

Academics

- *Admissions Requirements*
 - Sophomore status +
 - Applications can be submitted electronically –hard copy not required
- *Program Academics*
 - Typical course load = 3-4 classes (24 University of Wollongong “points”)
 - Six “point” courses typically transfer as 4 AC credits
 - Eight “point” courses typically transfer as 5 AC credits
 - Advance approval required to take five-six subjects, to avoid scheduling conflicts
 - Subject timetables are typically updated in late November/early December, but the majority of subjects are offered every year in the same term
 - U of Wollongong’s academic terminology is different than Alma’s :
 - Wollongong “Faculties” = Alma academic departments
 - Wollongong “Courses” = Alma degrees/majors
 - Wollongong “Subjects” = Alma classes
 - Study Abroad students are not able to enroll in certain subjects and/or postgraduate courses; these subjects are published online at UOW’s Study Abroad “Enquire & Apply” section. Creative Arts courses are restricted to students majoring in subject area at Alma, and most creative art courses require a portfolio
 - Different teaching style:
 - Typically lecture-based
 - Grade is largely determined by one or two tests
 - Difficult to get an “A” in a subject
 - Students can purchase textbooks from the Unishop upon arrival; the costs may be higher than purchasing them online. You should have textbooks when classes start.
 - Fall Semester, Spring Semester, and Summer: All of these terms fulfill the “S” course requirement
 - Spring Semester and Summer: Fulfills “S” Spring Term course requirement if program runs through May. Student must confirm and get approval with the Registrar once the program dates are published.

Housing

- All fees charged by UOW and invoiced to Alma College are added to the student’s Alma College account, and become student’s responsibility. These include linen purchase fees, laundering fees, bus tickets, meals, fines, etc.
- The two collegiate halls are a 20-minute walk from the main campus.
- Both halls offer single or double bedroom units, and may or may not include meals.
- One popular housing option among Alma students is Campus East, where students live in single study bedrooms, have shared bathrooms and purchase their own meals.
- Other popular options include the Kooloobong and Gundi self-catered flats. Four – five students live together, share kitchen facilities, and purchase and prepare their own food.
- Accommodations fill up very quickly. Housing applications must be submitted by the deadlines published at UOW’s Study Abroad “Enquire & Apply” section. You do not have to be officially accepted to Wollongong, nor are you required to have a Wollongong Student ID to complete the housing application.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. *What travel documents do I need to go to Australia?*
 - A passport is required for international travel and must be valid at least 180 days beyond the last date of the program.
 - A student visa is required for entry into Australia. Within your acceptance materials will be instructions to apply.
2. *Can I use my cell phone in Australia?*

- Using a U.S. cell phone abroad to make local and/or international calls can be very costly. Check with your service provider for details.
 - One option is purchasing phone cards once you arrive in Australia. It is not recommended to purchase international calling cards while in the United States because they often will not function once you are abroad.
 - PicCell Wireless and other such companies allow students to rent a phone with a global SIM card and charger appropriate for Australia.
3. *When should I arrive to the school?*
- All university housing contracts begin on the same day; dates are published on the Fees Schedule. Your acceptance letter will provide you with the first day of (mandatory) orientation.
4. *How far away is Wollongong from larger cities? What are the public transportation options?*
- Wollongong is just over an hour away from Sydney by car. It costs approximately AUD\$15 for a round-trip train ticket to Sydney.
 - Canberra, the capital of Australia, can be visited in a day trip.
 - Buses run extensively throughout the city and are the most convenient & cost effective transportation.
 - Wollongong also has a city rail system offering regular north and southbound services. The Railway Station is a 15-minute walk from campus.
 - Purchasing or renting a bicycle is inexpensive. Helmets are mandatory.
5. *How will I get to Wollongong?*
- The University offers a complimentary airport transportation service. Your acceptance letter will explain the specifics and arrival dates to use the complimentary transportation service.
6. *Will I have internet access at school? Should I bring my laptop?*
- There is wireless internet access on the majority of the University's campus.
 - There are student computer labs in Building 17.
 - If you are planning to bring your laptop, UOW will provide computer requirements in their pre-departure materials sent to you.
7. *What application and deposit fees are my responsibility?*
- Students are responsible for all application fees when they are not billed directly to Alma College. For example, accommodation application fees may be required when applying for housing.
 - Plan to pay out of pocket for any housing deposits required to secure your housing.
 - When accepting your housing contract, Alma College study abroad students from are not required to pay the \$500AUD deposit that is listed as required to confirm housing.
8. *Who can I contact if I have questions about the application process or general questions about the University of Wollongong?*
- Your first point of contact should be the University's official website (www.uow.edu.au/future/international).
 - If your questions are not answered by thoroughly checking the website, you can e-mail the staff at student-mobility@uow.edu.au.
 - Off-Campus Studies staff are available to answer your questions.