

# STUDENT LIFE

Discover.  
Prepare.  
First steps.



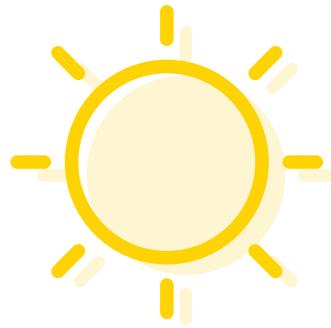
UNSW  
AUSTRALIA

Never Stand Still

# The AUSSIE Standards

**A**ustralia is a young country with a strong sense of national identity. This identity is built on an appreciation of the incredible multicultural nature of our cities and towns.

Australia welcomes you, your culture and your beliefs, and encourages you to enjoy the Australian way of life.



## Academia

Australia has high education standards, producing well qualified graduates ready for modern challenges. Australian researchers contribute significantly in various fields and have a profound impact on the world stage.

## Time zones

Australia has three time zones: Australian Eastern Standard Time (New South Wales, Queensland, Victoria, ACT and Tasmania), Australian Central Standard Time (South Australia and Northern Territory) and Australian Western Standard Time (Western Australia).

## Climate

Australia has a predominately warm, temperate climate, particularly on the east coast of the country. The state of NSW, where UNSW is located, covers a large part of central to eastern Australia, and has four distinct seasons - a warm to hot summer, temperate spring, cool winter and mild autumn.

## Culture

Australian culture is a mix of its history - Indigenous stories and British tradition, combined with the rich cultures of Australia's many migrants. Australia's society is known for its equality without clear class distinctions.

## Currency

Australian currency operates on a decimal dollar and cents system. Australian dollars (A\$) are accepted across all states and territories. Be sure to check out exchange rates and fees before you leave.

## Lifestyle

Australians are often informal, open and direct in their communications and tend to be similarly relaxed in lifestyle. Sport and other recreational activities are key to Australian life, as are community gatherings like festivals, barbecues and parties.





# Sydney

**S**ydney, Australia's biggest city, is known for its ideal climate, relaxed lifestyle and friendly locals. The city is surrounded by beaches on its Eastern side and the CBD is positioned on the beautiful Sydney harbour, meaning that a water view is never far away! Here are 5 ways to make the most of your time in Sydney.



1

## Explore

Sydney is home to a wide variety of beaches and natural wonders to contrast its culture and bustling city life. Most of Sydney's best spots, including Sydney Harbour, are easy to access via public transport, making weekend adventures a great option!

2



## Shop

Shopping in Sydney is truly world-class. Whether you're after shopping malls and stores, outlet stores or just a nice bookshop, Sydney has Australia's finest options for you to explore when you get here!

3



## Enjoy

With a relatively relaxed and open culture, Sydney is a place where the good things in life are celebrated. Whether it is a drink with friends at one of the city's many bars or cafés, a sports game or a trip out of town, Sydney is a city where you will always find something new to enjoy.

4



## Taste

As the home to people of many different cultures, in Sydney you will find a wide variety of cuisines. Eating out on a budget is made possible with a wide variety of restaurants across the city. It's also easy to find good quality fresh food to cook with at home.

5



## Relax

With lots of public space, it's easy to find somewhere in Sydney to relax. Whether you want to walk or exercise or meet up with friends, one of Sydney's many public parks will suit your needs. Virtually every suburb in Sydney features a park for you to visit.

# Your new world around UNSW

**1** Bondi  
Australia's most famous beach  
→  
**6km**

**5** Randwick  
A charming suburb with shops, cafés, cheap eats and a cinema  
→  
**2km**

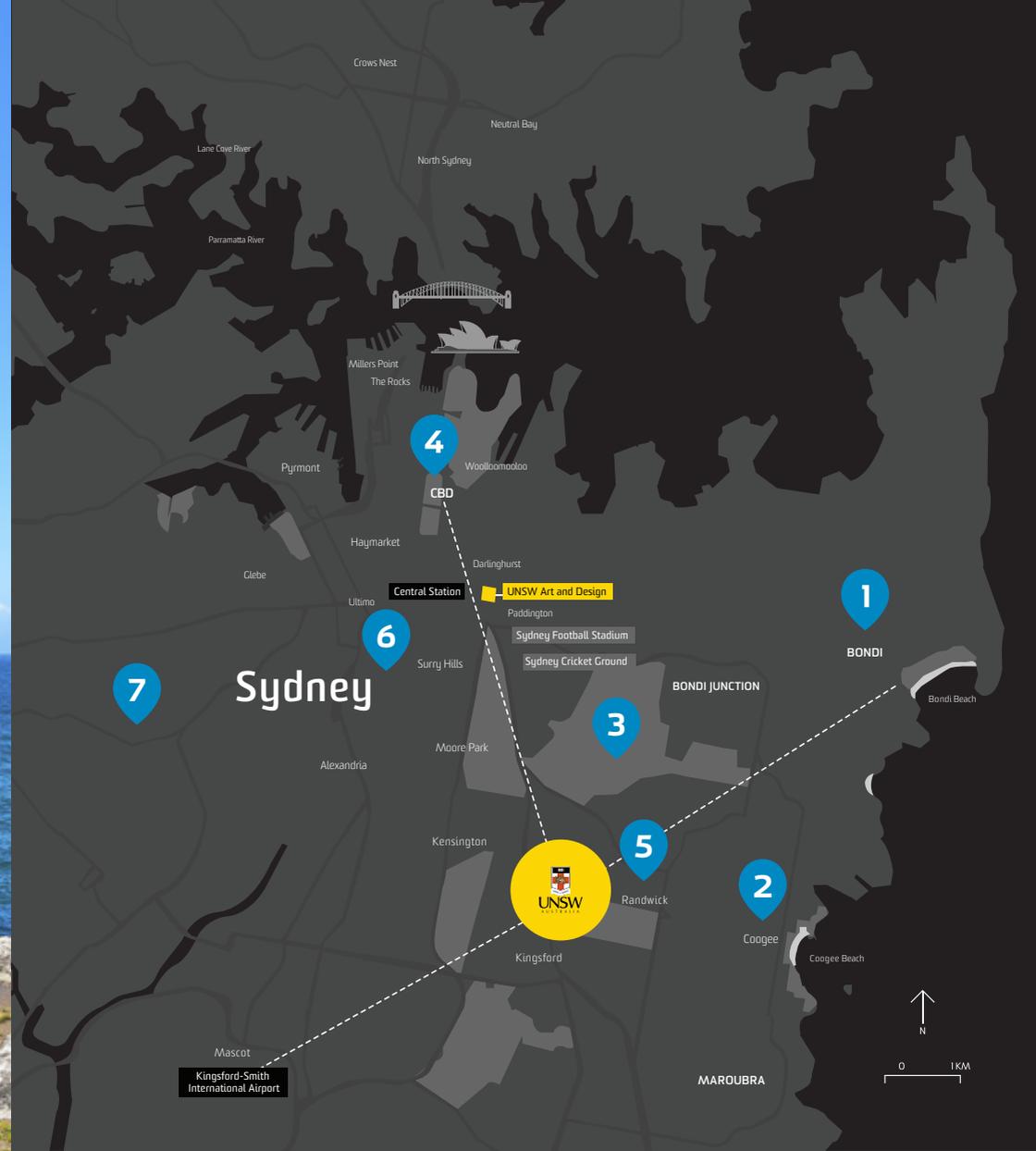
**2** Coogee  
Another beautiful Sydney beach  
→  
**2km**

**6** Surry Hills  
One of Sydney's more popular nightlife areas.  
→  
**4km**

**3** Centennial Park  
Sydney's largest inner city park  
→  
**1.5km**

**7** Newtown  
A hot spot for student life in Sydney.  
→  
**6km**

**4** Sydney CBD  
Home to more global firms than any other Australian city.  
→  
**6km**



**UNSW Kensington**  
UNSW's main campus

**UNSW Art and Design**

**UNSW Paddington**  
UNSW's home for Art and Design

# A day off study VS A day of study



**9am** Enjoy one of the best luxuries of being a student - a late wake-up on your days off!

**11am** Take a train, bus or ferry to Sydney's Circular Quay to visit the Museum of Contemporary Art and take in the best view in Sydney on your way! Entry to the museum is free and it is open 364 days a year. The museum is located in West Circular Quay with an entrance at 140 George Street. Inside, you will find the best of Australian and international contemporary art.

**12pm** Buy a cheap takeaway lunch from one of the many cafés around Circular Quay (or eat a prepacked snack), and take the harbour-side walk from Circular Quay to the Sydney Botanic Gardens (closest to East Circular Quay). Inside the garden you will find the very best picnic spots in Sydney.

**2pm** Take advantage of Circular Quay's selection of public transport and take the bus to one of Sydney's best beaches - Bondi. The 333 bus route will get you there quickly.

**3pm** Take off your shoes and go for a stroll along Bondi's beautiful beachfront.

**6pm** Indulge in some cheap takeaway fish and chips - best eaten looking out to sea with a friend!

**7pm** Drop in for a drink at Bondi's famous watering hole, The Beach Road Hotel, which offers live music on most nights.

**8pm** Take public transport home.

**10pm** Time to sleep, watch movies or explore the internet - it all depends on whether you have uni tomorrow....

**7am** Wake up and start the morning well with a healthy breakfast and walk or commute to the UNSW campus.

**8am** Take advantage of UNSW's Fitness and Aquatic Centre located on campus and open from 6AM every day. One swim pass costs \$5.40 for students, and a regular gym and swim membership costs \$36 per fortnight.

**9am** Make the easy walk from the on-campus Fitness and Aquatic Centre to your first class of the day.

**11am** With a break in-between your class, catch up with a friend over a cup of coffee or tea at one of the many excellent cafés on campus.

**12pm** Arrive at your next class.

**2pm** Eat lunch outdoors at one of UNSW's best secret spots - the Sculpture Lawn behind the Morven Brown building.

**3pm** Attend your third (and final) class of the day.

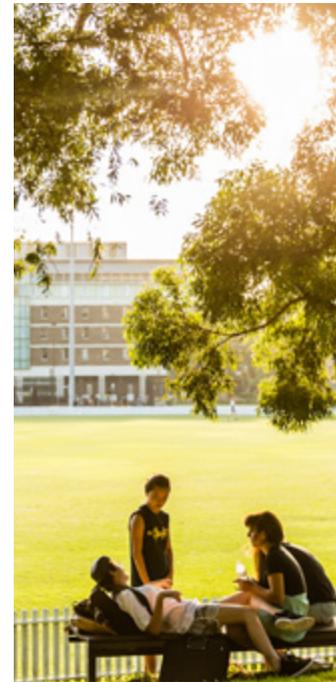
**6pm** Get to know your classmates better over a post class visit to one of UNSW's student bars - like the Whitehouse or the Roundhouse - or late-night cafés.

**7pm** Make dinner at home using fresh ingredients from the campus supermarket.

**8pm** Get to know Australian culture by indulging in some of our best television options!

**9pm** Revise the work you have done in class today with a study session and plan the rest of your week.

**10pm** Time to sleep!



# The cost of living

Estimates suggest you will need at least A\$20,000 a year as an international student to live in Sydney. This can vary based on your spending habits and lifestyle. Here a few tips to save you some money on the basics.



1



## Food + groceries

Savings can be made by preparing meals at home, planning your meals for the week and freezing leftovers. Eating out is tempting but the cost adds up! Aldi is the discount supermarket in Sydney, with Coles and Woolworths supermarkets offering a greater range at generally higher prices. There is an IGA supermarket on the Kensington campus. Near by are many specialty shops selling ingredients from a range of countries.

2



## Transport

If you live near enough to campus then walk or ride a bike to cut down on transport costs. Commuters by bicycle are on the increase in Sydney, plus cycling is good for the environment and your fitness. Public transport, when required, is reliable so there is no need to buy a car.

3



## Entertainment

There are student specials available on a range of activities across the city. Keep an eye out around campus for advertising, follow companies on social media and sign up for student newsletters. Most cinemas will have a day every week, commonly Tuesday, where you can watch a movie at a discounted price.

4



## Accommodation

Your cost of living can vary significantly depending on your accommodation choice. Be aware of additional costs like utility bills. If you rent privately you will need money upfront for a bond (you will get this back if you look after the place). How far you live from campus will also impact your transport costs. Factor transport costs into your budget.



# Getting around

Sydney's public transport system consists of train, bus and ferry with some additional light rail connections.



[transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)



## Travelling from the airport

Sydney Airport is close to UNSW and the eastern and inner suburbs of Sydney. Hop on a train (Airport Link) for under A\$20, get a taxi (around A\$35 to UNSW) or get UNSW's Student Development International to pick you up and take you to UNSW for A\$15. If you are lucky enough to be living near Bondi Junction or Burwood, take the 400 bus for the price of a bus ticket, great option!



## Bus

UNSW is well connected with four express bus routes (890, 891, 892 and 895) running between campus and Central Station regularly. In addition, there are ten non-express buses available. Trip planner at [transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info) is the best way to find out the route fastest for you.



## Tickets

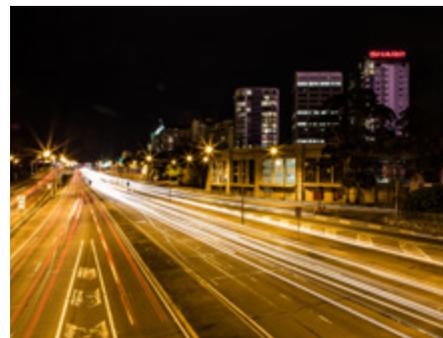
The Opal card is the easiest and cheapest way of travelling on all buses, trains, ferries and light rail. You load credit on your card and tap the card on and off at electronic readers located near or on the mode of transport. For more information head to:

[transportnsw.info](http://transportnsw.info)



## Bicycles and cars

Bicycling is a great way to save money and keep fit. For bike routes, information and useful tips, head to [sydneycycleways.net](http://sydneycycleways.net). By law, you must ride with a helmet, and grab a good lock so no one takes your ride. [Gumtree.com.au](http://Gumtree.com.au) is a great site for second hand goods. If you have a car, there are carparks on campus available at casual and permit rates. UNSW has a carpooling service and two carshare cars.



## Shuttle bus

UNSW provides a free shuttle bus for students to safely get between the Paddington and Kensington campuses, especially at night. The shuttle bus stop is located at the Gate 8 entrance on High Street (UNSW Kensington) and at the Greens Rd entrance (Paddington). It runs hourly between 7am - 7pm for most of the academic year.

# Getting involved

There's more to a successful UNSW graduate than just their grades.

UNSW encourages you to take advantage of the wide array of services and resources that will broaden your horizons.

Make sure you register and attend the 3 day international student orientation program. It is also recommended you attend the official welcome and your faculty welcome.

## Student associations

Australia has high education standards, producing well qualified graduates ready for modern challenges. Australian researchers contribute significantly in various fields and have a profound impact on the world stage.

## Finding Work

Part time work can provide some additional spending money, prepare you for future work, enhance your language skills and provide an opportunity to make new friends. Check your visa requirements and if you can work, make sure you get a tax file number (TFN) from [ato.gov.au](http://ato.gov.au)

## Making friends

Both inside and outside of the classroom, making new friends will allow you to enjoy your student experience more. Join the student magazine or a sports team, join a religious group or if you're musically inclined you can join one of the campus music ensembles. Get out there, put a smile on your face and experience the rewards.

## Relax on campus

UNSW has an array of well-designed common areas for study, chilling out or chatting with friends. Or go to the one of the many cafés on campus. For around \$3 you can get your caffeine hit and chat away with your new friends learning about what you share in common.

## Volunteering

Both inside and outside of the classroom, making new friends will allow you to enjoy your student experience more. Join the student magazine or a sports team, join a religious group or if you're musically inclined you can join one of the campus music ensembles. Get out there, put a smile on your face and experience the rewards.

## Community support

Who do you speak to for help with a range of issues? From Student Development International to mentors, counsellors and student housing assistance, we are here to help our international students. To learn more, go to [student.unsw.edu.au/international](http://student.unsw.edu.au/international)

# Your first week

Everything you need to sort out in your first week as a UNSW student. Once this is all out the way, it's really time to start enjoying the student life!

- O-WEEK
- LIBRARY
- MY UNSW
- JOIN ARC
- TIMETABLES
- GET THE APP
- ID CARD
- BOOKS
- THE CAMPUS
- THE BEACH



## Orientation week

Attend O-Week. This is a great opportunity to get acquainted with the campus, take tours, attend workshops, meet people, join clubs, go to parties and have a lot of fun.

 [student.unsw.edu.au/university-preparation](http://student.unsw.edu.au/university-preparation)



## MyUNSW

First thing's first, log into myUNSW and keep track of your class enrolments, timetable and courses. In the future, you will be checking back here for census dates, exams and fees.



## Library

During O-Week take a tour of the library. This will teach you how you can use and borrow resources, as well as how to use the online journal database.

 [library.unsw.edu.au](http://library.unsw.edu.au)



## Join ARC

Joining Arc enables you to join clubs and societies, attend events at reduced rates, get discounts on food, volunteer and much more. Sign up during O-Week and you'll snag yourself a goody bag too!



## Timetables

Next, you might want to take note of your timetable, write down the locations of your class and lecture rooms, and you might even like to locate them on a campus map. Then organise yourself and your week accordingly.



## Get your books and reader

Before your first class make sure you know what texts and readers you will need to purchase for your courses. You can buy all your necessary course material from the UNSW bookshop.

 [bookshop.unsw.edu.au](http://bookshop.unsw.edu.au)



## Get the app

Before you arrive at Uni, it could be a good idea to download the UNSW UniVerse App, UNSW's official app. This will help you organise your events and courses, and the map tool will help you to locate your classes on campus. Take a look at the Arc App too.



## Campus acquaintance

UNSW campus offers cafés, bars, a music venue, dentist, medical practice, post office, bank, several ATM's, a chemist, stationary reuse centre, food co-op, sports centre, swimming pool... Get acquainted!



## Student ID card

On your first day at Uni go and grab your student card from FM assist. This entitles you to reduced rates on a number of things around the city and you use it to borrow books from the library. You'll need your student number and some photo ID to collect it.



## Check out the beach

Now you are all exhausted from a big first week, take the 370 bus down the road and relax at Coogee beach, or even better, take a short walk around the corner for a swim at the tranquil and majestic Gordon's Bay.

# Start your UNSW journey





**UNSW**  
AUSTRALIA

CRICOS PROVIDER CODE 00098G

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