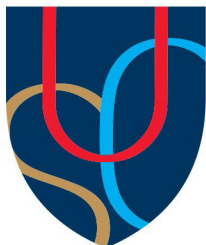




INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM



**UNIVERSITY
SENIOR
COLLEGE**
ADELAIDE



UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE

University Senior College (USC) is an independent school for Years 10, 11 and 12, located on The University of Adelaide campus. USC is different. Not only are USC students enabled to achieve their best academic results, they are well prepared for university education and life beyond school.

USC students learn to take responsibility for their education and discover how to work independently and with others. They benefit from a strong culture of learning and are inspired by passionate teachers who offer ongoing support and mentoring via one-on-one sessions. USC's unique partnership with The University of Adelaide enables USC students to meet and learn from staff at The University, and to utilise their state-of-the-art facilities. This takes learning to the next level.

USC provides a structure that prepares students for university. The USC timetable allows students to complete most of their independent study during the school day, and they still have time for out-of-school interests or work commitments also. The adult learning environment starts with simple things, like no school uniform and addressing staff by their first name. These behaviours assist young people to develop independence, confidence and maturity within a diverse learning environment.

USC students are encouraged to develop and maintain a good study schedule to reach their personal best and maintain a balanced, healthy lifestyle. All USC students are assigned a mentor teacher who helps them plan their study schedule, manage their workload and support their wellbeing.

Our curriculum will prepare you for the demands of university and accelerate your learning to achieve your potential. We'll open your eyes to the pathways that will take you on the next step of your learning journey, and provide support to help you get there.

USC offers the South Australia Certificate of Education (SACE) to International students. International students are required to study a minimum of one and a half years of the SACE curriculum to be able to obtain a SACE Certificate. The first step towards success at school in Australia starts with good English communication. Students enrolled at USC will study Intensive English at Adelaide Independent Schools Alliance (AISA) before entering the mainstream of Year 11.

YEAR 11 (SACE STAGE 1)

COURSE CODE: 042984G

Year 11 students are introduced to a tertiary-style of learning. An integral part of the Year 11 program is the development of study skills to ensure students are taught to manage their time effectively. A high level of student supervision is achieved through a personal mentoring program. Students will receive comprehensive assistance to plan and review their study, developing the disciplined habits that are a necessary strong foundation required for academic success.

Year 11 students choose six subjects per semester. Each subject is taught twice a week for two x 2 hour classes. The academic year is divided into two semesters. Attendance is compulsory and Year 11 is a prerequisite to Year 12.

YEAR 11 (STAGE 1) SUBJECTS

ARTS

- Drama
- Music Experience
- Music Advanced
- Visual Arts- Art
- Visual Arts- Design

BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE, AND TECHNOLOGY

- Accounting
- Business Innovation

CROSS-DISCIPLINARY

- Research Project

ENGLISH

- English (English focus)
- English (Literary Studies focus)
- English as a Second Language (EAL)

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Ancient Studies
- Economics
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Philosophy
- Politics, Power and People

MATHEMATICS

- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics*

SCIENCES

- Biology
- Chemistry*
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Physics*
- Psychology

PLEASE NOTE:

- * These subjects must be studied for two semesters for continuation in Stage 2.
- Specialist Mathematics is only available if Mathematical Methods is also selected or has been completed previously.
- In total, a maximum of three selections of Art and/or Design can be made (i.e. a full year of Art and one semester of Design OR a full year of Design and one semester of Art).
- All other subjects can be selected once or twice depending on individual preference.

“What I love the most about USC is, it is a place that allows students to be themselves, without being constrained by unnecessary rules and norms that inadvertently limit their growth. I know USC will continue to be an amazing school, to foster young people like me, encouraging them to dream big and showing them what they can achieve.”
XU, Yufei





YEAR 12 (SACE STAGE 2)

COURSE CODE: 042984G

In Year 12 students continue to develop the skills and strategies required to achieve a competitive tertiary entrance score for university. Students will learn to evaluate concepts from a critical perspective as they consult different sources of information. The lecture and tutorial style of teaching is introduced, with most subjects having two 1 hour-long lectures with a supporting 2 hour-long tutorial. The lecture/tutorial mode of education mirrors university and ensures that learning is active, participative, motivating and enjoyable.

Teachers enjoy presenting interactive lectures supported by stimulating multimedia presentations. Tutorials provide opportunities for discussion and debate, extending knowledge, developing skills and exploring concepts. Attendance at lectures and tutorials is compulsory.

In Year 12, students typically study 5 full year subjects. Year 12 subject choices will impact on student options for university courses together with the tertiary entrance rank they achieve.

ARTS

- Drama
- Music Explorations
- Music Studies
- Solo Performance
- Visual Arts- Art
- Visual Arts- Design

BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE, AND TECHNOLOGY

- Accounting
- Business Innovation

ENGLISH

- English
- English Literary Studies
- English as a Second Language (EAL)

HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Ancient Studies
- Economics
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Philosophy
- Politics, People and Power

MATHEMATICS

- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics

SCIENCES

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Physics
- Psychology

STUDENT SUPPORT

One of the most significant differences between USC and any other Year 11 and 12 school is the powerful combination of focused academic preparation with student care and support. We believe that academic support and personal care are essential to enable students to reach their maximum potential. USC student support services include:

DEANS OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE

The Deans of Student Experience are responsible for all aspects of the students welling and academic progress and is the first point of contact for parents. The Deans of Student Experience ensures that the needs of international students are met at every decision making level in the College.

COUNSELLORS

Students can receive help with personal issues such as transition, adjusting to a new culture, homesickness, making friends and gaining confidence in their new environment.

MENTORS

Students are allocated a mentor- a member of the USC academic staff- who provides them with care and attention outside of classes. Mentors are responsible for: helping students review their academic progress; assisting with the development of good study skills; and providing guidance in subject choices and career pathways.

ACADEMIC TEACHING STAFF

USC has an experienced and highly qualified staff, who specialise in preparing students for university entry. Students are encouraged to work closely with teachers, who are available for individual tuition and support for the students in their care. USC teachers have developed the reputation amongst students for being not only great teachers, but great people too.

CULTURAL ORIENTATION

A cultural orientation program is provided to familiarise students with their new environment and to provide the relevant information about living and studying in Adelaide. Students are assisted with banking and telephone systems, provided with a tax file number and a health care card to access health services. USC students receive an email address; as well as a student identification card which offers transport and service discounts. Students will also be provided with a guide to public transport, a city and metropolitan map and 24-hour emergency telephone numbers.

CAREER ADVICE AND TERTIARY ENTRANCE ADVICE

A career advisor is available to help students with all aspects of the tertiary application process and any other enquiry regarding university courses. Students are encouraged to attend university information sessions and Open Days.



AUSTRALIAN HOMESTAY NETWORK (AHN)

The aim of Homestay is to provide overseas students accommodation with local families in a warm and safe environment, with convenient public transport to the USC. The Australian Homestay Network is the service provider that works with USC to arrange accommodation for our international students. AHN appoints Coordinators who work with schools and homestay families.

Families are selected by completing the AHN application, an interview and inspection of the home facilities. AHN meets national and State regulations and standards to provide:

- 24/7 support to families and student
- Insurance services
- Automated online payment
- Guidance and cultural advice
- Private fully furnished accommodation
- Assistance with establishing banking and phone
- Effective response to concerns or issues in liaison with the College

More information about AHN and its services are available at this web link:

www.homestaynetwork.org/new-students

RESPONSIBILITIES

For a successful Homestay experience, University Senior College, the Homestay family, the student and the student's parents all have responsibilities.

UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE:

- The Principal will be appointed the legal guardian for a student under 18 years of age;
- Will liaise with AHN on all matters pertaining to homestay;
- The Wellbeing coordinator will monitor the health and wellbeing of the student and will monitor attendance;
- The International Registrar will monitor absences;
- The Deans of Student Experience will monitor the academic progress and attendance of the student and concerns about attendance.

HOMESTAY FAMILY WILL:

- Accept the student as another family member in their home;
- Be responsible for day to day parenting (monitor curfews, health, behaviour, safety, etc.);
- Ensure that the family maintains the standards required by AHN;
- Provide meals and services as arranged by AHN.

ARRIVAL AND ADJUSTMENT

The best possible Homestay family has been chosen by AHN to care for the student. AHN will arrange meeting the student on arrival at the airport and transfer to Homestay accommodation. AHN will also provide pre-departure orientation and further support after arrival to facilitate adaptation to a new cultural context.

The Homestay family will settle the student into their new home, explain public transport and teach the student how to travel to and from school, discuss likes and dislikes with food and explain family rules.

It is very important students are honest with the Homestay family. They are encouraged to try new food, but if it is unpleasant, they are to tell the Homestay family. If there is a small problem, students are encouraged get help before it turns into a large problem.

Orientation will be done on the first day at school by the International Team. The student will: complete forms giving family contact details; be given a diary and school policies; be given their Student Card; be given their Health Card and be taken on a tour of our Campus. Help will also be given if the student wishes to open a bank account or purchase a mobile phone card.

It is understood that most students will suffer from homesickness usually during the first few weeks. Everything is different: the language, the food, not living with the family, missing friends, even the climate. As they make new friends and feel more comfortable with the Homestay family the homesickness will pass. The USC Wellbeing Officer is there to help and if necessary will get assistance from the School Counsellor and Deans of Student Experience. Additionally, AHN provides a Coordinator who can assist and support the student in homestay matters.

OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

TELEPHONE AND COMMUNICATION

Most students will have a mobile phone and will use it to contact family and friends. Students may use the homestay landline to make local calls; however any calls to mobile phones, interstate or overseas should be paid for by the student on top of the Homestay fee.

The student is expected to have their mobile phone turned on at all times (except when they are in class) and the battery to be charged, so that College or AHN Coordinator can contact them when necessary. It is important to make sure that if they change their mobile number the College and AHN Coordinator is informed.

Students must check communications from the College each day and must respond to communications from College staff.

INTERNET

Internet access is part of the AHN package for students.

TRAVEL

If a student wants to travel within Australia or overseas they need permission from the College. A copy of their travel ticket and the address of where they will be living must be given to the International Registrar. Students under 18 must also have permission from their parents (a permission form can be obtained from the International Registrar and sent to parents).

The student must not leave for holidays before the end of the school term and must return in time for the beginning of the next school term – or at the beginning of the year, in time for Orientation.

Students are not permitted to travel to home country during the academic year. Return home is permitted during the term holidays.

OVERNIGHT VISITS WITH FRIENDS

The Homestay family must know the student's whereabouts at all times. If they intend to stay overnight away from their Homestay, the student must ask permission before making plans. It is not acceptable to phone the Homestay family after leaving the house to say that they will not be returning home. If the student is under 18, their Homestay family must phone the Homestay family of the friend to make sure that they are aware that the student will be sleeping there.

FRIENDS VISITING

The student may seek permission from the Homestay family to allow friends to sleep overnight. It is not acceptable to arrive home with friends without the Homestay family's knowledge and expect these friends to join the family for a meal.

CHORES

It is acceptable for the student to perform certain chores in the home, such as keeping their own room tidy, helping with the dishes, changing bed linen.

“USC is where everything got started. I cannot describe how grateful I am for all support and encouragement USC gave me when I needed. Despite still being in high school, the flexibility of USC courses provided me an opportunity to explore what my interests and my passions were. Also, I am grateful and genuinely proud of the diversity of our USC community, and a multicultural community like this allows me to not only explore the attractive side of Australian culture, but also engage with people from various cultural backgrounds, which is definitely one of the most unforgettable experiences in my life.”
YU, Yanwen





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