your degree.
	<b>DOUBLE DEGREE</b> A double degree allows you to study across two complementary, or completely different, areas of study. Double degrees increase your career flexibility and can be completed faster than two single degrees.
	<b>GPA</b> A grade point average (GPA) is a calculation of your overall grades based on units you've completed at uni.
	<b>LECTURE</b> Lectures are where you will learn most of your degree content. The length of lectures vary from unit to unit, but most run for an hour or more.
	<b>MAJOR</b> A major is a particular area of study that you focus on within general courses like the Bachelor of Arts. You may have the option to combine two different areas with a double major, or combine a major and a minor.
	<b>MINOR</b> Minors are made up of fewer credit points than a major. You may be allowed to supplement your major with a minor (or two minors) in a different study area.

	<b>PREREQUISITE</b> A prerequisite is a unit that must be completed (or a requirement that must be satisfied) before you can enrol in a particular unit.
	<b>RECOMMENDED KNOWLEDGE</b> Some units assume that you have certain knowledge and skills from previous study such as the HSC. Introductory units and bridging courses are available if you don't have the recommended knowledge.
	<b>SESSION</b> A session is a period of study, just like a school term. Some universities call them semesters. At Macquarie, we have three sessions: Session 1 runs between February and June, and Session 2 runs between August and November. Session 3 is an optional intensive session that runs between December and February and can fast-track your course.
	<b>TUTORIAL</b> Tutorials, or 'tutes', generally include 20 or 30 students and are an opportunity to ask your tutor questions and talk about the course material with fellow students.
	<b>UAC</b> The Universities Admissions Centre, or UAC as it's commonly known, is the organisation that receives and processes most applications for admission to university in New South Wales and the Australian Capital Territory. It's through UAC that you make your course preferences, and it's UAC that actually lets you know if you've received an offer to study at Macquarie.
	<b>UNIT</b> Units are what we call subjects. Most full-time students take four units – each worth a fixed number of credit points – per session.

# What can I study?

Part of what makes Macquarie pioneering is that we allow you the freedom to explore your interests across a range of areas, rather than lock you in to a single, narrow field. We offer 41 courses and 40 double degrees, so we're confident you'll find something here that excites and inspires you, and that sets you up for an amazing future. Here are a few ideas.

YOU LIKE	YOU COULD STUDY	YOU COULD BE
Business studies Economics Languages Mathematics Society and culture	<b>BUSINESS</b>	Accountant Actuarial analyst Data analyst Human resources rep or recruiter Marketing specialist
English History or geography Languages Mathematics Science	<b>EDUCATION</b>	Adult educator Early childhood teacher Primary or secondary teacher Special education teacher Tertiary educator
Chemistry Engineering studies Information processes and technology Mathematics or physics Software design and development	<b>ENGINEERING AND IT</b>	Engineer Games designer Robotics developer Software designer Web developer
Biology Chemistry Earth and environmental science Geography Physics	<b>ENVIRONMENT</b>	Ecologist or Earth scientist Marine scientist Mining industry consultant Sustainability specialist Zoologist
Biology, chemistry or physics English Mathematics Society and culture PDHPE	<b>HEALTH AND MEDICAL SCIENCES</b>	Audiologist or speech pathologist Forensic scientist Medical researcher Physiotherapist Psychologist
Community and family studies Earth and environmental science Legal studies Society and culture Studies of religion	<b>LAW, SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE</b>	Barrister or solicitor Criminologist Defence or intelligence officer Security analyst State or federal police officer
Design and technology Drama or music English Society and culture Visual arts	<b>MEDIA, CREATIVE ARTS AND COMMUNICATION</b>	Advertising specialist Film, music, radio or TV producer Journalist Marketing or public relations specialist Video game designer
Biology, chemistry, mathematics or physics Design or industrial technology Earth and environmental science Engineering studies Information processes and technology	<b>SCIENCE</b>	Astronomer or astrophysicist Biologist or chemist Biotechnologist Mathematician or physicist Researcher
Community and family studies English or languages History or geography Society and culture Studies of religion	<b>SOCIETY, HISTORY AND LANGUAGES</b>	Archaeologist or anthropologist Historian or museum curator Social or market researcher Translator or interpreter Urban or environmental planner



## Bachelor of Arts

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Arts	3 years full-time
B Arts (Distance)	3 years full-time
B Arts with B Commerce	4 years full-time
B Arts with B Education (Primary)	4 years full-time
B Arts with B Education (Secondary)	4 years full-time
B Arts with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Arts with B Science	4 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Arts	4 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours) with B Arts	5 years full-time

## Business

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Actuarial Studies	3 years full-time
B Actuarial Studies with B Science	4 years full-time
B Applied Finance	3 years full-time
B Applied Finance with B Actuarial Studies	4 years full-time
B Applied Finance with B Business Analytics	4 years full-time
B Applied Finance with B Commerce – Professional Accounting	4 years full-time
B Applied Finance with B Economics	4 years full-time
B Applied Finance with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Arts with B Commerce	4 years full-time
B Business Administration	3 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Arts	4 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Arts – Psychology	4 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Commerce – Professional Accounting	4 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Psychology (Honours)	5 years full-time
B Business Analytics	3 years full-time
B Business Analytics with B Security Studies	4 years full-time
B Business Leadership and Commerce	4 years full-time
B Commerce	3 years full-time
B Commerce with B Arts – Psychology	4 years full-time
B Commerce with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Commerce with B Psychology (Honours)	5 years full-time
B Commerce with B Science	4 years full-time
B Commerce – Professional Accounting	3 years full-time
B Commerce – Professional Accounting with B Business Analytics	4 years full-time
B Commerce – Professional Accounting with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Economics	3 years full-time
B Economics with B Business Analytics	4 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours) with B Commerce	5 years full-time
B Global Business	3 years full-time
B Marketing and Media	3 years full-time

### GET THE LATEST INFO

The details listed here are correct for 2016 but are intended as a guide only as courses can vary from year to year. Check our website for the latest information including entry criteria and what you'll study in each course.

[courses.mq.edu.au](http://courses.mq.edu.au)

## Education

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Arts with B Education (Primary)	4 years full-time
B Arts with B Education (Secondary)	4 years full-time
B Arts – Psychology with B Education (Primary)	4 years full-time
B Education (Early Childhood Education) (Birth to 12)	4 years full-time
B Education (Early Childhood Education) (Birth to 12) (Distance)	4 years full-time
B Education (Primary)	2 years full-time
B Education (Secondary)	2 years full-time
B Science with B Education (Secondary)	4 years full-time
B Teaching (Early Childhood Education)	4 years full-time
B Teaching (Early Childhood Education) (Distance)	4 years full-time

## Engineering and IT

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Digital Business	3 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours)	4 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours) with B Arts	5 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours) with B Commerce	5 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours) with B Science	5 years full-time
B Information Technology	3 years full-time
B Information Technology with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Information Technology – Games Design and Development	3 years full-time

## Environment

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Biodiversity and Conservation	3 years full-time
B Environment	3 years full-time
B Environment with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Marine Science	3 years full-time

## Health and medical sciences

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Arts – Psychology	3 years full-time
B Arts – Psychology with B Education (Primary)	4 years full-time
B Arts – Psychology with B Human Sciences	4 years full-time
B Arts – Psychology with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Arts – Psychology	4 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Psychology (Honours)	5 years full-time
B Chiropractic Science	3 years full-time
B Clinical Science	2 years full-time
B Commerce with B Psychology (Honours)	5 years full-time
B Commerce with B Arts – Psychology	4 years full-time
B Human Sciences	3 years full-time
B Medical Sciences	3 years full-time
B Psychology (Honours)	4 years full-time
B Psychology (Honours) with B Human Sciences	5 years full-time
B Psychology (Honours) with B Laws	6 years full-time
B Science – Psychology	3 years full-time
B Speech, Hearing and Language Sciences	3 years full-time

## Law, security and intelligence

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Applied Finance with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Arts with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Arts – Media with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Arts – Psychology with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Business Administration with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Business Analytics with B Security Studies	4 years full-time
B Commerce with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Commerce – Professional Accounting with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Environment with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Information Technology with B Laws	5 years full-time
B International Studies with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Laws	4 years full-time
B Laws (Distance)	8 years part time
B Psychology (Honours) with B Laws	6 years full-time
B Science with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Security Studies	3 years full-time
B Security Studies (Distance)	3 years full-time
B Security Studies with B Laws	4 years full-time
B Social Science with B Laws	5 years full-time

## Media, creative arts and communication

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Arts – Media	3 years full-time
B Arts – Media with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Marketing and Media	3 years full-time

## Science

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Actuarial Studies with B Science	4 years full-time
B Advanced Science	3 years full-time
B Arts with B Science	4 years full-time
B Commerce with B Science	4 years full-time
B Engineering (Honours) with B Science	5 years full-time
B Science	3 years full-time
B Science (Distance)	3 years full-time
B Science with B Education (Secondary)	4 years full-time
B Science with B Laws	5 years full-time

## Society, history and languages

Undergraduate course	Course duration
B Ancient History	3 years full-time
B Ancient History (Distance)	3 years full-time
B Archaeology	3 years full-time
B Arts majoring in Linguistics	3 years full-time
B Hellenic Studies	3 years full-time
B International Studies	3 years full-time
B International Studies with B Laws	5 years full-time
B Planning	4 years full-time
B Social Science	3 years full-time
B Social Science majoring in Sociolinguistics	3 years full-time
B Social Science with B Laws	5 years full-time

# The inside word on Macquarie

Macquarie is a truly pioneering uni. But don't take our word for it. We asked Ellie Rutter, a second-year student studying a Bachelor of Arts with Bachelor of Education (Primary), to answer some questions you may have.

## **WILL I HAVE TO GO TO BORING CLASSES ALL DAY LONG?**

Even though at university you still go to classes, do exams and write essays, it is a very different experience from that of school. On the whole, you have a lot more freedom. You can choose what you wear, what you want to study, how you want to study and what time your classes are.

At Macquarie, your study is really flexible. You only have class for about 15 hours a week, depending on your course – which means more days off and more free time.

The great thing about flexible timetabling at Macquarie is that you can choose to have only a few hours of classes a day, or alternatively, you could structure your timetable so that you're at uni only two or three days a week.

Your classes aren't always in the classroom either. You can participate in exchange programs, do internships, take practical subjects such as science and history investigations, or teach in a school as a part of your education studies. You can even do a community service project in Peru – and have it count as a unit!

## **WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND ABOUT WHAT I WANT TO STUDY?**

One of the reasons I came to Macquarie is because of the flexibility to study what really interests and excites me.

Macquarie's flexible internal transfer policy means you're often able to swap courses, with the help of academic advisers to ensure that your transition is smooth. So if you're not entirely sure what career path you want to pursue, you won't be stuck in a course doing something that isn't the right fit for you.

The other great thing is being able to build your program of study across different disciplines. So even if you've got two totally different interests – like business and philosophy – you can combine them into one degree.

## **GOT A GAZILLION QUESTIONS?**

We know there's a lot to think about when you're deciding about university. We're always here to help – in fact, we're known for being one of the friendliest universities. So go to [ask.mq.edu.au](http://ask.mq.edu.au) or pop onto campus for a guided tour and we can get all your questions answered.

## **WILL I BE ABLE TO MAKE FRIENDS?**

From your first days at Macquarie, you'll be part of a support network to help you meet people and make friends. In your first year you'll get a mentor who introduces you to people doing your degree, and lets you know about different opportunities to make friends such as social sport and student societies.

The beautiful campus at Macquarie creates the perfect community environment. Even though it's a big place with lots of people, you see familiar faces all the time so it's easy to fit in. There's always something going on at Macquarie. Orientation Week and activities at the Sport and Aquatic Centre on campus are great ways you can meet people.

You can also take things into your own hands by getting to lectures a bit earlier, sitting down next to someone, and starting a conversation. You're doing the same unit, so talking about that is a great starting point. In my first lecture at Macquarie, I started a conversation with the person next to me. Two years later, we still catch up all the time.



### **MORE THAN 170**

student groups and sport clubs to join.  
[checkin.mq.edu.au](http://checkin.mq.edu.au)

PHOTOS: All photos supplied.

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