

# Australia2012



## Study Abroad Handbook

A useful guide to your  
study abroad experience



**INDIANA UNIVERSITY**

**OFFICE OF OVERSEAS STUDY**

*The usefulness of this handbook depends on student input.  
If you find erroneous information, please contact [overseas@indiana.edu](mailto:overseas@indiana.edu).  
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# AUSTRALIA CHECKLIST

## What to Do

## When to Do It

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Return your response form and prepayment to Overseas Study | <i>See date on acceptance letter</i>              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete 2nd application (UOW, UWA, ANU & USYD)            | <i>Immediately after acceptance</i>               |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for a passport                                       | <i>Immediately</i>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend the Logistics Orientation                           | <i>Shortly after acceptance to program</i>        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for housing  | <i>Immediately</i>                                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend advising appointment                                | <i>After Logistics Orientation</i>                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Attend Australia Orientation                               | <i>November or April</i>                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Register for study abroad place holder course through IU   | <i>November or April</i>                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Complete other forms from host institution                 | <i>Immediately upon receipt of packet</i>         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pay tuition fees to IU                                     | <i>As billed by IU Bursar</i>                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pay housing fees   | <i>As billed by host institution</i>              |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apply for visa   | <i>Upon receipt of Confirmation of Enrollment</i> |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Submit Medical History form to Overseas Study              | <i>November or April</i>                          |

# PROGRAM INTRODUCTION

## PREDEPARTURE CHECKLIST

This booklet is a supplement to the Getting Started handbook received earlier. While This contains specific program information; the 'Getting Started' handbook contains information relevant to all students on Indiana University Overseas Study programs. Both booklets should be used now as you prepare to leave and later while you are abroad. Since most student questions are addressed in these handbooks, please consult them before calling the Office of Overseas Study.

Indiana University has exchange partnerships with five institutions in Australia—University of Adelaide, Australian National University, University of Western Australia, University of Wollongong, and the University of Sydney. These exchanges permit a few IU students to study in Australia while an equal number of Australian students come to Bloomington. However, to accommodate the many additional IU students who wish to study in Australia, these institutions also accept IU students who pay full fees for the Australian university. IU refers to these students as co-sponsored to distinguish them from the exchange students who pay IU tuition rates. (Our partners in Australia use the term study abroad instead.) Whether you are an exchange student or a co-sponsored/study abroad student, you will be registered at IU during your stay in Australia, and you may apply most of your scholarships and loans to program costs. All IU students pay housing fees directly to the host institution in Australia.



## Helpful Web sites

Australian Embassy - [www.usa.embassy.gov.au](http://www.usa.embassy.gov.au)

## ICONS IN THIS GUIDE



### Student Advice

Suggestions from study abroad returnees



### Savvy Traveler Tips

Traveling tips to get you where you're going

# Preparing for Departure

## Academic Advising

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Prior to your departure from IU, meet with your departmental advisor to confirm your academic progress, according to the directions emailed to you by Overseas Study. Make an appointment at Overseas Study to make tentative plans regarding what courses you will take abroad. Sydney participants must follow the advising process outlined by the Kelley School of Business. You may wish to consult former participants about courses since the catalogue does not always give a full picture of what might be taught or expected. In the schedule of classes from your institution in Australia, which is called the timetable, note that Sem I (autumn semester) runs from February through July while Sem II (spring semester) runs from July through November. Take courses appropriate to your previous preparation, normally second- and third-year courses in your major or minor. In disciplines that are new to you, restrict yourself to first-year classes.

## Fee Payment

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Tuition and fees will be billed by the IU Bursar. Accommodation fees will be paid directly to the host institution. Credit card payment has been the easiest method for students. If you do not currently have a credit card you should consider obtaining one to be used for this purpose.

If you pay your fees by credit card, please be aware that when someone charges a very large sum to their credit card, the credit card company often contacts the card holder to confirm the charge because they are concerned about fraudulent transactions. Save time by contacting your credit card company in advance instead of waiting for them to contact you. Explain that you are calling to authorize the transaction and ensure that your card does not have a daily limit.

## Scholarships & Loans

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Financial Aid awards are distributed just prior to the start of the IU academic semester. Fall semester money is released in late August and spring semester aid is released in early January. You may have to arrange short-term loans from family members to pay housing in Australia on time, particularly if you are participating in the July-November term.

## Important Documents

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### Visa

A visa gives you permission to travel or reside in another country for a stated period of time. It is issued by the country's consulate in the U.S., in this case the Australian Embassy in Washington, D.C. Australia issues electronic visas. Therefore, you won't receive a label or sticker to place in your passport. You shouldn't receive anything from the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship short of an e-mail either granting the visa or giving further instructions.

In order to apply, go to the following URL for the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship Web site ([www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)) for information, instructions, and links to the on-line application.

Remember, you can't apply for your visa until you receive the Confirmation of Enrolment (COE) from the Australian institution. You won't receive the COE until you've submitted your second application materials to the host university. Be sure to print out your COE before departure.

## Online Visa Application Instructions

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- Log onto [www.immi.gov.au/e\\_visa/students.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/e_visa/students.htm).
- Go to the section entitled Start an Application and click on First Student Visa under "Applicants Outside Australia"
- Please read the information on this page and click on Start Your Application.
- You are now on the Terms and Conditions page. Please read the information and click on "I have read and agree to the terms and conditions" to continue if you agree. You are now on the actual visa application form entitled Application for a student (temporary visa). This type of student visa is also called "Non-award".
- Please complete all of the required personal information, including credit card information, and submit your application.

## Hints for Completing the Online Visa Application

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- Have your Confirmation of Enrolment code handy (located in the top right corner of your COE).
- Have the Provider (Australian institution) Number handy (located next to the Provider name on the COE).
- Ensure that all the info on your COE is correct; if it isn't, contact the Australian institution immediately.
- Make sure you enter all dates using this format: Day/Month/Year.

If you have any questions about the visa application process, contact:

**Embassy of Australia in Washington, DC**

Phone: (202) 797-3000

[www.usa.embassy.gov.au](http://www.usa.embassy.gov.au)

## Special Note Regarding Confirmation of Enrolment

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You will not receive your Confirmation of Enrolment until you have returned your "Offer of Admission" to the Australian University.

## Suggested Reading

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Since most students have not had the advantage of learning about Australia in classes, it is particularly important that you do some background reading before embarking on your voyage 'down under.' Look at the clever book entitled *Culture Shock! Australia: A Guide to Customs and Etiquette*. It can be purchased locally. Buy a good guide book to Australia. Former participants also recommend Bill Bryson's *In a Sunburned Country*, which provides a humorous look at Australian history and culture.

Locate some of the following, especially if you intend to take a course in Australian Studies in Australia:

**Working Australia**, C. Fox, Allen and Union, Sydney, 1991.

**Mistaken Identity: Multiculturalism and the Demise of Nationalism in Australia**, S. Castlers, Pluto Press, Sydney, 1990.

**The Australia Legend**, R. Ward, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1964.

**Australian Studies**, J. Walter, Editor, Oxford University Press, Melbourne, 1989.

**Images of Australia**, G. Whitlock and D. Carter, editors, University of Queensland Press, St. Lucia, 1992.

**A Change of Skies**, Y. Gooneratne, Picador Australia, Sydney, 1991.

## Packing

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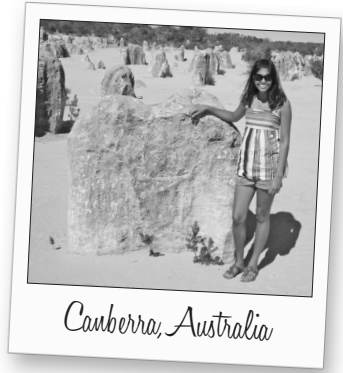
Australian students wear more or less what American students wear, but they are not quite as casually dressed for class. **PACK LIGHT**, and bring what is most comfortable. One dressy outfit will suffice.

### Pack the following:

- rain gear (poncho, waterproof shoes, umbrella)
- warm sweaters and windbreaker
- hiking boots
- swimwear
- sunglasses
- hat to protect you from the sun
- sun block
- towel
- sheets and a pillow
- camera
- adapter plugs and power converter if you take electric devices
- pictures of your friends and family
- Academic Advising Plan

**A former participant has noted that:**

- Some Australian women do not wear shorts, although that has changed in many communities.
- Towels and sheets are easier to get there (but may be expensive) or are offered by the college.
- Electrical devices brought from the United States typically did not work well. Do not pack hair dryers, curling irons or radios. Unless yours is dual 110/220 voltage, buy one there.
- Those in a residential college will need a formal dress/suit or business casual dress for their balls.



**Arrival**

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As soon as you book your transpacific flight (but at least ten business days before your arrival), notify the international office at your host institution per their arrival instructions. If you arrive before the recommended arrival date, you will be charged for extra housing. Some schools may offer pick-up services.

# Academic Program in Australia

## International Office

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Your first stop in Australia will be the International Office (see program address at the front of this booklet) for orientation. The staff will orient you to the campus and answer your questions or refer you to someone who can. They will help with your registration and maintain contact with Overseas Study about your academic progress. Never add or drop a course without consulting them first, as well as Overseas Study (or the Business School if you are going to Sydney). They are familiar with IU and understand the issues involved with your stay in Australia. If you have problems adjusting to life in Australia, contact any of the staff in the International Office.

## Host Institution

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The host institutions have been carefully selected for their quality of education and campus life. All have consistently ranked among the top universities in the country.

### **Australian National University (Canberra)**

Like IU, Australian National University (ANU) is particularly noted for its research reputation. The student population of 17,739 includes 4,200 international students of which about 225 are from the U.S. The university has two major parts: The Faculties, which teach undergraduate and postgraduate students; and the Institute of Advanced Studies, which concentrates on research and research training. The campus is set in extensive parkland and hosts a number of Australian and exotic trees, attractive gardens, open space and green lawns. Students at ANU enjoy all the conveniences that come from being within close proximity to the city center – just a few minutes' walk away.

Extensive information about ANU can be found at [www.anu.edu.au](http://www.anu.edu.au). For information specifically about the university's international programs see [http://info.anu.edu.au/studyat/International\\_Office](http://info.anu.edu.au/studyat/International_Office).

### **University of Adelaide**

The University of Adelaide is the third oldest university in Australia and consistently ranks in the top 1% of universities worldwide. The strengths of the curriculum include biological sciences, environmental sciences, Australian studies, economics, particularly of the Pacific Rim, and other natural sciences. The campus, combining classical and modern architecture, is located on the banks of the River Torrens at the edge of downtown Adelaide, just a 15-minute trolley ride from the beaches along Gulf St. Vincent and 45 minutes from the best wine districts in Australia. It affords easy access to the Outback. The university enrolls 25,000 students including more than 5,000 international students. Campus life is active and liberal, with life in the residential colleges the core of the social world.

Extensive information about the university can be found at [www.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.adelaide.edu.au). For information specifically about the university's international programs see [www.international.adelaide.edu.au](http://www.international.adelaide.edu.au).

### University of Western Australia (Perth)

The University of Western Australia (UWA) is ideally located on the banks of the Swan River. The student population is 20,806, which includes 4,400 international students. UWA is widely known for the beauty of its traditional Romanesque architecture and lush gardens. State-of-the-art research facilities, well-equipped lecture theatres and laboratories, a wealth of sporting facilities, and a range of art venues accommodate some of the city's most celebrated cultural events, providing a learning environment that stimulates both creativity and innovation.

Extensive information about UWA can be found at [www.uwa.edu.au](http://www.uwa.edu.au). For information specifically about the university's international programs see [www.international.uwa.edu.au](http://www.international.uwa.edu.au).

### University of Wollongong

The University of Wollongong (UOW) is located between the lower slopes of a temperate rain forest and the sea, just outside the city of Wollongong. The university was established as a college of the University of New South Wales in 1961 and achieved independent status in 1975. It now has 26,000 students (10,400 of which are international students) and 1,700 faculty and administrative staff.

In contrast to the much larger urban universities in Sydney and Melbourne, the Wollongong campus provides an excellent environment for getting to know fellow students. Its location on the coast gives you the advantages of beautiful natural surroundings and easy train access to Sydney. From some campus locations you can see the Pacific Ocean to the east and Mount Keira to the west. The campus itself, with its gardens, ponds and grassy meadows blending with modern architecture, was designed to provide an environment conducive to tranquil contemplation and study. In recent national surveys of higher education in Australia, Wollongong was ranked University of the Year two years in a row because of its innovative, dynamic approach to education.

Extensive information about UOW can be found at [www.uow.edu.au](http://www.uow.edu.au). For information specifically about the university's international programs see [www.uow.edu.au/future/international/index.html](http://www.uow.edu.au/future/international/index.html).

### University of Sydney

The University of Sydney, founded in 1850, is the first university established in Australia. Over the past 150 years, the University has built an international reputation for its outstanding teaching and research. USYD is a member of the elite Group of 8 universities in Australia, which dominate Australia's university system in terms of research, funding and publications.



#### STUDENT ADVICE

I've never had, and can't imagine ever having, a better time in my life. I loved everything about my decision to study in Australia. I highly recommend everyone to go.

USYD is an urban campus located in downtown Sydney, yet not far from the coast. Sydney is a sprawling, multicultural and dynamic city known for its famous Opera House,

"coathanger bridge" and waterways. USYD has a total enrollment of 47,000, of which 8,770 are international students. There are over 200 student clubs and at least 42 sporting clubs.

Additional details about University of Sydney's programs, staff, course offerings, housing, as well as other information, can be found on the Web site: [www.usyd.edu.au](http://www.usyd.edu.au).

## The Academic Program

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The Australian undergraduate program is concentrated in three years instead of the four-year American pattern. Students seriously apply themselves to their concentration shortly after beginning their studies. Consequently, American students find that Australians have a deep interest and a commitment to the subject material—they are not taking courses just to fulfill electives or distributional requirements.

## Pacing Your Work

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The Australian academic system emphasizes individual work and research. Instead of short daily or weekly assignments, you will be required to produce carefully thought out, well-argued term papers, called essays in Australia. Australian students may give the impression of being casual about their courses, but when Americans are traveling on weekends, Australians are at home (many are commuters), working on their class preparation and essays.

Because of the seemingly relaxed academic atmosphere, American students tend to leave major assignments until the very end of the semester. You will have one week without classes before exams start, but do not leave all your studying until this time. It is also tempting to plan a vacation during this week, referred to as "Swot Vac," but you will probably find the time valuable and necessary for your studies.

## Class Types

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Seminar-style courses enroll 20 to 25 students, while lecture courses enroll as many as 200. Lecture classes include a discussion section or tutorial of fewer students, which is an important component of the course. Most Australian faculty find that Americans are strongest in their contributions to the tutorials. As a result of the small discussion groups, student interaction with professors is more informal than at IU. This interaction not only helps you master course work, but also provides you with a source of valuable information regarding Australia's cultural and educational system.

## Reading Lists

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For each class, expect a syllabus that includes both required and recommended readings from many different sources (books, journals, etc.). Keep in mind that although these lists might seem overwhelmingly long, they are simply recommendations. You

will learn during the semester which readings are most important for your particular assignments. Course packets or course materials are often left on reserve in the library, and students are expected to make copies for their use.

## Essays

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Most classes require a number of essays, one of which is a written version of the oral presentation required in the tutorial, and an essay-style final exam. Few disciplines use multiple choice exams. Americans encounter some difficulty writing essays because they tend to think of 'essays' as opinion pieces, not the formal papers with footnotes and references that Australian faculty expect.

Faculty make themselves available for conferences, and it is strongly recommended that you meet with them prior to attempting the first essay. Individual departments should have essay-writing guidelines that you should consult as well. Students should expect to lead a tutorial, either alone or as part of a group, especially in liberal arts courses.

## IU Academic Policies

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**Overseas Study requires that IU students carry a minimum of 12 points or 24 units, the equivalent of 12 IU credit hours.** This normally entails enrolling in four classes, each worth the equivalent of 3-4 IU credit hours. **Sydney students must take 4 courses for a total of 16 IU credit hours.**

Avoid taking all upper-level courses that are heavily weighted in Australia since most IU departments equate courses to comparable course units here rather than by the number of points or contact hours there (i.e. a history course here is typically worth three credits so the department may see your work there more in terms of a 3-credit accomplishment even if it is listed as a more heavily weighted course there).

If you adjust your schedule during the semester, you must maintain the 12 credit minimum load and verify any changes with Overseas Study.

**You are not permitted to drop a course late in the term, or to take any course on a pass/fail basis.**

Failure to complete a course will result in a grade of 'F'. Since you will be abroad with students from all over the U.S., you will probably attend classes with other American students whose institutions have different rules and guidelines regarding course loads, grades, etc.

If you have questions about your academic situation, contact Overseas Study (e-mail [overseas@indiana.edu](mailto:overseas@indiana.edu) or fax 812-855-6452).

Bring home course materials since you will have to share evidence of your work with faculty in your major and/or minor departments before course equivalencies and credits can be finalized.

## Registering for Classes

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Because the timetable should be available in time for you to pre-register for your courses abroad, actual onsite registration is quite simple. Report any change in your original schedule to the Office of Overseas Study to verify that you can get credit for the courses.

## Final Exams

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Do not make travel plans to leave the program before the completion of the official university examination period. The universities do not permit students to take their final exams early. Exam schedules are not posted until late in the semester, so do not make travel plans until you see your finals schedule.

## Grading

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A lower proportion of high school students attend university in Australia than is the case in the United States. Consequently, you will find Australian students bright, serious and, despite their laid back attitude, competitive.

Likewise, professors are demanding in class and rigorous in their grading. You must be diligent to achieve good grades in Australia. Some professors consider “credit” a good grade and give almost nothing higher. However, IU students have achieved grades of “distinction” and even “high distinction” in a number of courses. See the inside back cover for IU grade equivalents.

## Textbooks

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Most Australian classes do not have a single assigned textbook. Instead, much of the reading comes from research and reference books in the library; classes that require textbooks keep several copies on reserve.

Textbooks are also available in the bookstore, but they are expensive and cannot be sold back. If you are lucky, you might be able to purchase used books from other students and sell your used texts before departing. Before you purchase the books, be sure you actually need them. You may spend less to purchase texts in Australia than in Bloomington, but be prepared to pay for photocopies! Course packets or course materials are left on reserve in the library, and students are expected to make copies for their use.

## Library

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Because assigned textbooks are not commonly used, students rely heavily on shared library resources; as a result, students in large classes sometimes have difficulty obtaining reference materials. Plan ahead for assignments. The books you need may be



checked out if you wait until the last minute.

## Computers

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All students have full access to university computer facilities. There are fewer computers than you are used to at IU so labs are often crowded at peak hours. Like IU, you will have a printing quota.

## Host City

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Whatever Australian city you call home next semester, you are sure to think it is the best by the time you leave. The four cities listed below each have unique qualities that will make your experience memorable.



# Life in Australia

## Adelaide

Adelaide, a culturally diverse city of about 1.2 million people, is the capital of the State of South Australia, it is a major business and commercial centre with efficient public transport, a thriving arts scene and a relatively low cost of living.

Across the street from the University of Adelaide, the bustling cosmopolitan city offers significant museums, concert halls, interesting pubs and restaurants, an enormous fresh-food market and fine shopping. The other side of the campus opens to parks bordered by the river, lined by bicycle and jogging paths, adjacent to the neighborhoods of the four private residential colleges.

Students appreciate Adelaide's dynamic city environment. They frequent pubs and cafes on a regular basis and take advantage of the nearby beaches. They also enjoy the renowned performing arts festival that occurs every other March and the music festival that is held on alternate years.

## Canberra

Canberra, population 360,000, is the national center of government and capital of Australia. Surrounded on all sides by a wide expanse of beautiful bushland, the city's design features sweeping vistas and wide boulevards. Canberra is a safe, clean city with friendly people. The stunning south coast beaches and the Snowy Mountain ski slopes are only a two-hour drive away, and if the big city lights are an attraction, then flights to Sydney take about 40 minutes.

ANU students have great access to public institutions such as the National Library, the National Gallery of Australia and the National Parliament.

## Perth

Perth is the capital of Western Australia and Australia's fourth largest city. Set on the shores of the Indian Ocean, it is the home of nearly 1.5 million people. The cosmopolitan city offers students a relaxed outdoor lifestyle and a great home base for exploring both the Red Center outback and excellent nearby beaches.

The absence of heavy industry means a virtually pollution free environment, and this coupled with warm dry summers, mild wet winters and more hours of sunshine than any other capital city in Australia, creates the perfect setting for an active, outdoors lifestyle. Surfing, hiking, climbing, biking, rafting – there is no limit to the outdoor activities available within easy distance of the university.

## Wollongong

Wollongong, a culturally diverse city of 350,000 and the ninth largest city in Australia, is the gateway to the miles of white and silver beaches of Australia's Leisure Coast. It

is just an hour and a half south of Sydney by car, bus or train. Although Wollongong was once known as an industrial city, tourism is fast replacing steel as the area's major industry. The city's smoke stacks and mills are located some distance down the coast from both the university and the suburb where students are housed. Wollongong's natural environment includes some of the most pristine beaches in Australia.

## Sydney

Sydney is the capital of New South Wales province and the largest city in Australia with almost 4 million inhabitants. As Australia's oldest city, Sydney plays an important commercial and service role and also is the busiest port in Australia. Sydney is known for its beaches, shopping, nightlife, restaurants and 300 days of sunshine a year. The city is also Australia's most culturally diverse city. Sydney was recently ranked the most liveable city in the world. As Anne O'Donoghue and Timothy McDonald of Immigration Solutions note, that is because "Sydney is a thoroughly modern city that sits next to a visually stunning harbour and world-class beaches. The climate is pleasant, the education system is good, public transport is extensive, crime rates relatively low, and the economy is strong."

## Housing

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Note that the fees you pay Indiana University **do not include housing**. All housing costs are paid in Australia. You should expect to also pay a damage and/or telephone deposit.

Most Australians do not travel to go to college like U.S. students. So, students usually attend the university closest to their home and rarely go to university in another state in Australia. Most Australians will continue to live with their families and commute if the university is in the same city. Most Australians that live in University accommodation are not from the local area or are from the Australian "country".

University accommodation options typically include apartments, dorms or residential colleges.

In most cases, the International Office will make every attempt to secure university accommodation for you, but can offer no guarantees. Students attending the Australian National University, University of Adelaide, University of Western Australia and the University of Wollongong will receive instructions from Overseas Study on how to apply for housing at their respective universities. Students are responsible for applying for housing and confirming their housing offers directly with the University accommodation.

If housing is not immediately available when you arrive, you will be temporarily housed near the campus until you can find housing. If you arrive before the official arrival dates and vacant rooms are available, you will pay a supplemental fee for the extra days' residence and may be placed temporarily in a dorm other than your permanent assignment.

Students going to Sydney will need to find their own apartments, with some help from the International Office, after the initial orientation period.

## Apartments

Private rental accommodation is usually an option in most program locations. Rentals usually entail payment of a damage deposit (often two months' rent) that is refundable upon departure. Some universities in Australia offer apartment-style living as a part of their University accommodations, though they can be expensive.

## Residential Colleges

The residential colleges, typically located a short distance from the campus, are not administratively part of the university. They tend to be independently managed.

The colleges tend to have single furnished rooms for all students, a library, a common room and music room, access to computers and academic counseling. They also provide blankets and bedspreads, but you will need to bring or buy sheets and a pillow.

Each of the colleges is smaller than a typical IU dorm and has more of a social atmosphere, with many well-attended events throughout the semester such as dances and movie nights. In addition to basic room and board, colleges charge various fees for social events and "club dues."

The colleges were originally designed based on the British university system, hence English tradition is still visible in many aspects of college life. Students take part in the communal world of the college, often participating in sports and other social events with their fellow residents. The colleges all have distinctive characters.

Each residence hall/college also has its own application and payment policies. Specific instructions will be sent by Overseas Study. See the next few pages for housing information specific to your host institution.

## Adelaide

More information about Adelaide's residential system can be found at [www.adelaide.edu.au/accommodation/uni](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/accommodation/uni) and at the web sites listed below for each individual college.

- **St. Mark's** - [www.stmarkscollege.com.au](http://www.stmarkscollege.com.au)

St. Mark's was originally an all-male college and, although the residents are now both male and female, it retains a certain masculine air in its furnishings and architecture. The college has grown over time, and a number of distinct buildings now make up the St. Mark's complex, which includes a computer room, TV rooms and an outdoor terrace. St. Mark's has an Anglican affiliation with an optional chapel. Students share bathrooms on co-ed floors. The students don black robes (over their casual dress) for dinner four nights a week. There is a strong team spirit in the college, and it has a reputation for being a fun place to live. Students may feel pressured to participate in social activities; students seeking a more low-key environment should consider another option.

St. Marks's will supply linens, towels, blankets, pillows, bed cover for \$15 a week or you can bring your own.

- **Aquinas** - [www.adelaide.edu.au/Aquinas/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/Aquinas/)

Ninety percent of Aquinas's 170 students are Australian and 75 percent are Catholic. The college offers optional masses, but participation in religious activity is not

required. Residential tutors (like RAs in the U.S.) monitor students' academic progress. The dorm has single bedrooms and offers common recreation areas and a computer room. There is a student committee of eight who meet weekly with the principal. It is easiest to get a room here for the February-July term. This rival college to St. Mark's also has a strong spirit with many activities.

- **Lincoln College** - [www.lincoln.edu.au](http://www.lincoln.edu.au)

Lincoln has 240 students and prides itself for having the most culturally diverse population. One-fourth of the students are from South Australia, one-fourth from the rest of Australia and one-half from overseas. More than half of Lincoln's residents attend the University of South Australia, and the others attend the University of Adelaide and other institutions. Lincoln claims to be the only college with a multicultural policy. The principal encourages Americans to make friends with Australians and visit Australian homes on weekends. There are 16 residential tutors. Lincoln has single rooms and shared computer room, recreation room and library. Lincoln students develop a certain bond by socializing together and use their friendships later in the business or educational world.

- **The University of Adelaide Village** - [www.adelaide.edu.au/accommodation/uni/thevillage/](http://www.adelaide.edu.au/accommodation/uni/thevillage/)

The University of Adelaide Village opened in July 2005, welcoming students from around the state, the country and the world. With a strong emphasis on student well being, the Village has been designed to create a relaxed, friendly environment with landscaped gardens, open spaces and community facilities. The Village is located in the West End area of Adelaide and is a 15-20 minute walk to campus and close to the Central Market. The 400-bed Village provides a choice of fully furnished 5-bedroom townhouses and 1-bedroom apartments with everything provided to make living and studying comfortable. The Village Green is a place where residents can meet, relax and socialize. Other features include an on-site Laundromat, a large common room furnished with lounge seating and television, tutorial rooms for group study sessions, bicycle storage area and internet access in every bedroom and wireless internet access throughout the Village.


## Canberra

Students should apply for accommodation as soon as possible and should not wait until an offer of admission to ANU is made.

Each residence offers single fully-furnished study/bedrooms. All residences are centrally heated and carpeted, and each study/bedroom has its own telephone with voice mail. For more details, please see <http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/185.html> or the Web sites listed below for each individual college.

- **Bruce Hall** - <http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/209.html>

The co-ed floors accommodate 240 students. Bruce Hall's weekly rate includes breakfast and dinner Monday to Friday. Lunch and weekend meals are also available and can be charged to your account or paid in cash. They are a small, close-knit community who share in various theme nights, as well as other social activities. They are also involved in many sporting teams.



I had an amazing time in Australia and was very fortunate to get to travel around the country. I would encourage everyone to take part in this experience.

#### STUDENT ADVICE

- **Burgmann College** - <http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/221.html>

This co-ed college has a strong spirit and high academic standards. It accommodates 240 students at both the undergraduate and graduate level. 21 meals are available per week. Burgmann is an especially diverse community and one of the highlights of the year is the international students' dinner.

- **John XXIII College** - <http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/222.html>

They provide housing for 315 students. 20 meals per week are included in the standard weekly fee. They have the largest bedrooms on campus.

- **Ursula Hall** - <http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/223.html>

Twenty-one meals are included in the standard weekly fee. 206 students are accommodated, and there are single-sex bathrooms. Cultural activities play an important role in life at Ursula College.

- **Butron and Garran Hall** - <http://accom.anu.edu.au/UAS/224.html>

This option allows for the most independence. The hall stresses personal autonomy and responsibility but continues to offer personal and academic support. It is a self-catering option that accommodates 500 undergraduate and graduate students. Students share a large kitchen area but have a personal kitchen locker.

## Perth

### Residential colleges at UWA

Students should apply for accommodation as soon as possible and should not wait until an offer of admission to UWA is made. If university accommodation fills, students will have to find off-campus housing.

The colleges, which are located adjacent to the University campus, welcome students of every faith and nationality and offer a friendly and supportive environment. Each college has a single study-bedroom with shared bathroom facilities. Dining rooms serve three meals a day. All dietary needs and tastes are catered for. Kitchenettes are available for students to prepare snacks and drinks. College facilities include computer rooms, photocopiers, libraries, pianos, chapels, TV-video rooms, laundry rooms and billiard tables. All rooms have telephone and Internet connections.

- **Currie Hall** - [www.currie.uwa.edu.au](http://www.currie.uwa.edu.au)

Currie Hall is UWA's own residential college where around 230 students of all ages, interests and cultural backgrounds live together in a community of mutual support. It is set in spacious grounds with a predominance of native plants and trees in harmony with neighboring King's Park, one of Perth's favorite landmarks with great views of the city. Just a few minutes' walk away is Matilda Bay, a popular area along the Swan River that surrounds part of the UWA campus.

- **St. Catherine's** - [www.stcatherines.uwa.edu.au](http://www.stcatherines.uwa.edu.au)

St. Catherine's, home to 145 women, was founded in 1948 by the Australian Federation of University Women and by prominent professionals of the time who worked to establish the college. They retain their status as a college for women because the residents prefer the supportive, warm, family-like atmosphere that this generates. Residents are not restricted in their movements and there is no curfew.

- **St. George's** - [www.stgeorgescollege.com.au](http://www.stgeorgescollege.com.au)

St. George's College is the senior residential college where 179 people live. It is affiliated with the Anglican Diocese of Perth. Members of the college are welcomed into the life of the community and find themselves part of a rich heritage with unique traditions. As a part of this community, they are expected to live in such a way that the educational and social needs of the whole community are upheld. The college aims to provide an environment that is conducive to study and the education of the whole person. As this is the most prestigious college, it is also difficult to be admitted.

- **St. Thomas More** - [www.stmc.uwa.edu.au](http://www.stmc.uwa.edu.au)

St Thomas More College is the Catholic residential college within and houses 170 students. It is administered by the Archdiocese of Perth. St. Thomas More College is located only 10 minutes from Perth City, and 15 minutes from the ocean beaches. The college is on a busy public transport route so there is ample public transport available to both these destinations. Kings Park - an extensive area of beautiful natural bush land - adjoins the back of the college, and the Swan River is a short walk across the road from the front of the college.

- **Trinity** - [www.trinity.uwa.edu.au](http://www.trinity.uwa.edu.au)

Trinity, home to over 300 students, is now the largest residential college, catering for undergraduate and postgraduate residents. The community is made up of a vibrant group of young people (undergraduate and postgraduate) from all parts of Australia and all over the world. The proximity of Trinity to Perth's major attractions provides all residents with a lifestyle to be envied.

- **Off-campus housing** - [www.housing.uwa.edu.au/off-campus](http://www.housing.uwa.edu.au/off-campus)

There is a high demand for University accommodations at UWA, and therefore, students may be required to find off-campus housing for their semester in Perth. The UWA hous-

ing office provides information about how to find off-campus housing and maintains a database of available off-campus options (with distances from the university noted). Most students will wait until they arrive in Perth to secure off-campus housing. However, students are encourage to sign-up for temporary accommodation for when they initially arrive in Perth (see [www.studentservices.uwa.edu.au/ss/housing/temporary](http://www.studentservices.uwa.edu.au/ss/housing/temporary)).

Off-campus housing typically consists of finding a shared apartment; however, the housing office has recently started to work with a company that provides information on homestays



with Australian families and houseshares in Perth called Talkabout Tours (see [www.talkabouttours.com.au/page/index](http://www.talkabouttours.com.au/page/index)). This organization is separate from UWA but has been recommended by the housing office.

## Sydney

There is no university accommodation option in Sydney.

## Wollongong

Although you submit an accommodation application early, Wollongong cannot notify you of your housing assignment until shortly before the semester begins. Do not despair. You will be assigned to one of the residences below on the basis of your accommodation request and space availability. University housing is located on the outskirts of Wollongong, not on the campus itself.

You will pay the whole semester's housing fee in a lump sum in Wollongong in your first few days there. Credit cards are accepted for a fee.

- **Campus East** - [www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/campuseast/overview](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/campuseast/overview)

Campus East is a co-ed residential complex that accommodates 615 students in four separate and differently-styled buildings. Two buildings were originally built to house working families. These private rooms all open to the out-of-doors.

The other two buildings are divided into suites of five single bedrooms that open onto a common living area with a sink, refrigerator, table and chairs. Each suite has its own phone where you can make and receive calls at all hours of the day, a convenience not available in the other residence halls.

Campus East has laundry facilities, a large dining hall, kitchen, rec room, TV room and computer lab. The housing manager lives on the premises and is available 24 hours a day. She guides students through programs like conflict resolution, self-defense and first-aid certificate training.

Campus East is located in the suburb of Fairy Meadow, a 15-minute bike ride from campus or a 30-minute brisk walk.

A university shuttle operates frequently between Campus East dorm and the campus, and students pay for each ride individually. Fairy Meadow itself is located on the beach, with a main street that has a grocery store and a number of popular eating places, including many U.S.-based chain restaurants.

- **International House** - [www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/ihouse/overview](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/ihouse/overview)

International House is the closest of the University's accommodations to the main campus and close to town. It is a 15-minute walk to the beach. It houses 218 men and women in primarily single rooms. Half of the residents are Australians and other half are International students.

Unlike Campus East, it is arranged like a typical dormitory in the U.S.—rooms lined up along lengthy corridors. Like Campus East, it has laundry, computer, study and meeting

rooms. It has a special community environment, and there are very clear expectations regarding your role and participation in the community life.

By selecting International House, you enter into an agreement to participate in that lifestyle. At “I” House, IU students have liked the relaxed atmosphere, where you can leave doors open for friends to drop in.

- **Weerona** - [www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/weerona/overview](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/weerona/overview)

Weerona houses 204 students in singles and doubles arranged in typical residence-hall fashion.

The most attractive feature of Weerona is its location, close to many sports facilities—squash and tennis courts, a pool and an enormous running track. Anyone planning to work out on a frequent basis should give serious consideration to Weerona. You may be surprised that sports have little significance on campus, but if you are interested in either spectator or participatory sports your needs will be met.

The director is on the premises full-time should you need to consult him.

- **Kieraview** - [www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/keiraview/overview](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/keiraview/overview)

Keiraview houses 46 undergraduate and postgraduate students in single rooms with an ensuite bathroom. Communal kitchens are shared by 6-8 rooms. Regular activities are held for students including pizza nights, short trips to nearby attractions, BBQs and many casual social events.

Keiraview is located on the fringe of Wollongong central business district (CBD) and is walking distance to shops, the beach and some of the best cafes and restaurants in Wollongong. It is a 40 minute walk to campus and is well serviced by public transport and a regular shuttle bus runs from the university in the evenings.

- **Kooloobong Apartments** - [www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/kooloobong/overview](http://www.uow.edu.au/about/accommodation/residences/kooloobong/overview)

Kooloobong offers 38 apartments accommodating up to 190 people. Kooloobong Apartments are located on the University campus amidst a bush land setting on the edge of Mt Keira.

All units have five single bedrooms and students share a bathroom, kitchen and lounge/dining areas. One of the most popular features of the units are the outdoor balconies overlooking the picturesque university grounds. Kooloobong caters to residents who wish to live independently - doing their own cooking and cleaning. Units are fully furnished, managed and maintained by University staff.

Kooloobong has a diverse population with the majority of residents finishing their undergraduate qualifications and a number of the population continuing their post graduate qualifications. Students at Kooloobong organise many events including international food festivals and sporting events, while also participating in the many combined residence events.

## **Additional Information**

Wollongong offers other housing where you may prepare your own meals, but IU students have preferred options that include meals. If you follow stringent dietary restrictions you

may wish to consider a self-catering unit, which would bring the challenge of having to do your own shopping. Vegetarians are accommodated by the dorm cafeterias.

All Wollongong residence halls provide pillow, sheets and blankets for a linen hire fee, which can be expensive. Purchasing alarm clocks and other household goods is possible at low cost at outlets such as Cash Converters in downtown Wollongong.

Items such as radios and surfboards can be bought cheaply and then sold back for at least half of the purchase cost. Likewise, you may purchase such used goods from the International Residents Association. Periodic swap meets in town are another good source of inexpensive items for your room. You may wish to invest in a used bicycle for about \$100 and sell it at the end of the semester.

## Meals

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Meals and mealtimes in Australia are similar to those in the U.S. The dormitory breakfast consists of a choice of items: cereal, toast, vegemite, yogurt, and some heartier items like beans and spaghetti. Cordial (like Kool-aid but less sweet) and hot tea are the beverages of choice, but coffee is available.

Lunch is served in the dorms, but you may pack your own sandwich and fruit in the morning. Many students congregate on the campus lawns to eat lunch, and there is often some kind of organized activity during this time. Dorm dinners (also called tea) usually include a meat dish, a vegetarian entree and an Asian dish, in addition to vegetables, salad, fruit, bread and dessert.

## Medical Care

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While in Australia all students are covered by an insurance plan called Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).

OSHC is mandatory for all international students in Australia and will be billed by IU. See [www.medibank.com.au/Client/StaticPages/OSHCHome.aspx](http://www.medibank.com.au/Client/StaticPages/OSHCHome.aspx) for more information about OSHC.

OSHC provides coverage for off-campus emergency services and for on-campus non-emergency health care. When you visit an on-campus doctor you will be charged a 'scheduled fee' of 15 percent of the regular doctor's visit fee. The regular fee is usually about \$30.

Note that the OSHC insurance plan does NOT cover clinical psychology, dental work, optical services, treatment for pre-existing medical conditions, or repatriation. Additionally, the OSHC plan does NOT provide any coverage outside of Australia. Therefore, students are strongly advised to consider enrollment in additional insurance plans.

## Social Life

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The universities sponsor evening and daytime events, especially at the beginning of the semester, that provide a great opportunity to meet other students. You should also

have access to intramural clubs and sports.

It is also easy to get involved in sports through the residential colleges, which host tournaments throughout the semester. The residential colleges also sponsor evening social events, so expect at least one semi-formal or formal dance sometime in the semester.

## Work & Employment

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Your student visa permits you to work 20 hours per week during the school year and 40 hours per week during vacations. Do not count on part-time employment to supplement your income in any significant way, because jobs are often difficult to find.

## Telephone

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Many students purchase inexpensive cellular telephones in Australia and use them in conjunction with prepaid telephone cards (available at post offices), which offer attractive rates and are widely available in Australia in various denominations. Land line telephones typically charge for incoming and outgoing calls.

## Mailing Address

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Before your arrival in Australia all of your mail should be addressed to you c/o the international office. Once you have learned your local address, mail should be sent to you there.

## Vacation Travel

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Before you leave home, inquire about the special reduced rate air passes that may be purchased only in the U.S. These air travel options are highly recommended by former program participants since Australia is large, and travel by car, bus or train can require days on the road.

Don't be discouraged from land travel. There are often long stretches between destinations, but the country is beautiful and those who travel at a slower pace often get to see more of Australia.

Greyhound and McCafferty bus lines cover much of Australia and they offer many weekend travel tours to nearby destinations. Prices are reasonable, and you can frequently get substantial discounts with an International Student ID card or Youth Hostel Association (YHA) membership. Bus companies offer flex-passes that allow you to get on and off the bus as many times as you like along a given route. Once you are enrolled, you can also get a student rail pass that entitles you to half price train fares on some interstate train lines. Stu-



### Savvy Traveler Tips

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"I went to every major city and state, and each trip was fulfilling. I suggest taking the Indian-Pacific Railroad. It's like a serene cruise through the Outback."

dent or YHA discounts are much more prevalent in Australia than in the United States. Take advantage of them, and if in doubt, ask!

It is possible to rent a car from a reputable agency to explore remote spots. Bear in mind that many Australian roads are one-way and some wind through mountain ranges where the roads are poorly lit, and constant turns cause driver fatigue. Especially at night in the outback, be on guard for kangaroos and other animals. Check a map before embarking on any journey. Australia is equal in size to the continental United States, so be realistic about the distance you plan to cover.



The temptation to travel in Australia is great, and we encourage you to see as much as possible during your stay. You will have to determine the balance of study and travel that is right for you. Keep in mind, however, that you have joined a study abroad program, not a travel program. Do not expect a professor to accommodate your travel plans. It is inappropriate for you to petition faculty to permit you to take final exams earlier than others so that you can travel or return home.

## Climate

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Summer temperatures can be hot and dry. Winter is mild, and it rarely drops below freezing. However, you must remember that since Australia is in the southern hemisphere, seasons are the reverse of what they are in the United States; that is, summer occurs between December and February and the cooler months are June through August.