



THE UNIVERSITY OF
**WESTERN
AUSTRALIA**

Australia Awards Scholarship

Students Pre-Departure Guide

2019/ 2020



Pre-Departure Guide

This booklet has been prepared by the International Sponsored Students Unit (ISSU), The University of Western Australia for Australia Awards Scholarship students.

The information contained in this booklet is, as far as possible, accurate at the time of publication **(October 2018)**. Details contained in this booklet may be subject to change without notice.

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PRE-DEPARTURE AND ARRIVAL

We are delighted you have chosen The University of Western Australia to undertake your tertiary studies, and wish you every success.

This booklet will help you prepare for your study experience. It will provide information to help you organise your departure and your arrival in Perth. It will assist to settle you into the University and your new environment. There is also information about living in Australia and academic matters.

To make the best use of this book, don't try to read it all at once. Take your time reading through it and bring it with you to Perth for future reference. Some of the issues covered may not seem important to you at home, but will be once you arrive in Perth.

What to Bring

Tips

Use a large, strong suitcase with wheels or trolley and a good piece of hand luggage. Make sure that your baggage does not exceed the airline's limit, as excess luggage charges can be expensive.

In the section on Immigration and Customs below, note the items to be declared, and pack them separately in a bag so that customs declaration and checking is easier. Failure to declare items can result in a fine.

Carry important documents, valuables, some extra clothing and personal items in your hand luggage, but make sure it is small enough to fit in the aircraft's overhead cabin compartment or under your seat.

Remember to label all your bags with your name and address.

Clothing and Personal Items

Dressing on campus is informal. In summer, lightweight clothes, sandals or track shoes (joggers) are sufficient. In winter, heavier weight clothing, including a woollen jumper/sweater, winter coat or waterproof jacket, is recommended.

In spring and autumn, jeans with a lightweight jacket or jumper/sweater are sufficient.

Generally, the cost of clothing and footwear in Australia is comparable to western countries but may be more expensive than in your country. However, it is possible to find bargains during sales in the larger stores.

Clothing

- jeans/trousers, blouse/shirts, T-shirts, shorts, underwear and socks
- woollen jumpers/sweaters, a jacket/coat
- bathrobe, pyjamas and home wear clothes
- sportswear, swimwear, hat for summer
- closed shoes, sport/track shoes, sandals, other casual footwear

Personal Items/Goods

- toiletries
- bath towels
- alarm clock, sewing kit
- spare pair of spectacles and/or contact lenses and a current prescription
- laptop
- hair-dryer, electric shaver, electric iron
- calculator
- camera
- iPad, MP3, CD Player – bring music from home, mobile phone (check compatibility in Australia)
- dictionary (Macquarie and Oxford are used in Australia)
- It is recommended that you have a dental check before departing

Important Documents

- passport
- prescriptions for any regular medication
- work/character references
- medical history
- driver's licence
- credit card

In Australia, 240 volts is the standard voltage for electrical appliances and you may need an **adaptor**. For some items it may be preferable to purchase them in Australia.

Duty Free Concession

If you are aged 18 years or over, you are allowed to bring up to AU\$900 worth of general goods into Australia duty free. Personal items such as clothing, footwear and toiletries (excluding fur and perfume) are free from duty and tax.

If you intend to bring a new laptop or other electrical goods which are less than 12 months old, you may be liable for customs duty and sales tax on arrival. Alternatively, you may be required to pay a security deposit, which is refundable when you take the laptop out of the country on your departure.

Immigration and Border Protection: <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Ente/Duty-Free-concessions>

Immigration and Border Protection

During your flight you will be required to complete an "Incoming Passenger Card". Western Australia has strict customs and quarantine laws which forbid most processed animal products, agricultural products (cereals, fruits, honey, dairy products), any item which can carry diseases, insects and other pests, wildlife and products made from skins, feathers, bones, shells or ivory. You will be responsible for every item you bring with you. Heavy penalties and on-the-spot fines will be applied if you do not declare quarantined items. **You must tick "YES" if you are carrying any food, plant material or animal products.**

In addition, if you are carrying \$10,000 or more in foreign or Australian currency, you must declare it on your Incoming Passenger Card. Failure to declare is an offence.

Avoid at all costs, drugs, weapons, explosives and other illegal imports, and do not carry other peoples' goods or parcels unless you are 100% sure of the contents.

IF IN DOUBT, DECLARE IT.

For more information refer to <http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Ente>
<http://www.border.gov.au/Trav/Ente/Brin/What-you-can-bring-on-a-plane>

Financial Arrangements

Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS) students should bring **at least AU\$500** to cover immediate expenses until you receive your establishment allowance.

On arrival, the Student Contact Officer will assist you with opening a bank account and obtaining your \$5,000 establishment allowance.

Arrival in Australia

Each AAS student can be met at the airport by a UWA driver and taken to their arranged temporary accommodation. If you arrive at the airport and you are not met by a representative from the University, please telephone 0429 902 455 to arrange transport to your accommodation. If a taxi needs to be called, you can ring 131 330 or wait at airport taxi rank. Keep a receipt for the fee charged. It would cost approximately \$55 for a taxi to UWA Campus.

AAS students are given an arrival pack, containing relevant information and maps. We strongly encourage students to read this information to understand what is happening in the days prior to commencement of their course.

After arriving in Perth, on the next working day (Monday to Friday) students should make their way to Student Central, in the middle of Crawley Campus, arriving at 9.00am to meet the Australia Awards Student Contact Officer.

Students should bring with them their passport, e-visa, final boarding pass, Arrival Pack and any other documents requested.

On making contact with the Student Contact Officer, students will be assisted with

- banking arrangements
- Overseas Student Health Cover
- scholarship information and
- Information on finding permanent accommodation.

The right permanent accommodation in Perth can take a while to find, so please be aware that your first few days should be focussed on securing stable accommodation.

If you wish to stay in a student residential college on campus, the University recommends you make enquiries as soon as possible as student on-campus accommodation is in high demand.

On campus accommodation - www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/about/accommodation

Introductory Academic Program (IAP)

Australia Awards Scholarship students commence their Introductory Academic Program (IAP) around five days after their arrival. The IAP is compulsory and UWA is required to report on student attendance. The IAP has been designed to provide students with the best possible start to their studies at UWA.

The IAP will include a comprehensive program of study including different learning styles; study techniques; language skills; cultural transition studies; information about your scholarship and social outings.

You will be issued with a temporary student card during the academic IAP. If you have a spare passport photo you can bring it for this purpose. If not, you will be able to take a photo on your phone when you arrive. This card will allow you to receive concessions on public transport.

Orientation

UWA conducts welcome programs for all international and domestic students prior to commencement of each semester. **You will be notified by email as soon as the Orientation program is finalised. Details of the various information sessions, social activities and your enrolment day will be provided.**

Orientation:

- helps make the transition to your new life in Perth smooth and enjoyable;
- gets you enrolled in your course;
- makes you aware of different learning styles and study techniques;
- introduces you to the facilities on campus;
- provides information about OSHC;
- provides an opportunity to meet other students and staff;
- introduces you to places of interest in Perth.

All new students must attend the orientation programs.

Enrolment

Enrolment will take place as part of your UWA Orientation program . PhD students will enrol through the Graduate Research School. Assistance will be provided on how to get enrolled in your course.

Enrolment is one of the most important parts of the orientation program. It is a good idea to start preparing your study plan before enrolment. The UWA handbook contains all course information and unit/subject descriptions. The handbook can be found at handbooks.uwa.edu.au

Academic staff will be available during the orientation program to provide advice on your choice of units and study plan. You will also be able to meet with Student Experience Officers prior to orientation. It is advised that research students make contact with their supervisors within the first few days of arriving in Perth.

During enrolment you will be issued with a UWA student card. This card allows you to use the library and other facilities, and also receive concessions (for public transport, cinema) and discounts. If you lose your card, you should report it immediately to Student Administration. A replacement card can be provided but will cost \$15.

Student Family Arrangements

- Australia Awards (AA) does not provide any financial support for family so students must have additional funds to support their family in Australia. We strongly suggest that students assess their financial capabilities before bringing family to Australia. Added costs will include visa length health cover; larger accommodation; extra transportation costs and childcare if necessary. This link provides information about the cost of living in Perth - www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/about/accommodation/costs
- Remember, when AAS students do not bring family members to Australia, they are eligible for a 'reunion' airfare home (for 2 yr or greater course).
- Both Australia Awards and UWA recommend students do not have family join them until after being in Australia for at least three to six months. This recommendation is in a student's best interests. Students need to adjust to a new environment, return to study after being in the workforce and focus, ensuring an academically successful first semester. Anecdotal evidence indicates that the first six months as a student are the most difficult.
- Students who have studied in Western Australia before can bring their family with them, as well as students who are breast feeding an infant.
- Students who bring an international mobile phone can immediately place a new SIM card in their phone, enabling immediate contact with family at home. Ensure you are aware of contracts/plan conditions.
- Should students need to bring family, the Student Contact Officer will provide support letters when organising childcare and will provide the relevant documentation for the family's visa and schooling application.

Schooling and Childcare

- AA Scholarship students are eligible for tuition free primary and secondary schooling for their children but there are additional costs involved such as Annual Voluntary Fee (all parents are expected to pay), uniform fees, books, excursion fees etc.
- It is important to understand that if a student's child needs English language training, this may incur additional fees and could cost up to \$3000 per year. This is paid by the student, not the University. It is recommended that children commence English language training prior to arrival in Australia. Special needs programs (for a learning difficulty or disability support) may involve considerable costs.
- Good quality childcare services are available close to the University. Students are eligible to apply for a Child Care Subsidy of up to 85% of costs. However, the fees for childcare may still be a considerable amount of money. Fees can range from \$65 to \$125 per day.
<https://www.humanservices.gov.au/individuals/services/centrelink/child-care-subsidy>

These links show the different child care centres at UWA –
Early Learning Centre <http://www.childcare.uwa.edu.au/elc>
Out of School Centre <http://www.childcare.uwa.edu.au/osc>
Unicare (non UWA) <http://www.unicare.net.au/>

Important documentation to bring

- Family members' birth certificates
- Marriage certificate
- Children's immunisation records
- Your academic transcripts/qualifications (if requested by us)
- Academic transcripts for children over 12 years of age
- Spouse qualifications and work references, if intending to work

Also in this booklet you will find further information on what clothing to bring, immigration and border protection (quarantine), financial management, finding accommodation, cost of living, Australian laws, working in Perth, health care and UWA policies and study matters.

Cultural Adjustment

Everybody who moves to another country will experience feelings of distress, confusion, nervousness and loss of confidence. This general sense of unease is sometimes described as 'culture shock'. If you begin to experience these feelings, don't worry, it is normal and will soon pass.

As you settle in and come to terms with the differences in culture, people, social customs and life in your new environment, you will start to enjoy the change, and experience a new found energy. This process of adjustment normally takes from three to six months and is sometimes called the 'U' curve of adjustment because of the way your feelings fall and rise.

The first step in coping with the problem is being aware that what you are going through is normal. Some other steps you can take include:

Be Positive: Concentrate on the positive aspects of your decision to come to Australia to study and try to dismiss any negative thoughts you are having;

Examine Your Expectations: When confronted with situations that make you uncomfortable or miserable, examine your expectations. Were you realistic in your preconceived notions of life and people of Australia? Have you generalised too much? Are you too rigid in your mind set? Try to be flexible and change to meet your new circumstances;

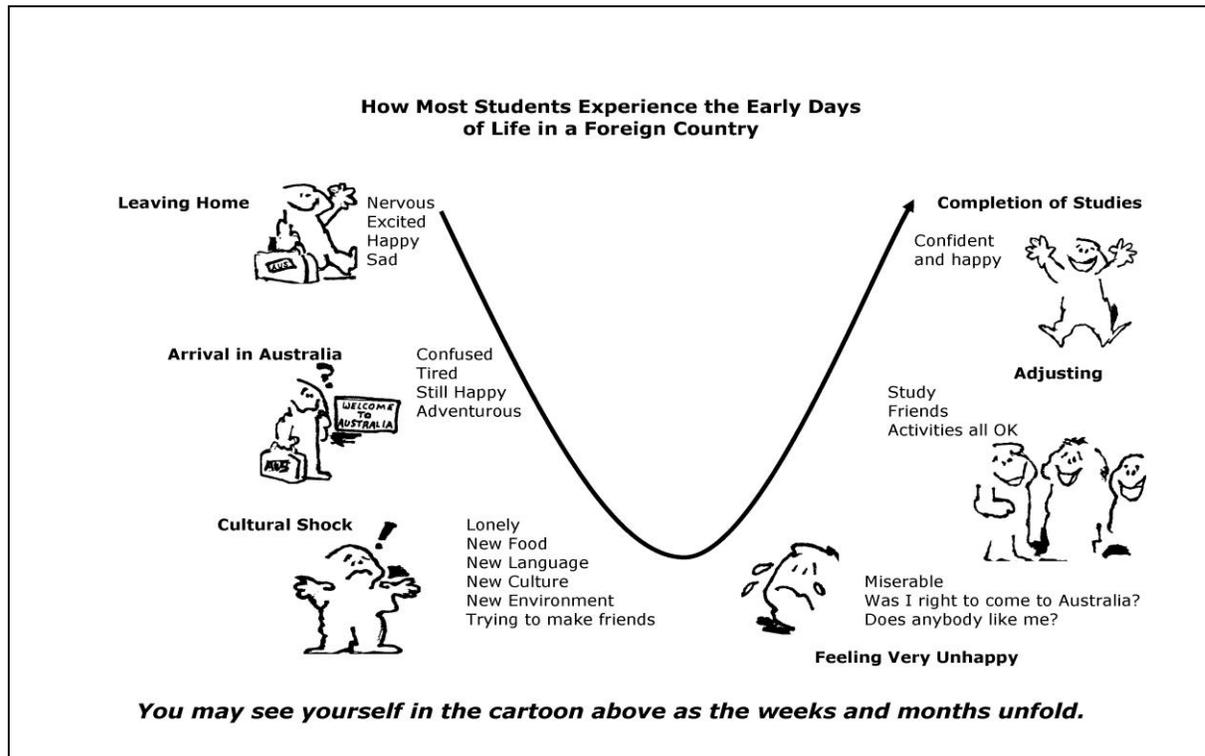
Listen and Observe: Human beings are different everywhere. Their behaviour and methods of communication both verbal and non-verbal are a result of their cultural history and social systems. The correctness or incorrectness of their ways compared to yours is not important. You are in Australian society - listen, observe and learn so that you don't interpret or communicate the wrong signals;

Ask Questions: If you don't understand something, including what people are saying or gestures that are used, ask them. You will find most people are happy to take the time to explain things to you;

Go Out and Explore: Learning to function in a new culture requires effort and contact. Don't be too shy to meet people or get involved in social activities. Cross-cultural interaction can be difficult but they can also be fun. Try and see the humorous side of uncomfortable situations and don't be afraid of making mistakes. With time, understanding and knowledge, you will soon become 'multicultural';

Talk it Out: If you come from a culture where people don't talk about their problems, attempt to overcome this. Talking about your adjustment problems, especially to other new international students, will lighten the burden and make you realise that these problems are quite common;

Seek Help: If you continue to have adjustment problems, seek help. Speak to the Student Contact Officer or a counsellor from Student Services (see 'Useful Contacts' at the back of this book).



LIVING IN AUSTRALIA

When people in other countries think of Australia, they immediately picture kangaroos and koalas, or have a particular image of Australia, such as the Sydney Opera House or Uluru (Ayers Rock). These famous icons only show a small part of the richness of Australia's natural treasures and its cultural diversity.

Western Australia is an enormous state and offers a wealth of experiences, from the drama of the outback and spectacular coastlines to the cosmopolitan and sunny, outdoor living of Perth. To help you adjust to your new environment, it may help to know a little about Australia's history, people and social customs.

History

First inhabitants	Aboriginal people
European contact	16th century
British Colony established	1770 by Captain James Cook
First Fleet arrived	26 January 1788 at Botany Bay, New South Wales
Australia Day holiday	26 January
Federation	1901
States	Western Australia, Victoria, New South Wales, South Australia, Queensland, Tasmania
Territories	Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory
Population	24.8 million

The People

Australia is a multicultural country although its British colonial ties mean that it has a predominantly Anglo-Saxon population.

Since British colonisation, there have been two main influxes of immigrants to Australia. One was with the gold rush in the 1850s and the second followed World War II. Post-World War II immigration brought a flood of European immigrants, many of them from Greece, Italy, Yugoslavia, Lebanon and Turkey. These immigrants have since made an enormous contribution to the country, enriching its culture and broadening its vision. From the 1980s, Australia has also accepted increasing numbers of Asian immigrants and it is this complex blend of people which has provided the basis for Australia's multicultural policies and outlook.

Social Customs

A Sense of Individuality

Most Australians value their individuality and would like you to accept them as individuals. They are confident and proud whatever their talents, occupations and physical attributes may be. They dislike being treated simply as a member of a particular group, class or position.

Fair Play

Australians generally have a sense of fair play. The idea of giving a person a 'fair go' is very much a part of the Australian psyche. If you ever feel that you are unfairly treated, point this out and you will invariably receive a positive reaction.

Position of Women

Gender is no basis for different treatment in Australia. Women legally have the same rights, status and opportunities as men. Australian women might appear to be more independent, outspoken and self-reliant compared to women in some other countries. In spite of these rights and successes in the workplace, Australian women still take their parental role very seriously and manage this role alongside careers and other interests.

Humour

Though humour has universal application, certain aspects of Australian humour are worth noting. Firstly, Australians have the ability to laugh at themselves. Secondly, they go out of their way to make fun of people who consider themselves better than others. A great deal of teasing is also indulged in among close friends. If you find yourself the butt of a tease, especially if it is done in a joking manner, it means you are accepted and no offence is meant.

Greetings

'Good morning', 'Good afternoon', 'How do you do?' are formal greetings. Informal greetings are 'Hello', 'Hi', 'G'day', 'How are you going?' Men usually shake hands when they meet each other. Women sometimes shake hands with both men and other women.

Addressing People

Australians generally have a first (given), middle and last name (surname). First names are used more frequently, especially among friends and peers. As a mark of respect with people such as university staff members or the parents of friends and formal acquaintances, you should address the person as Mister (Mr), Missus/Mrs (married woman), Miss (unmarried woman) or Ms (married or unmarried), followed by their surname. People with a title such as Professor, Doctor etc. are addressed by their title followed by their surname.

Queuing and Personal Space

When several people are waiting for something, for example a taxi, bus, tickets or lifts, they queue. This means forming a line in the order of arrival. Trying to push ahead or 'jumping the queue' is not tolerated and those attempting to do so may find themselves in an uncomfortable position. Australians also value their personal space and appreciate being given more space when queuing or standing in close proximity to other people.

'Excuse me', 'Please', 'Thank you'

These phrases are used in Australia as a mandatory mark of courtesy. 'Excuse me' is used when speaking to someone who does not expect you to speak, when asking someone to repeat something they have said or when joining in an ongoing conversation. It is also used to apologise for a mistake or speech discretion. 'Please' is used when requesting anything. 'Thank You' is used when something is handed to you, a favour is done or a request is met.

Replies To Invitations

All invitations whether formal (written) or informal (over the phone/in person) are replied to as soon as possible. If you accept an invitation and later are unable to attend, it is customary to contact your host(s) to inform them of this change. When formal invitations have an RSVP date, replies are expected by that date.

Punctuality

The concept of 'rubber time', which is common in some parts of Asia, does not operate in Australia. Most events and appointments will occur at the agreed or specified time and everybody is expected to be punctual. If you cannot keep an appointment or are going to be late, always inform your host(s) immediately.

Smoking

If in the company of people or in someone's home, it is good manners to ask before smoking or if there are no other smokers, go outside to smoke. Smoking is banned on the UWA campus, also in aircrafts, theatres, cinemas, restaurants, and in public buildings (including shopping centres).

Table Manners

Eating with one's fingers is okay at informal meals such as picnics, barbecues and for take-away meals. When having a meal at a table at home or in a restaurant, knives, forks and spoons are used. Fingers are used for bread and occasionally for meat with bones. If you don't know which piece of cutlery to use, ask around before going out and watch other people.

Social Functions and Outings

The most common social functions are dinners, parties and barbecues held in private homes. At these functions, guests normally bring a bottle of wine or cans of beer. Sometimes guests are requested to 'bring a plate'. This means that each guest brings a plate of food to be shared by everyone. On other occasions, guests are informed on the invitation 'BYO' (Bring Your Own drinks or meat for a barbecue). People also invite friends to go out to restaurants, movies and other events. Sometimes the person issuing the invitation will offer to pay for the whole, or part of the event, but most times costs are shared equally.

At any venue where alcoholic drinks are sold, the convention is to 'shout' a round. This means that when a group is drinking together, each person in the group will take a turn to buy a round of drinks. If you don't wish to do this, say so before any drinks are bought.

Physical Contact in Public

Men mostly shake hands when meeting each other. Women, on the other hand, display greater physical affection in public. Hugging and greeting each other with a kiss on the cheek is very common among women. Displays of affection between men and women, like hugging, kissing and holding hands, are quite common, and those who are close friends or family often greet and say goodbye to each other with a kiss on the cheek.

Home Life

Australians are very family orientated and spend a great deal of time doing family orientated activities. The home is cherished as a family's own private space and most work nights are spent at home. Weekends, especially in spring and summer, are spent catching up with close friends or doing work around the house and garden. If you wish to contact or visit friends at home, it is best to avoid doing so before 9am and after 9pm. A telephone call before visiting will also be most appreciated.

Clothing in Summer

Clothing in summer is often kept to a minimum. Young people, including women, wear shorts and brief tops in public. This is acceptable and should not be mistaken as a sign of loose morals.

Conversation

Australians love to engage in conversation. Topics of conversation between acquaintances will generally be neutral ones such as sport, films or music, and will not include those that are personal or could lead to disagreements or arguments. In casual conversations, questions about personal relationships, someone's income, the cost of one's home and possessions and a person's age should be avoided unless you know the person very well.

Making Friends

Australians are friendly. They smile, joke and are willing to help anyone who asks them. But when it comes to making close friendships, they take their time. Close friendships in Australia are mostly based on repeated interactions, shared interests and common points of view.

Unacceptable Social Habits

Every society has certain rules concerning social habits. Some practices which are socially acceptable in your society may not be acceptable in another. In Australia, the following are considered unacceptable (some are even unlawful) and you should note them:

- avoid speaking in your own language at length while in the company of other people;
- avoid swearing, shouting, using indecent language and spitting in public;
- don't throw paper towels, tissues or feminine hygiene products into toilet bowls as they clog up the system. Only toilet paper should be flushed down the toilet;
- it is appropriate to blow your nose rather than sniffing, and to use a tissue or handkerchief.

'Australian' English

All English speaking countries in the world have their own particular accent, pronunciation, vocabulary, slang and style of speaking English. Australia is no exception. Even between the Australian States some words and styles of speaking are different. Though you may have studied and spoken English in your home country, you may initially have problems in understanding 'Australian' English or have problems making people understand you.

Don't worry, with time you'll pick up the 'Aussie' (Australian) dialect. The main aspects of 'Australian' English to look out for are:

The Australian accent

This is unique to Australia and pronunciation of some words may be different to those you are familiar with.

Speed

'Australian' English is spoken quite fast with the tendency to join words together for example, 'G'day' for 'Good day', 'How ya goin' for 'How are you going?'

Expression

Use of slang and home-grown vocabulary is very common. There is also a tendency to shorten and abbreviate words, sometimes adding an 'o' or 'i'.

Some examples of abbreviations:

aggro	aggressive
arvo	afternoon
rego	registration (for example, car registration)
servo	service (petrol) station
yobbo	a 'loud mouth' male
barbie	barbecue
brekky	breakfast
moszie	mosquito
sickie	sick day off work
sunnies	sunglasses
Uni	university
beaut	good, great
suss	suspicious
ta	thank you
tewt	tutorial

Some examples of Australian terminology:

barrack	voice support (for team)
bloke	a male
bludger	lazy, free-loader
car park	parking lot
chips	french fries
chook	chicken
chuck	throw
crook	not feeling well
cuppa	cup of tea
deli	delicatessen, corner store
fair dinkum	genuine, real
fair go	equal treatment
full on	intense
gutless	weak, afraid
jumper	sweater
loo	toilet
love/dear	term of endearment
mate	friend
ocker	uncultivated Australian (usually male)
no worries	no problems, okay (sometimes used instead of "you're welcome")
ripper	great, terrific
shocker	something that is distasteful or disliked
shonky	suspect in quality or character
spot-on	perfect
squiz	inquisitive look
tomato sauce	ketchup
what's up	what's wrong
see ya	goodbye

The Law

As an international student you are subject to all State and Federal laws. From the perspective of the law, you are no different from a citizen or permanent resident. In fact, the consequences of breaking the law (depending on the offence) could be more serious, as the punishment may also include cancellation of your student visa. The law governing the following matters should be given particular attention:

- **contractual agreements** – be aware that all written agreements such as **tenancy/accommodation contracts, mobile phone contracts**, and agreement to purchase contracts are legally binding. Read the fine print and make sure you understand everything before you sign;
- if you are under the age of 18 years, you are not permitted to purchase alcoholic drinks. Driving while under the influence of alcohol (ie having a blood alcohol level exceeding 0.05) is a serious offence and is dangerous. Regular breath-testing is carried out by police and if you are caught you will be fined and may lose your driver's licence or be imprisoned, depending on your blood alcohol level;
- making loud noise (music, shouting, etc) late at night is against the law;
- it is illegal to gamble except through officially licensed agencies such as the Burswood Casino, TAB and Lotto;
- bribery is a serious crime. Don't attempt to bribe anyone and also be careful not to allow your actions to be interpreted as a bribe;
- other laws that you should note are those involving motor vehicle accidents, road rules (such as speeding, driving without a valid licence), disagreements with neighbours, causing a public nuisance, cheating and shoplifting.

The Police

The Police Services (State and Federal) in Australia are part of the Public Service and not part of the Armed Forces. Their job is to prevent and solve crime, protect life and property, and to maintain law and order. If you have to deal with the Police, it will be to your advantage to co-operate with them and conduct yourself in a polite and unexcitable manner. You are also entitled to certain legal rights, which are as follows:

- you are considered innocent until proven guilty in court;
- unless you are formally arrested, you can refuse to go with the Police, answer any of their questions, give your name (except for traffic offences), or make a statement;
- you need not say anything that may incriminate you;
- the Police cannot threaten you or cause you any bodily harm, but if you resist arrest they can use reasonable force;
- if you are formally arrested, you have the right to be given details of the charge, make one telephone call to contact a lawyer/relative/friend, request an interpreter and ask for bail. Furthermore you need only give your name and address. If you want to make a statement you may write it yourself or have an interpreter do it for you.

Legal Advice and Assistance

If you need legal advice and assistance, contact the Student Contact Officer who will direct you to the appropriate agency. You can also receive assistance and advice from the following:

Legal Aid Western Australia,	Tel: 1300 650 579
Citizens Advice Bureau of WA,	Tel: 9221 5711
Youth Legal Service,	Tel: 9202 1688

Discrimination/Harassment

The University of Western Australia is committed to maintaining a work/study environment, which is free from discrimination and harassment. If you experience discrimination, harassment, or unfair treatment or if you feel uncomfortable about the behaviour of another student or a member of staff, the university has procedures to deal with these issues and has appointed a team of Equity and Diversity Advisers to provide assistance.

All enquiries are dealt with in confidence. For more information, please refer to www.equity.uwa.edu.au/welcome/advice_and_assistance

See 'Useful Contacts' at the back of this book for telephone numbers.

LIVING IN PERTH

Facts in Brief

Perth	Capital city of the State of Western Australia
Population, Perth	1 .7 million
Size of Western Australia	2 ,525,500 sq km (largest state of Australia)
Population, Western Australia	2 .35 million
Government	Democratic (Westminster System)
Time Zone	GMT + 8 hours
Religion	Complete religious freedom
Official language	English
Climate	Perth has a mediterranean climate with hot dry summers and relatively mild wet winters.

Average Temperatures - Perth

Summer Dry & Hot	1 7° to 28°c (62° to 82°f)	December to February
Autumn Some Rain	1 3° to 24°c (55° to 75°f)	March to May
Winter Rain	9° to 17°c (48° to 62°f)	June to August
Spring Some Rain	11 ° to 21°c (52° to 70°f)	September to November

Air Travel Times to Perth

From	Hours	Time Difference
Bangkok	6.50	-1 hour
Berlin	21.00	-6 to -7 hours
Chennai	9.00	-2.5 hours
Dubai	10.25	-4 hours
Frankfurt	17.30	-6 to -7 hours
Hong Kong	7.00	same
Jakarta	4.50	-1 hour
Johannesburg	9.05	-6 hours
Kuala Lumpur	5.40	same
London	18.10	-7 to -8 hours
Los Angeles	17.30	-15 to -16 hours
Manila	9.0	same
Mumbai	11.55	-2.5 hours
New York	22.30	-12 to -13 hours
Paris	20.00	-6 to -7 hours
Seoul	11 .00	+1 hour
Singapore	5.00	same
Stockholm	22.00	-6 to -7 hours
Taipei	8.50	same
Tokyo	9.50	+1 hour

Accommodation/Housing

On Campus Accommodation

There are five residential colleges/halls on-campus which can accommodate approximately 2000 students. The colleges have students of different ages and backgrounds, and are places where students can share academic and personal interests with other students. The Colleges offer a variety of accommodation including furnished private rooms and three meals a day. They have rooms which include their own kitchen and bathroom, internet connection, and the fee for all rooms include the cost of utilities (water, electricity etc.) There are also social activities organised to help students balance the demands of study.

Colleges	University Hall St Catherine's College St George's College St Thomas More College Trinity
Location	Stirling Highway, Nedlands (opposite UWA campus)
Cost	Ranges between \$315 – approx. \$450 per week (2018) (includes water, electricity, internet, airconditioning)
When to Apply	As early as possible (you don't have to have an offer of a place at the University to apply)

<https://study.uwa.edu.au/Student-life/accommodation/live-on-campus>

Off-Campus Accommodation

Accommodation close to the University is usually in high demand and can be more expensive than other areas. The University Housing Office maintains listings of both vacant and shared accommodation available to students in areas surrounding the campus on a housing database. However, the Housing Office does not evaluate the accommodation or negotiate on your behalf with the owner/agent. You are responsible for judging the quality, suitability and safety of the accommodation.

Please refer to <http://www.housing.uwa.edu.au/housing-database> for more information about the housing database.

Crawley Village

UWA owns a number of properties close to the university. These are administered by Crawley Village. You can register your interest in these properties and receive updates of properties that become available to rent – www.crawleyvillage.housing.uwa.edu.au

Many Australia Awards Scholarship students choose to rent a Crawley Village property. Some stay in the residential colleges or rent privately.

Where to look for accommodation

- listings on the UWA Accommodation database at, website – <http://www.housing.uwa.edu.au/housing-database>
- community (*Post*, *Western Weekly*) and local newspapers (*The West Australian* and *Sunday Times*) under the rental column towards the back,
- advertisements placed on notice boards around campus,
- real estate agents e.g. www.reiwa.com.au , gumtree website www.gumtree.com.au
- help from other students who are familiar with the university area.

Tips

Before signing a lease, it is **crucial** that you understand the terms and conditions that apply. Do Not sign a lease with an external party (other than the university) before you arrive in Australia. You can contact Crawley Village about your accommodation needs before you arrive in Perth.

It is good to start looking for accommodation while in your home country to get an idea of costs etc. but DO NOT send money (deposit/bond/rent in advance) to an independent accommodation provider before you arrive in Perth and view the accommodation. Internet scams have been known to target international students coming to Australia.

Types of Accommodation

Shared accommodation

What is it?	sharing a flat, unit or house with other students or the owner of the property
Own room/share room	yes, either furnished or unfurnished
Cost	between \$170 and \$250 per week/per person, depending on the size, type, location, furnishings
Bond	usually required (4 weeks' rent)
Signed agreement/contract	good idea to negotiate one before you move in (available from the Housing Office)
Other costs	share of household expenses, such as electricity, gas and telephone
Meals	responsible for your own meals

Homestay

What is it?	usually refers to a furnished room in a house with families
Own room	yes, usually furnished
Cost	between \$250 to \$300 per week (includes meals, electricity, gas, water)
Bond	usually required (4 weeks' board)
Signed agreement/contract	usually required
Other costs	telephone calls
Meals	included in board cost

Renting or Leasing

What is it?	entering a contract to rent or lease a flat, unit or house, either on your own or with friends
Flat/unit, house	yes, either furnished or unfurnished
Cost	varies depending on the location and condition of the property one bedroom flat: \$280 - \$400 per week two bedroom unit: \$320 - \$500 per week three bedroom house: \$450 - \$600 per week
Bond	yes (4 weeks' rent)
Signed agreement/contract	yes, usually a lease for six months or more
Other costs	four weeks' rent in advance connection fees for electricity, gas and telephone, plus regular charges for these utilities
Meals	responsible for your own meals

Tips On Renting

- see the Student Contact Officer at UWA before going out in search of accommodation,
- think about the type of housing you want and how much rent you can afford,
- before agreeing to move into shared accommodation, it is important to carefully assess whether you will enjoy living in that household and with those people,
- be aware of the distance and travelling times to and from campus,
- always view the room/flat/house before making a decision,
- don't be pressured into taking a place that is not what you want,
- ask questions and consult the SCO on matters that you are not clear about, and
- read the free booklet titled 'Renting a home in Western Australia' which is available from the Housing Officer, the Department of Commerce or the Tenants Advice Service
<http://www.commerce.wa.gov.au/consumer-protection/renting-home>
- before signing a lease, it is crucial that you understand the terms and conditions that apply.

Money Matters

Money

Australian currency comes in the form of coins and notes. The basic unit of currency is the Australian dollar.

Coins: 5c, 10c, 20c, 50c, \$1, \$2

Notes: \$5, \$10, \$20, \$50, \$100

Banks

Australia's major banks:

ANZ

Westpac

National Australia Bank

BankWest

Commonwealth Bank

plus many other smaller banks and credit unions

Banks On-campus

Westpac

Unicredit

Banks Close to UWA campus

ANZ

Commonwealth Bank

Bank West

National Australia Bank

On arrival, we will assist you to open a bank account using your Establishment payment. Afterwards, funds can be sent directly to your bank account by telegraphic transfer (TT) or by bank draft. This arrangement can be made through any bank in your home country. If funds are sent by bank draft, allow two weeks for posting and clearance.

When opening a bank account you will need your passport and some other form of identification. The bank will ask you for a Tax File Number (TFN), which you do not have to provide. However, if you do not provide a TFN the bank will charge you a higher than normal tax rate on any interest you earn. You can apply for a tax file number online at: <http://www.ato.gov.au>

Banking hours are

9.30am - 4.00pm (5pm Westpac on Campus) Monday to Thursday

9.30am - 5.00pm on Friday.

Banks are closed on Saturday, Sunday and public holidays. Banks operate automatic teller machines (ATM) on campus and in all suburbs. Access to accounts at ATMs are through cards and a Personal Identification Number (PIN). Should the card (and/or PIN) be misplaced/stolen, you must notify your bank immediately (after hours numbers are available).

Most major banks also have telephone and internet banking facilities.

Money Management

Most students are on a limited budget, therefore managing money is an important skill to learn. You should work out a realistic budget and stick to it, ensuring that your expenses do not exceed your income. If you find yourself overspending, analyse your expenditure and commit yourself to making changes. To assist you in working out a budget, the following guide is provided:

Estimated Cost of Basic Living per Week (Single Student Living Off-Campus)*

Weekly rent (shared accommodation with 2-3 students)	\$200
Meals/Snacks	\$175
Gas/electricity/water/phone	\$45
Transport (SmartRider)	\$40
Miscellaneous	\$80
Total weekly cost	\$540

** Students with a family (spouse and one child) should budget a minimum of \$750 per week for living expenses.*

An amount of \$400 - \$700 per semester should be set aside for textbooks and other study materials, and \$1,600 - \$2,000 should be allocated for initial set-up costs, which will include:

Accommodation bond (4 weeks rent @ \$200 p/week – refundable).....	\$800
Advanced rental (2 weeks @ \$200 p/week)	\$400
Connection fees (electricity, gas) – shared cost	\$60
General second-hand furniture, crockery etc.....	\$700
Total establishment cost	\$1960

Financial Assistance

Students experiencing difficulties managing their finances should speak with the Student Contact Officer.

Working in Perth

Australian immigration regulations allow international students to work up to a maximum of 40 hours per fortnight during academic term and full time during vacation periods.

Dependants of undergraduate students are also restricted to a maximum of 40 hours per fortnight and are not allowed to work until the student begins their course. However, dependants of masters or doctorate degree students have unlimited work rights. Students and dependants of students, intending to work must ensure they have a 'Work Right'. This is usually included with your Student Visa.

The above information is given as a guide only. For all information regarding visas refer to the Department of Immigration and Border Protection - Tel 13 18 81 <https://www.homeaffairs.gov.au/>

Work available to students is mainly part-time in restaurants, cleaning and shops. The best way to seek employment is by checking online advertisements, through recommendation from friends and by enquiries at the CareerHub managed by Career Centre on campus. <http://www.careers.uwa.edu.au/students#jobs>

Although part-time work is available, it may not be plentiful or regular. Students should not include potential income from work in their financial calculations or budget planning.

Tax File Number

It is recommended students apply for a Tax File Number. If you work you will need a Tax File Number (TFN). Employers will require your TFN to enable them to deduct income tax from your salary before you receive it. You can apply for a TFN online at: <https://www.ato.gov.au/>

Income Tax

The Australian Taxation Office classifies international students studying in the country for six months or more as residents for taxation purposes. If you earn any income you will have to submit a tax return at the end of each financial year (30 June). Interest earned from bank deposits or other investments are considered income and are subject to income tax.

If you are employed, your employer will deduct income tax from your salary and at the end of each financial year you will receive a Payment Summary showing your income and tax deductions. The Payment Summary must accompany your completed paper tax return when it is submitted to the Taxation Office. Alternatively you can lodge your tax return on-line www.ato.gov.au

The Taxation Office may give you a refund if your total income for the year was less than that required to pay tax. Conversely, if insufficient tax was deducted, then the difference must be paid to the Taxation Office.

Health Care and Insurance

Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC)

All Australia Awards Scholarship (AAS) students must have Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC).

The University has appointed **Allianz Assistance** as the provider for Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for students at the University of Western Australia, however international students may choose to use another health cover provider, if they wish. Ensure you check all the cover conditions before choosing an alternative provider.

A dedicated Allianz Assistance representative attends the university at Student Central each day Monday to Friday.

<https://www.allianzworldwidepartners.com.au/international-health/products/oshc/>

UWA will arrange single cover for you from the time you arrive in Australia.

Allianz will pay 100% of the *scheduled fee* for medical consultation. If you see a medical practitioner (GP) who charges above the scheduled fee, you will be required to pay the difference. Allianz pays for the total cost of hospital treatment by a doctor appointed by the hospital, in a shared ward of a public hospital. If you choose your own doctor and get treatment in a private hospital, Allianz will only pay the scheduled fee. All costs beyond the scheduled fee have to be met by you. Allianz will also pay for emergency ambulance transport and rebates for certain prescription items. If you do call an ambulance due to an emergency, make sure that you go to the hospital with the ambulance.

It is recommended that you have your eyes and teeth checked before departure. Dental work and spectacles are not covered under OSHC and are relatively expensive in Australia. You can purchase additional cover for these ancillary services at an extra cost.

Students who will have family joining them can upgrade their single cover through Allianz Global Assistance to Family cover. This additional amount for family cover will be an extra cost to the student.

If a student wishes to have Family cover with a different provider, the full-cost of this cover will need to be paid by the student. There is no refund of the single cover with Allianz.

N.B. There is a 12 month waiting period before a claim can be made for many pre-existing medical conditions

For more information on overseas health coverage, please refer to <http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/undergraduate/apply/health>

Payment of Medical Accounts

Some medical practitioners may require you to settle your account directly with them. In this case, you will have to pay the full fee directly to the medical practitioner and then claim a reimbursement from Allianz. Claims may be submitted to Allianz representatives who are on campus daily to deal with claims and other enquiries relating to OSHC.

Health Services

UWA has a medical centre on the campus, located on the second floor of the Student Guild Village. Charges for a medical appointment are generally equivalent to scheduled fees, which means you do not need to pay to see a doctor.

The University area and all suburbs of Perth are well served by private medical practitioners. Some practitioners charge scheduled fees while others charge above scheduled fees. This should be clarified when appointments are made.

Emergency hospital services are available 24 hours a day/ 7 days a week without an appointment at the following general hospitals. Look for the 'Emergency' or 'Casualty' signs:

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital (closest to University)
Royal Perth Hospital
Fremantle Hospital
King Edward Memorial Hospital (for females)
Princess Margaret Hospital (for children only)

Transport and Communications

Public Transport

The organisation that runs Perth's public transport system (integrating buses, trains and ferries) is called Transperth.

Full-time international students are entitled to concession on public transport. To access concession fares, students can purchase a Tertiary SmartRider Card from the University Campus News and Gifts Newsagent. A card purchase fee of \$5 applies. A minimum of \$10 must be added to your SmartRider Card at the time of purchase. Once you have added value onto your SmartRider Card, you can start to use it on buses, trains and ferries. Using the SmartRider Card will save you over 15% on cash fares.

Further information on fares, timetables and SmartRider can be obtained at www.transperth.wa.gov.au

Taxis

Taxis are fairly expensive and have non-negotiable meter charges. An extra charge is levied after 6pm, on weekends and public holidays. Uber taxis are available in Perth.

<http://www.bwtaxi.com.au/> <http://www.swantaxis.com.au/> <https://www.uber.com/en-AU/cities/perth/>

Private Transport

Based on your finances and the distance between your residence and the campus, you may choose to own a car or travel by bicycle. A reasonably good secondhand bicycle can cost between \$50 and \$150 and you must wear a safety helmet when cycling in public.

If you decide to buy a secondhand car, remember to consider the following:

- the running costs involved, such as maintenance, insurance, registration, petrol and parking;

- when inspecting a car, always take a friend who knows about cars for a second opinion;
- when purchasing a vehicle from a private seller, contact the Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVS) to check whether any money is owing on the vehicle;
- when buying from a car dealer, any document you sign can be legally enforced. Therefore ensure that you fully understand all terms and conditions contained in the documents. Do not sign an 'Offer to Purchase' document unless you are sure that you want to buy the car;
- when uncertain about the condition of a vehicle, have it checked by a qualified person. The Royal Automobile Club of WA (RAC) provides an inspection service for a fee.

Vehicle Insurance

By law, all vehicles in Western Australia are covered by compulsory Third Party Insurance which is incorporated into the car registration fee. It covers personal injury to other people involved in an accident with your car. It does not cover the cost of other damages, repairs to the other vehicle or to your own.

You must not drive an unregistered vehicle.

It is important that you purchase separate comprehensive vehicle insurance to protect yourself against damage to your car and other vehicles in the event of an accident.

If you are holding an international/overseas driving licence, before you purchase your car insurance, you should clarify with your insurer whether the policy will cover you in the event of accident.

Driver's Licence

The Department of Transport are responsible for driver's licences and car registrations.

Currently, if you have a valid overseas licence, you may drive in Western Australia on your overseas licence until it expires. You must carry your licence at all times. If your overseas licence ceases to be valid or expires, you will be required to apply for a WA licence if you wish to continue driving.

If your overseas licence is not in English, you should have it translated to English through the National Accreditation Authority for Translators and Interpreters (NAATI) Tel 9472 3588.

Western Australia operates a demerit 'point system' for drivers. Twelve points are allocated to you and are deducted when driving offences such as speeding and going through red lights are committed. It takes three years for points to be added back onto your licence. If you lose all 12 points, your licence will be suspended for a certain period.

Driving under the influence of alcohol over 0.05 or drugs is a serious offence in Australia and can result in fines and losing your licence, not to mention loss of life. **Use of seat belts is compulsory.**

Please refer to <https://www.transport.wa.gov.au/licensing/visiting-from-overseas.asp> for more information relating to driving licences.

Postal Services

Australia Post has agencies and post offices in all suburbs and are open from 9.00am to 5.00pm, Monday to Friday (some branches also open on Saturday from 9.00am to 12.00pm).

Payment for most government bills, car registrations, driver's licences, utility charges and other monetary transactions can be processed at Australia Post offices and agencies.

There are strict rules governing postage of parcels containing animal and plant materials, foodstuffs, medicines and artefacts. If you intend to send or expect to receive any parcel containing these materials, make sure to obtain the necessary advice from customs and postal authorities in advance.

If you change your address, you can have your mail re-directed to your new address by completing a "Change of Address" form. You will be charged for this service.

Telephone

Perth's telephone and mobile phone services are provided by several companies, the biggest being Telstra. Local calls from a private or public phone are usually charged on a per call basis (unlimited time). Charges for calls outside the Perth metropolitan area, interstate (STD) and international (ISD) are levied at scheduled rates per minute. Calls from and to mobile phones can be more expensive than calls from a fixed line phone and are charged on a timed basis.

Before deciding on a particular telephone company, shop around and evaluate services on offer and costs. Additional attention should be paid to mobile telephone contracts and especially to clauses concerning the obligations of the subscriber. Sometimes it may be better to use prepaid SIM cards rather than a contract.

SIM cards can be purchased from the University Newsagency. Students may prefer to set up Skype accounts on their computer to make cheap international calls.

Email, Internet and Facsimile

All telephone lines in Perth are capable of carrying email, internet and facsimile traffic. Connections for email and internet via PCs and modems are easily carried out. There are numerous email and internet providers in Perth, and students should shop around before deciding on a provider that meets their budget and purpose.

Student Central and the campus libraries will have a number of computers for student use.

The University will provide students with an email account and the ability to upgrade their computer access.

<http://www.is.uwa.edu.au/it-help/accounts/student/full-access>

<http://www.is.uwa.edu.au/current-students/it-help/computers>

Newspapers

<i>The West Australian</i>	Daily newspaper
<i>Sunday Times</i>	Sunday newspaper
Weekly community newspapers.....	Delivered free to households

National and interstate papers are also easily available, and major overseas newspapers are available to read free of charge at the University and public libraries.

Television

Free-to-air TV channels broadcast programs throughout most of the day and night. The main commercial stations are Channels 7, 9 and 10. There are two publicly funded Channels 2 (ABC) and 28 (SBS).

One of the public stations, SBS (Channel 28), specializes in multicultural and ethnic programs. SBS programs include movies and news in many languages besides English.

Programs can be watched online or streamed to your TV, computer etc. However these can incur a charge and many are provided by contractual arrangements between the provider and the user.

Radio

There are multicultural programs broadcast on radio 6EBA 95.3FM and SBS 96.9FM

Religion

Australians are generally very tolerant of other people's religions and you are free to practise any religion you wish. Nearly every major religious group is represented in Perth, although Christianity is the most widely practised.

UWA has Catholic and Anglican priests on campus, and a Muslim prayer (Masjid) room which is located at the east end of Winthrop Hall.

Refer to 'Useful Contacts and Websites' at the back of this book for a list of some religious organisations and places of worship. Also a google search will find your local church.

Shopping

Like all cities, Perth has shops and stores catering to most consumer requirements. On arrival, you will find all you need at shops close to the campus – along Stirling Highway, Broadway and Hampden Road. After settling in, you may wish to venture further to the suburbs called Claremont, Fremantle, Perth City, Northbridge and other suburban centres.

Opening times * (for most shops):

Monday to Friday:	8.30am/9.00am – 5.00pm (some large retail stores and major supermarkets will close 9.00pm – some smaller stores will remain open until 9.00pm on a Thursday night)
Saturday:	8.30am/9.00am - 5.00pm (some smaller stores may close earlier – 12 noon)
Sunday:	11.00am - 5.00pm (larger retail shops and major supermarkets – smaller stores may not open)

****Individual store opening hours may vary.***

Prices in shops are fixed and bargaining is not customary. Tips are also not customary, but can be paid in restaurants if the service was very good.

Supermarkets – Grocery Stores

The main supermarket chain stores are Coles, Woolworths and IGA. Goods at supermarkets are generally cheaper than smaller 'delicatessens' or smaller speciality stores.

Close to campus

- **Coles Supermarket**, Claremont Shopping Centre, Guger Street, Claremont
 - Large variety of food, kitchen items (kettles, plates, cutlery) underwear, household goods (fans/heaters/rice cooker/saucepan) Usually cheapest for these things
 -
- **IGA Broadway** Fair Shopping Centre, 88 Broadway, Nedlands
- **IGA Captain Stirling**, cnr Florence Rd and Stirling Highway, Nedlands
- **IGA**, 152 Stirling Highway, Nedlands

Department Stores

The major department chain stores are Myers and David Jones. There are also discount department stores such as Target, K-Mart, Big W and Red Dot Stores which sell similar products at comparatively lower prices.

Close to campus

- **David Jones:** in the city and Claremont – clothing, cosmetics, footwear and accessories, household goods – can be expensive
- **Myer:** located in the city– clothing, cosmetics, footwear and accessories, household goods – can be expensive
- **Target:** located in the city, Subiaco and in Fremantle – discount department store, clothing, cosmetics, home wares, bedding, footwear - also look for K-Mart and BigW

Pharmacies and Chemists

These are the only shops that sell prescription medicines. They also stock all forms of non-prescription drugs, medicines, medical and health supplies, toiletries and cosmetics.

Close to campus

- **Campus Pharmacy** - Ground Floor, Guild Village, UWA
- **Broadway Fair Pharmacy** Shop 22, Broadway Fair Shopping Centre, 88 Broadway, Nedlands
- **Stirling Drive-In Pharmacy** 234 Stirling Highway, Claremont (open until 11 pm every day)
- **Michael's Health Care** 3/248 Stirling Highway, Claremont (open 8am to 8pm every day)
- **Chemist Warehouse** - various locations – offers cheaper prices on prescription medicines

Asian Grocery Shops

Asian grocery shops can be found in Northbridge (city), and around Perth's suburbs.

Close to campus

- **Kong's Oriental Supermart**, Shop 9, Broadway Fair Shopping Centre, 88 Broadway, Nedlands Tel: 9386 1939

Halal Food

Halal food is available at all residential colleges and at campus outlets.

<http://www.uwastudentguild.com/eat-and-drink/dietary-requirements/>

Halal food and meat are available at the following outlets. Check the internet for others.

- Aziz Halal Meats, Shop 4, Hillview Place, Bentley
- Med Halal Meats, 73 Honeywell Blv, Mirrabooka
- Ismail's Halal Butcher, Shop 19, 377 Wanneroo Rd, Balcatta
- Carousel Halal Meat, Shop 27/53 Cecil Ave, Cannington
- Anugerah Malay Cuisine, 1020 Albany Highway, Victoria Park
- Alto's Kebab House, 39 Lake St, Northbridge, Perth
- Cafe Karache, 124 Murray Street, Perth
- Ali Baba and 40 Dishes, 5A, 50 South Terrace, Fremantle

Markets

Perth has markets that open on weekends and public holidays. They comprise a collection of stalls that sell all kinds of goods and services including Asian wares, clothing, fresh produce, prepared food, crafts and fortune-telling.

Close to campus

- **Fremantle Market**, Corner South Terrace and Henderson Street, Fremantle

Eating Out

There are numerous restaurants, cafés and eating places in Perth. Although many are concentrated in Northbridge and Fremantle, you will find eating places, serving all types of international cuisine, elsewhere in the city and in every suburb.

When eating out, remember:

- BYO means you are able to Bring Your Own alcohol to the venue;
- tipping is rarely practised (only in very good restaurants and/or if the service has been excellent);

- food is generally not available after 10.00pm. There are certain places, that remain open until late, with some cafes in Northbridge open for 24 hours;
- casual eating out in Perth is inexpensive.

Close to campus

- **Broadway, Nedlands** - various cafes, pizza, restaurants
- **Broadway Fair Shopping Centre**, Broadway, Nedlands
– various cafés/take-away food outlets
- **Hampden Road, Nedlands** - various cafés, restaurants

Movie Theatres

- Hoyts (several locations) <http://www.hoyts.com.au/>
- Greater Union (several locations) <http://www.greaterunion.com.au>
- Windsor Cinemas, 98 Stirling Highway, Nedlands,
- Luna Cinemas, 155 Oxford Street, Leederville and 3 Essex Street, Fremantle, www.lunapalace.com.au

STUDYING AT UWA

Academic Matters

Studying at a university in Australia may be different to what you have been used to and therefore you need to take note of the academic expectations at UWA.

When studying at UWA

- emphasis is on independent learning and continuing your study outside classes,
- you will be expected to take an active part in learning rather than rote learning,
- critical thinking is necessary,
- it is important to have your own opinion and to be able to support your opinions with facts and references,
- you will receive less direction from lecturers, and
- you will have fewer assessments but with heavier weighting.

Students are encouraged to

- collect and analyse data,
- ask questions,
- develop an argument in a logical form and
- participate in discussion and debate with other students and teachers.

Classes

Weekly undergraduate lectures may have more than 100 students. These are complemented by smaller, weekly tutorials, seminars or laboratories and workshops where you will be expected to actively participate in discussion and debate.

Plagiarism

Plagiarism is “taking and using as one’s own, the thoughts, writings or inventions of another.” These thoughts or writings could be, for example, from a book or the internet or from the work of other students.

It is a very serious offence that carries substantial penalties. A student may receive a fail grade for the work in question, or be excluded from the unit.

Tip

Major assignments for different units may be due around the same time, so manage your time effectively to ensure deadlines are met.

Having Problems?

Ask for help if you are having problems. Contact the Student Contact Officer.

Your tutors, lecturers, the course coordinator and Student Experience Officers are all there to help you, so talk to them about any difficulties you are having. Alternatively, a counsellor or Learning Skills Adviser can provide assistance with developing your study skills.

You may be able to apply for Special Consideration for an extension of an assignment, for example, if you are not well or experiencing a problem.

https://ipoint.uwa.edu.au/app/answers/detail/a_id/46/~/_/applying-for-assignment-extensions

Academic Assessment System

Depending on the course you are enrolled in, assessment takes various forms. In some courses, assessment comprises of final exams, short tests and essays. Others are based on the continuous assessment of assignments, short essays, field trips, tutorial papers, oral exams and seminars.

Most units (subjects) will have one or two big assignments rather than lots of smaller ones. Lecturers look for an argument or thesis in assignments and how you express your ideas and information.

Exams

Timetable	Exam timetables are published approximately three weeks before the start of examinations. Your personal exam timetable is accessed through your student website - Student Connect.
Duration	usually 3 hours + 10 minutes reading time

Tip

Exams at UWA may be more heavily weighted than you are used to, especially for science and maths units. It is best to review your lecture and tutorial notes on an ongoing basis.

Important

There is no provision for early examinations unless the circumstances are considered to be an emergency.

Services for Students

International Sponsored Students Unit (ISSU)

The International Sponsored Students Unit in Student Central is the principal point of contact for Australia Awards Scholarship students.

The ISSU provides support to international scholarship and sponsored students and their sponsor organisations. The Student Contact Officer in the ISSU is the first point of contact for Australia Awards Scholarship awardees and can assist with pre-departure information, travel for fieldwork; tutorial support; returning home travel and any other matters in relation to your scholarship.

<http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/international>

Student Support Services

<https://study.uwa.edu.au/Student-life/student-support>

Student Support Services, located in Student Central, offers a wide range of services to students. These include transition programs, Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS), Study Smarter (learning, language and research), Careers Centre, Medical Centre, Schooling Placement and UniAccess. Information about these services will be provided during your enrolment or can be accessed at the website above.

Transition Programs

There are several transition programs designed to assist you as you settle into life at UWA. Postgraduate students can join the **Postgraduate Student Association** and **LACE** (Language and Cultural Exchange) as a great way to get to know others and to learn more about the University <https://study.uwa.edu.au/International-students/Life-in-perth/student-community>

All students can connect with a mentor via UniMentor or participate in social activities and learning support through StudySmarter Workshops. Information about these programs is available at <https://study.uwa.edu.au/Student-life/student-support>

Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS)

The Counselling and Psychological Services (CAPS) provides professional and confidential service free of charge to students at UWA. Counsellors are clinical psychologists and are trained to assist students to deal with issues such as personal problems, anxiety, dealing with stress /trauma etc.

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/experience/health/counselling>

Study Smarter

The Study Smarter team offers a wide range of services to help students succeed academically at UWA. Free workshops, podcasts, English language corner, great online resources and individual consultation are available to students. They also have a terrific newsletter.

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/learning/studysmarter>

Housing

Students who are undertaking postgraduate studies, should consider On-Campus Residential College accommodation or Off-Campus Crawley Village housing. Crawley Village houses or units are owned by the University and are close to the campus. Australia Awards students will usually share a 2 or 3 bedroom Crawley Village apartment. You can contact Crawley Village prior to your arrival in Perth.

<https://study.uwa.edu.au/student-life/accommodation>

Careers Centre

The Careers Centre provides assistance in finding part-time and casual employment. It also offers free advice on career choices related to specific employment, information on methods of applying for positions, and interview techniques. Part-time employment and Work Integrated Learning can be found at the Career Centre. Students can use the Careers and Employability Award Program from commencement in their course. This Program includes many activities and workshops to attend.

<http://www.careers.uwa.edu.au/students#experience>

Medical Centre

Male and female doctors are available at the Medical Centre. Staff at the Centre provide confidential and comprehensive medical care to students. Students wishing to consult the doctors must make an appointment.

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/experience/health/medical-centre>

Child Care Services

UWA Child Care Services provides Long Day care and Out of School Hours care services. It offers part-time and full-time care to children aged six weeks to five years. It provides after school and vacation care for students up to thirteen years old, during state school terms and school holidays. Places are always in demand and fees are charged on a per week basis.

<http://www.childcare.uwa.edu.au/>

UniAccess

UniAccess provides a range of services including support and advocacy to UWA students who wish to disclose a disability or a chronic medical condition and request assistance.

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/experience/health/uniaccess>

The Library

The study centre of any university is its library. At UWA the libraries contain an impressive collection of books, journals and other materials that support the University's research, teaching and learning programs. The libraries include the Reid Arts and Business Library; Education, Fine Arts & Architecture Library; the Law Library; the Medical & Dental Library; the Music Library and the Barry J Marshall Library (Science & Engineering).

To obtain maximum benefit from the libraries, their resources and facilities, students need to learn how to use them. Each library offers information literacy guides and training, both online and in a face-to face environment. Staff at information desks are also available to help students find the material and information they seek.

<http://www.library.uwa.edu.au/>

Email Services

The University provides each student with an email account with a web-based interface. This allows convenient access via any Internet-connected computer, on or off campus. The account can also be upgraded to provide full Internet access including dial-up connections from a home computer. Students should activate and begin using their email account as soon as possible. All official university correspondence will be sent to this account.

<http://www.is.uwa.edu.au/it-help/email/student>

Student Connect

Student Connect is the gateway to the Student Information System. Student Connect will allow students to manage their own enrolment. They can also change their password and address details, view their current enrolment, class timetables, examination timetable, results etc.

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/course/studentconnect>

UWA Student Guild

The UWA Student Guild is the representative body for all students at UWA. It is run by the Guild Council, whose members are elected to office by their respective fellow students.

The Guild provides a wide range of services such as catering, sporting activities, second-hand bookshop, Guild printing and media and the Guild shop. When required, it makes representation on behalf of students to the University and to government. It also has a large number of clubs and societies, which organise activities and entertainment. Some of the different types of clubs include International Student Services (ISS), Postgraduate Students' Association (PSA), Amnesty International, Arts Union etc. These clubs and societies provide opportunities for students to network and socialise outside the academic circles.

Why not start up your own club!

The Guild also provides the services of Student Assist Advisers if you need help or advice.

<https://study.uwa.edu.au/Student-life/clubs-and-societies>

Student Parking and Parking Permits

Parking permits are not issued to first-year students unless they are already graduates of UWA or another university. Full-time students in second or subsequent years of degree program may obtain a permit subject to certain conditions. A fee is payable for the permit.

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/life/transport/parking>

Important University Policies and Regulations

Equity and Diversity Policies

The University is committed to promoting equality of opportunity for all students and to providing an inclusive and supportive learning environment. Information about the University's equity and diversity policies can be obtained from <http://www.hr.uwa.edu.au/policies/policies/equity>

Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities

The Charter of Student Rights and Responsibilities outline the fundamental rights and responsibilities of students who undertake their education at UWA. The Charter contains information on -

- General and fundamental rights and responsibilities
- Equal opportunity and non-discrimination
- Access to education
- Quality of education
- Student representation
- Procedure for grievances, appeals and complaints.

To access the Charter visit

<http://www.universitypolicies.uwa.edu.au/search?method=document&id=UP07/132>

Academic Misconduct

Students must not engage in academic misconduct. Any such activity undermines an ethos of ethical scholarship. Academic misconduct includes, but is not limited to cheating, or attempting to cheat through:

- (a) collusion
- (b) inappropriate collaboration
- (c) plagiarism
- (d) misrepresenting or fabricating data or results or other assessable work
- (e) inappropriate electronic data sourcing/collection
- (f) breaching rules specified for the conduct of examinations in a way that may compromise or defeat the purposes of assessment.

<http://www.governance.uwa.edu.au/procedures/policies/policies-and-procedures?policy=UP07%2F21>

Grievance Procedure

The University has policies to deal with student grievance and complaints. If students are unhappy with the outcome of their internal appeal process, they may approach an external body.

Further information can be accessed at

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/life/complaints>

In the event that students are dissatisfied with their academic assessment /progress status, there is avenue for appeals. For more information visit

<http://www.student.uwa.edu.au/experience/complaints>

Useful Contact Numbers and Websites

Note: To telephone Perth from overseas, dial the country and area codes + 61- 8 - before the number.

On Campus

International Sponsored Student Unit

General Enquiries

Tel: 6488 3939

Website:

<http://www.studyat.uwa.edu.au/international>

Student Contact Officer

Ms Debra Basanovic

Tel: 6488 1785

Email: debra.basanovic@uwa.edu.au

Administrative Assistant

Ms Celia Seah

Tel: 6488 7378

Email celia.seah@uwa.edu.au

Centre for English Language Teaching

The Centre offers English language programs for international students. Courses include general English, English for academic purposes and English for business.

Tel: 6488 3539

Fax: 6488 1077

Email: celt@uwa.edu.au

Website: www.celt.uwa.edu.au

Faculty Offices

ALL EMAIL ENQUIRIES FOR FACULTY STAFF

Email: <http://www.uwa.edu.au/askuwa>

Residential Colleges

University Hall

Tel: 9273 3333

Fax: 9388 1224

Email: admin@curriehall.uwa.edu.au

Website: www.currie.uwa.edu.au

St Catherine's College

Tel: 9442 0400

Fax: 9386 3844

Email: enquiries@stcatherines.uwa.edu.au

Website: www.stcatherines.uwa.edu.au

Trinity

Tel: 9423 9423

Fax: 9423 9422

Email: admin@trinity.uwa.edu.au

Website: www.trinity.uwa.edu.au

St George's College

Tel: 9449 5555

Fax: 9449 5544

Email: admin@stgeorgescollege.com.au

Website: www.stgeorgescollege.com.au

St Thomas More College

Tel: 9386 0111

Fax: 9389 1104

Email: stmcrsec@cyllene.uwa.edu.au

Website: www.stmc.uwa.edu.au

Security and Parking

www.security.uwa.edu.au/contact

Email: security@uwa.edu.au

Fax: 6488 1144

Security Control Centre (24 hours)

Tel: 6488 3020

Emergencies Only (24 hours)

Tel: 6488 2222

Student Administration

The Student Administration Office is responsible for student enrolment, updating of student records, production of examination timetables and academic transcripts.

AskUWA

AskUWA provides students with answers to questions online, anytime.

Tel: 6488 3235

Website: ask.UWA.uwa.edu.au

Student Services

Counsellors

Tel: 6488 2423

Learning Language and Research Skills Advisers

Tel: 6488 2423

Accommodation

Tel: 9488 0500

Email: accommodation@uwa.edu.au

UniAccess: Disability Office

Tel: 6488 2423

Email: uniaccess@uwa.edu.au

Careers Centre

Tel: 6488 2258

Fax: 6488 1119

Email: careers.centre@uwa.edu.au

Medical Centre

Tel: 6488 2118

Child Care Services

Tel: 9389 9433

Out of School and Vacation Care Centre

Tel: 9389 1848

Other Services and Facilities

Equity and Diversity Office

Tel: 6488 3873

UWA Student Guild

Tel: 6488 2295

Email: enquiries@guild.uwa.edu.au

Website: www.guild.uwa.edu.au

Student Assist Officer

Tel: 6488 2295

Postgraduate Student's Association

Tel: 6488 3194

Email: psa@guild.uwa.edu.au

University Co-operative Bookshop

Tel: 6488 2069

Email: uwa@coop-bookshop.com.au

Fax: 6488 1007

Outside Agencies

Australian Taxation Office

45 Francis Street, Northbridge, WA 6000

Tel: 1 3 28 61

Website: www.ato.gov.au

Tax File Numbers (TFN) Enquiries

Tel: 1 3 28 61

Equal Opportunity Commission

Tel: 9216 3900

Department of Home Affairs

836 Wellington Street, Perth, WA 6000

Tel: 13 18 81

Website: www.homeaffairs.gov.au

Council for International Students of Western Australia (CISWA)

info@ciwa.com

Department of Transport

Tel: 13 11 56

<http://www.transport.wa.gov.au/>

Electricity: Synergy

(Customer Services)

Tel: 13 13 53

Gas: Alinta Gas (Enquiries)

Tel: 13 13 58

Legal Aid Western Australia

55 St George's Terrace, Perth WA 6000

Tel: 9261 6222 or 1300 650 579

Department of Commerce

Consumer Protection Advice Line

219 St George's Terrace, Perth WA 6000

Tel: 1 300 30 40 54

Police Department (Subiaco Branch)

365 Bagot Road, Subiaco WA 6108

Tel: 9381 6811

Register of Encumbered Vehicles (REVS)

Tel: 1 300 30 40 24

(Call to check if the car you are intending to buy privately has money owing on it.)

Tenants Advice Service

Tel: 9221 0088

Email: admin@tenancywa.org.au

Transperth

Tel: 1 3 62 13

Website: www.transperth.wa.gov.au

WA Tourist Centre

55 William Street

Cnr Hay St, Perth

Tel: 1800 812 808

http://www.westernaustralia.com/en/Travel_Info/Visitor_Centres/Pages/Visitor_Centres.aspx

Hospitals

Fiona Stanley Hospital

Murdoch Drive, Murdoch

Tel: 6152 2222

Perth Childrens Hospital

15 Hospital Avenue Nedlands

Tel: 6456 2222

Royal Perth Hospital

Wellington Street, Perth

Tel: 9224 2244

Sir Charles Gairdner Hospital

Hospital Avenue, Nedlands

Tel: 9346 3333

King Edward Memorial Hospital for Women

374 Bagot Road, Subiaco

Tel: 9340 2222

Banks

ANZ Bank

31 Broadway, Nedlands, WA 6009

Tel: 1 3 13 14

Website: www.anz.com.au

BankWest

2-18 St Quentin Ave, Claremont WA 6010

Tel: 1 3 17 18

Website: www.bankwest.com.au

Westpac Bank

(Campus Branch), Student Guild Building

Tel: 1 3 20 32

Website: www.westpac.com.au

Commonwealth Bank

4 Stirling Highway, Nedlands, WA 6009

Tel: 1 3 22 21

Website: www.commbank.com.au

National Australia Bank

Tel: 1 3 22 65

Website: www.national.com.au

Unicredit (Campus Branch)

Tel: 6488 1219 or 9389 1011

Religious Organisations and Places of Worship

Perth Mosque Inc

427 William Street, Perth WA 6000
Tel: 9328 8535

Islamic Council of Western Australia

7 Malvern Road, Rivervale WA 6103
Tel: 9362 2210

St. Margaret's Anglican Church

58 Tyrell Street, Nedlands WA 6009
Tel: 9386 1083

St. George's College Chapel

(Anglican)
Opposite UWA on Stirling Highway
Tel: 9449 5555

St. Matthew's Anglican Church

11 4 Onslow Road, Shenton Park WA 6008
Tel: 9381 2640

Holy Rosary Catholic Church

46 Thomas Street, Nedlands WA 6009
Tel: 9386 1870

St. Thomas Catholic Church

2 College Road, Claremont WA 6010
Tel: 9384 0598

St. Thomas More College Chapel

(Catholic)
Opposite UWA on Stirling Highway
Tel: 9386 0111

St. Joseph's Catholic Church

1 Salvado Road, Subiaco WA 6008
Tel: 9381 0400

Riverview Church (Pentecostal Church)

237 Princess Road, Nedlands
Tel: 9386 1770

Kings City Church (Pentecostal Church)

Suite 51/102 Railway Street,
West Perth WA 6005
Tel: 9321 2551

Jewish Centre in WA

61 Woodrow Avenue, Yokine WA 6060
Tel: 9276 8572

Buddhist Society of WA

18 Nanson Way, Nollamara WA 6061
Tel: 9345 1711

Hindu Temple of WA

Lot 41 Warton Road,
Canning Vale WA 6155
Tel: 9455 2097

Sikh Association of WA

12 3 Saddleback Grove, Canningvale 6155
Tel: 9256 1314

Church of Christ

70 Dalkeith Road, Nedlands
Tel: 9386 5856

Full Gospel Assembly, Perth

1 Hillview Place, Bentley WA 6102
Tel: 9451 2100

Lutheran Church of Australia

16 Aberdeen Street, Perth
Tel: 9227 8072

Influencers City Church

Perth Modern School, Subiaco
Tel: 1 800 462 838

Telephones

Telstra

www.telstra.com
2/267 Murray Street Perth
667 Hay Street Mall, Perth
Claremont Quarter, Claremont
436 Hay Street, Subiaco
123/131 Hight Street, Fremantle

Optus

www.optus.com.au
659 Hay Street, Perth
140 William Street, Perth
147/23 Claremont Quarter, Claremont

Vodafone

www.vodafone.com.au
166 Murray Street, Perth
25 Rokeby Road, Subiaco

Virgin Mobile

www.virginmobile.com.au
17/650 Hay Street Perth

Glossary of Terms

Aborigines	The first inhabitants of Australia
Acceptance of Offer	Document a student signs to accept a place at UWA
ATM	Automatic Teller Machine
ATO	Australian Taxation Office
Bond	An amount of money paid before moving into a residential property (or college) as contingency
CATS	Central Area Transit System – free bus system within Perth city centre
CISWA	Council for International Students of WA
DEST	Department of Education, Science and Training
DFAT	Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
DIBP	Department of Immigration and Border Protection
EEO	Equal Employment Opportunity
Enrolment	Records student details and the units/subjects a student is undertaking for the year
ESOS	Education Services for Overseas Students
Flat	Usually one or two bedroom apartment
GST	Goods and Services Tax
Guild, Student Guild	Student representative body
Guild Village	Area on campus where guild service outlets, banks, cafes and students services are located
ISS	International Students Service (part of Student Guild)
Lease	A tenancy agreement/contract
SmartRider	A pre-paid bus/train card
O-Day	Orientation Day run by the University
CAS	Class Allocation System
Orientation	Sessions which help with administrative procedures and adjustment for new students
OSHC	Overseas Student Health Cover
Pre-departure	Before students leave home for study in Australia
PSA	Postgraduate Students' Association
Rec Centre	Recreation Centre – UWA sports centre including gyms and courts
Residential College/Hall	One of the University's five residential colleges or halls of residence
Student Card / Campus Card	Card issued by the University which allows students to use the library and receive concessions
TFN	Tax File Number
Tenant	A person who pays rent to owner/agent to occupy a property
Transperth	Transport organisation for buses, trains and ferries

Glossary of Terms

TT	Telegraphic transfer – for international bank transactions
Tuition Fees	The fee payable for the course (does not include amenities fee, accommodation, textbooks or equipment)
Undercroft	The area below Winthrop Hall
Unipark	The University's parking administration
Uni	University
Unit	A subject within a course; also a name for an Apartment or flat
Utilities	Refers to gas and electricity
UWA	The University of Western Australia
WA	Western Australia