University of Sydney, Australia

Exchange information

SEMESTERS AVAILABLE: Fall, Spring, Academic Year, Summer

LANGUAGE OF INSTRUCTION: ENGLISH

MINIMUM GPA REQUIREMENT: 3.0 (not flexible)

Overview

Through an agreement between University of Sydney in Australia and the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at Cornell University, CALS undergraduate students may apply to enroll directly in any field of study at Newcastle for a semester or a year. Students study alongside Sydney students and are eligible to participate in the many activities sponsored by Sydney and its student body.

This exchange program is open to undergraduate CALS students of sophomore or higher standing, and is awarded on first-come, first-serve basis. CALS students pay their current Cornell tuition with no additional fees. Housing, food, visa, travel, health insurance, books, and other personal expenses are paid separately.

For general information on the University of Sydney: click here
Information specifically for study abroad and exchange students: click here

Download the 10/13/2011 PowerPoint presentation on Sydney here
Download the 2012-2013 Exchange Student Guide to Sydney here
Click here for campus information.

The University of Sydney's full study abroad guide can be downloaded here.
Additional helpful information about University Life can be found here.

What do students have to say?  Read their reports!

Mariya, Spring 2011

Why study at Sydney?

- International reputation for excellence in teaching and research;
- Diverse range of courses, in both leading-edge and traditional areas of study;
- Highly-experienced and innovative teachers and comprehensive facilities;
- Atmosphere of heritage and tradition featuring Neo-Gothic sandstone buildings at the Camperdown campus;
- Convenient location, only a short bus ride to the central business district of Sydney;
- Fabulous campus lifestyle featuring a huge variety of sporting facilities, student clubs and social activities.
Programs of study

Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources (including Agricultural Economics; Agricultural Science; Animal Science; Applied Economics; Applied Science; Horticultural Science; Land and Water Science; Resource Economics)

Architecture, Design and Planning

Arts

Economics and Business (including Accounting; Banking, Finance and Quantitative; Finance; Business and Commercial Law; Business Information Systems; Commercial Law; Econometrics; Economics; Finance; Financial Economics; Human Resource Management and Coaching; International Business; International Security; Management; Management Decision Sciences; Management of Technology; Marketing; Marketing Strategy and Marketing Theory and Research; Organisational Analysis and Strategy; Public Policy; Supply Chain and Logistics; Management; Taxation)

Education and Social Work (including Educational Psychology; Health Education; Primary and Secondary Education; Research Methodology; Special Education)

Engineering and Information Technologies

Health Sciences

Law

Music (Sydney Conservatorium of Music)

Nursing

Pharmacy

Science (including Biochemistry; Biological Sciences; Chemistry; Climate Change; Coastal Environments; Digital Media; Earth Sciences; Ecology; Environmental Science; Geography; Geology; Geophysics; History and Philosophy of Science; Marine Ecology; Marine Sciences; Mathematics and Statistics; Microbial Biosciences; Molecular Biology; Molecular Biotechnology; Nanoscience and Technology; Neuroscience; Number Theory; Nutritional and Food Sciences; Physics; Plant Ecology; Tropical Marine Network Program)

Veterinary Science

Classes

A unit of study is the class (subject) in which students enroll. The credit point value of each units of study was standardized to 6 credit points in 2006.

Most Study Abroad and Exchange students select 1000 - 3000 level units in areas that they have already studied at their home institution.

- 1000 level units of study are introductory or Lower Division units (equivalent to USA Freshman or Sophomore level)
- 2000 level units are Intermediate level units (equivalent to USA Junior level)
- 3000 level units are Senior level units (equivalent to USA Senior level)

Units with limits on enrollment numbers

For most units of study, student numbers are not limited, however some highly sought after units in the following areas do have enrollment restrictions.

- Architecture
- Art Workshops
- Internships
- Media and Communications
- Music

Units that are not open to Study Abroad and Exchange students

Units in the following areas of study are NOT open to Study Abroad or Exchange students:

- Dentistry
- Medicine

Search for classes here (make sure you follow the directions for exchange students).
Internships

There is an additional cost to join the internship program at Sydney (approximately $3,000). Occasionally, scholarships to cover this additional expense are available. Study abroad internship placements are highly competitive.

The International Office will make every effort to offer internships to all eligible students however placement cannot be guaranteed prior to interview.

Applications for the study abroad internship program must be received before the deadlines. Students selected for the study abroad internship program will combine an internationally recognized education with real life professional experience.

Interns will spend at least 15 days working on a specialized project with one of our host organizations. Employers may offer paid internships.

The internship program also includes rigorous academic components:

- 4 professional development workshops;
- 4 reflective journals; and
- 1 final project report.

On top of this you will also be enrolled in 3 other units of study (classes).

Teaching methods

The Australian academic system is based upon the UK system. There is a range of teaching methods depending on your discipline of study. You will generally have a combination of lecture and tutorial classes. Lectures can vary in size from 35 to 200 students; tutorial classes are much smaller and allow for open discussion of issues raised in lectures. Depending on your discipline you may undertake laboratory classes. Fieldwork also forms a large part of some units of study. The formal contact hours vary across units, however great emphasis is places on independent study outside of class contact hours.

Click here for further information about the teaching system at Sydney.

Assessment and grading

In Australian universities, including the University of Sydney, much emphasis is placed on the completion of written assignments, essays, presentations and examinations as the major form of assessment. Assessment varies for units of study within different faculties and for units of study at different year levels. Each unit of study listed on the On-line Unit of Study Handbook database lists the assessment requirements for the listed unit.

The University of Sydney uses a four level passing grade system and the majority of students are expected to achieve a Pass or Credit grade. The following table is a guide only:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Abbrev</th>
<th>Mark</th>
<th>Class Ranking</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>High Distinction</td>
<td>HD</td>
<td>85-100</td>
<td>Top 3-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Distinction</td>
<td>D</td>
<td>75-84</td>
<td>Next 15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Credit</td>
<td>CR</td>
<td>65-74</td>
<td>Next 30%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pass</td>
<td>P</td>
<td>50-64</td>
<td>Next 35%</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Study load

Student visa regulations require international students to undertake a full-time study load. A normal full-time study load for University of Sydney students is 24 credit points per semester.

The credit point value of each unit of study was standardized to 6 credit points from 2006. A full-time load at the University of Sydney is determined by the number of credit points, not the number of units of study. Students will typically enroll in 4 units of study each semester to make up 24 credits. Academic Board guidelines suggest that one credit point equates to approximately 1.5 to 2 hours of student effort per week. Each semester is 12 weeks in duration. Further information about our credit points system can be found at the Study Abroad Credit page.

With a few exceptions, the full-time load for an Australian student taking Arts and Humanities units of study would involve 12 hours of class contact per week each semester. Students in vocational areas (such as Engineering or Science), however, have higher class contact hours. Arts and Humanities programs place particular emphasis on self-directed learning. For this reason, face-to-face teaching loads may be lower than in your home institution, but students at Australian universities are expected to spend a greater proportion of their time in preparation for tutorials, essays and assignments.

Examination timetables are usually only confirmed about one month from the start of the exams. Students should ensure that travel plans allow for the exam period.

Notable Alumni

The University prides itself on producing leaders of the world. Many graduates from the University of Sydney are leaders, both nationally and on the world stage, in government, business, industry, the arts and sporting arena. University of Sydney alumni include:

- Former Prime Ministers John Howard, Gough Whitlam, William McMahon and Edmund Barton
- Former Governors-General Sir William Deane and Sir John Kerr
- Four of the seven current members of the High Court of Australia
- Aboriginal leaders Dr Charles Perkins and Noel Pearson,
- Entertainers the Chaser Boys, The Vines and Tim Freedman from the Whitlams
- Broadcasters Clive James, Adam Spencer, Julie McCrossin and Mary Kostakidis
- Former Chief Scientific Advisor to the UK government, now President of the Royal Society, Professor Lord Robert May
- Sir John Cornforth, winner of the Nobel Prize in Chemistry
- Theatre director John Bell of Bell Shakespeare
- Film directors Jane Campion and Bruce Beresford
- 2006 Pulitzer Prize winner Geraldine Brooks

Academic calendar

When planning your program, keep in mind that the Australian academic calendar is different from Cornell's!

Click here to access the most recent academic calendar!

Cool Videos!

http://sydney.edu.au/future_students/study_abroad/study/videos.shtml

About Sydney

Sydney is a global city with amenities and opportunities to match. It is set on one of the world's most beautiful harbors, and close to over 35 stunning golden sand beaches. With 200 nationalities living in Sydney, it's a true global center, offering all the exciting possibilities for food, culture and language that go with such a blend. It's a place where people want to be.

In 2007 Sydney was ranked the world's best city in the highly respected Conde Nast Traveller magazine annual reader's choice awards for a record 12th time. With a score of 87.7, Sydney beat San Francisco (85.9), New York
(82.9), Vancouver (82.2), Paris (80.8), London (78.3), Melbourne (76.3),
Tokyo (70.5) and Rio de Janeiro (69.4).

In 2008 Sydney was again ranked the World's Best City in the annual Anholt City Brands Index ahead of London, Paris, New York and Rome, based on factors including safety, affordability, cleanliness and friendliness. It's easy to get around the city by public transport. The main campus of the University of Sydney is located within minutes of the city center by efficient public transport.

Home to people from 200 nations, Sydney is one of the most multicultural cities in the world. Around a 25% of Sydney's population was born overseas. A further 20% are children of those immigrants. More than a quarter of Sydney residents speak a language other than English at home, most commonly Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), Arabic, Greek, Vietnamese, Italian, Spanish, Korean and Indonesian. As the meeting place for such a host of nations and traditions, Sydney is the perfect place to experience different cultures, languages and perspectives. You'll also find that every culture and nationality is represented in the restaurants and cafes of Sydney. The city's many food markets and specialist grocery stores make it easy to enjoy a fabulous variety of cuisine. The quality and quantity of fresh fruits, vegetables, meat and seafood is outstanding.

Learn more about Sydney and Australia here.

Arriving in Sydney

A detailed description of what to expect when you arriving in Sydney can be found here.

Housing

The University of Sydney is not able to guarantee housing for our students, although we've learned that the the housing situation has recently improved, so we are very hopeful our students will be able to find housing close to the Sydney campus.

Living on campus

The University offers a range of catered and selfcatered on campus accommodation, although demand can be high so it’s important to apply as far as possible in advance to increase your chances of securing the accommodation option of your choice. While contracts are generally for the academic year, when they have vacancies they will offer single semester, or shorter contracts.

There are three main options for on campus accommodation (costs are in Australian dollars and are indicative only):

1. University owned accommodation

The University owns the following catered and selfcatered, fully furnished accommodation:

-International House is the only University owned residential college. The catered accommodation consists of single and twinshare studybedrooms and ensuite or communal bathrooms in a collegestyle environment.

Cost: approx. $348 (twin share) $482 (single ensuite) per week, including 3 daily meals

More information: www.sydney.edu.au/internationalhouse

-The Terraced Housing consists of single and twinshared bedrooms in 43 terraced houses located near the University. A typical terrace house accommodates 4 mixed gender students in their own single study bedrooms. All bedrooms are fully furnished and residents share a fully furnished living area. Houses have one or two bathrooms, a coinoperated laundry and a kitchen with microwave, cook top and fridge supplied.

Cost: approx. $145 (twin share) $225 (extra large standard) per week


-Darlington House accommodates 54 students in 12 maleonly or femaleonly selfcontained apartments in a modern apartment building. All apartments accommodate four to five students of the same gender in their own single study bedrooms.

Cost: approx. $210 $220 per week

2. Sydney University Village

Sydney University Village offers self-catering apartments to enrolled students. You can apply for studio, two, four and five bedroom apartments. The Village has some retail facilities, a food court, a bar and meeting rooms. You need to apply as early as possible, as it fills up very quickly.

Cost: approx. $328.50 per week for a one bedroom studio (6 month contract)

More information: www.sydneyuv.com.au

3. Residential colleges

The University has seven affiliated residential colleges on the Camperdown and Darlington campuses. All of the colleges are affiliated with, but not owned by the University and they provide furnished rooms and all meals. Each one is run independently and admission is competitive, with demand often exceeding supply, meaning single-semester availability is scarce.

Cost: varies

More information:
www.sydney.edu.au/current_students/accommodation/on_campus.shtml#res

Living off-campus

Sydney is a large city and there are many suburbs that are an easy commute by public transport to the University of Sydney. It is a good idea not to make any permanent arrangements for private accommodation prior to arrival as it is important to inspect properties before committing to any tenancy agreements. The University’s Accommodation Information Service can offer advice on any agreement prior to signing.

If you wish to live off-campus, the following options are available (costs are in Australian dollars and are indicative only):

1. Student Residences

These are furnished rooms in shared or self-contained apartments in residential buildings for students, usually located within walking distance of the Darlington/Camperdown campus. They include UniLodge (www.unilodge.com.au/sydney) and Urbanest (www.urbanest.com.au).

Cost: approx. $324 – 570 per week, self-catered. (6 month contract)

2. Private accommodation – university accommodation database

Managed by the Accommodation Information Service at the University of Sydney, the database lists hundreds of offers of accommodation, including share accommodation, full board (or home stay), rental properties and vacancies in off-campus student hostels. The university does not inspect any of the properties listed on the database, however the accommodation providers agree to university-set standards before being permitted to make a listing. The database is available to students once they’ve been enrolled, usually around one month prior to the start of semester.

Cost: varies

More information:
www.sydney.edu.au/current_students/accommodation/off_campus.shtml#database

3. Private accommodation – independently sourced


Student visa

Please visit here for visa information.

Employment

As an international student you are entitled to work up to 20 hours per week in Sydney during your stay. However, you should be aware that the nature of the work available may not be the same as you are used to at home. You will probably be able to earn some money to help with your living costs, but you should not plan to pay your University fees from your earnings in Australia or fully support yourself in Australia, as the high cost of living generally makes it impossible to support yourself and save to pay your fees from part-time work.

More information about taxation, job-seeking and other related matters will be provided at the Daily Arrival Information Sessions.
Health insurance

The Australian Government requires all international students to have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC). The health coverage provides medical and hospital care within Australia from the date of your arrival until the end of your studies in Australia. It is your responsibility to ensure your OSHC is valid and kept up-to-date while you hold a student visa. Your Letter of Offer will detail the OSHC fees you are required to pay.

Buddy program

Once accepted into the University of Sydney Study Abroad and Exchange Program, students are invited to join the ‘Buddy Club’. The club is a great way to get involved in university life, meet new friends, discover Sydney, to develop social networks and to have fun outside of the classroom. The Study Abroad and Exchange Team understand that the transition into a new life in a new country at a new university can be challenging. The team, along with local University of Sydney students, organizes social events for the Buddy Club to help students build up social networks in Sydney and enjoy some of the fantastic attractions the city has to offer. It is really easy to join. Once you are accepted into the Study Abroad Program all you need to do is sign up online and the Buddy Program Coordinator will put you in touch with other students and let you know about all the great activities.

Financial aid

If you are currently receiving financial aid, your package will be adjusted based on your determined level of need and the projected costs for your exchange program.