

# PREPARING FOR ARRIVAL AT BOND UNIVERSITY

---

A Pre-departure Guide for International Students



**Everyone has expectations for their future...  
And success means different things to different people.**

**Some are happy to live from day to day.  
Others - like yourself - want much more.  
You think bigger. You want to move faster.  
You want to go further.  
You're determined to achieve something extraordinary.**

**At Bond University, we recognise your  
passion and fast-track your progress.**

**BOND UNIVERSITY.  
WE SHARE YOUR AMBITION.  
WE BRING IT TO LIFE.**

## CONTENTS

2	WELCOME FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR
3	ABOUT THE GUIDE
4	BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME
4	Applying for a Student Visa
4	Conditions of Your Student Visa
5	Passports
5	Your Diplomatic Mission in Australia
5	Working in Australia as an International Student
6	Applying for a Tax File Number (TFN)
6	Overseas Health Cover
7	PACK YOUR BAGS
7	What to Bring
8	Australian Quarantine Restrictions
8	Customs
8	Duty Free Allowances
8	Currency
9	HOW TO GET TO BOND
9	International Airports
9	Airport Transfer Service
9	When to Arrive
9	Where to go on Arrival
10	LIVING IN AUSTRALIA
10	Australian Values and Principles
11	Geography, People and Climate
12	Adjusting to the Australian Culture
13	Laws And Social Customs
14	Measurement Conversions
14	Cost of Living
15	LIVING ON THE GOLD COAST
16	Accommodation
17	PREPARING FOR STUDY
17	Bond Week
17	Semester Dates
17	Subject Enrolments
18	INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES
18	Bond Mate Program
18	Student Learning Support
18	Study Support
18	Counselling Service
18	Religious Services
18	Medical Services
18	Disability Services
18	Security
19	Bank Accounts
19	Library
19	Computer Support
19	Carparking
19	Sporting Facilities
20	GLOSSARY OF UNIVERSITY TERMS
22	CHECK LIST
23	USEFUL WEBSITES



### WELCOME FROM THE VICE-CHANCELLOR

Studying abroad is an experience that will change your life forever.

It's an opportunity to step outside your comfort zone; to expand your educational horizons and to enhance your qualifications with an international perspective.

You'll also find that the lifestyle and cultural experiences of living in a country like Australia are equally life-altering. Here at Bond University, we have a significant community of international students, with approximately 50% of our student body hailing from some 80 countries worldwide.

As such, we place a strong emphasis on providing them with opportunities to socialise with fellow students through outings, sightseeing trips, regular on-campus events for our resident students and in our small, personalised classes.

I strongly encourage you to make the most of your international study experience by becoming involved in campus life: join one of the many special interest or sporting groups; support the various Faculty events; take time out from your studies to meet friends in the cafes, restaurants and bars on campus; and get out to explore the Gold Coast and surrounds.

If you do find that you're feeling a little home sick, we have a wealth of support services available, ranging from our 'Bond Mate' buddy system and dedicated study assistance through to our on-campus medical clinic and confidential counsellors.

At the end of the day, I can assure you that immersing yourself in the full experience of living and studying in Australia at Bond University will ultimately reap a lifetime of rewards in terms of friendships, career contacts and wonderful memories.

Professor Robert Stable  
Vice-Chancellor and President  
Bond University



### ABOUT THE GUIDE

This guide is designed to help you prepare for your new life as a student in Australia at Bond University.

In it you will find important information about what you'll need to do before you leave home and the support services available to you at Bond when you arrive. As such, we strongly recommend that you read through it carefully and ensure you follow all recommendations.

If you have any questions at all or if there is anything in the guide that you don't understand, we have a team of support officers on campus who are happy to help at any time:

**Michelle Newstead:** International Student Contact Officer

**Phone:** + 61 7 5595 1036

**Email:** [Michelle\\_Newstead@bond.edu.au](mailto:Michelle_Newstead@bond.edu.au)

**Sherridan Trew:** Assistant International Officer

**Phone:** + 61 7 5595 1107

**Email:** [strew@bond.edu.au](mailto:strew@bond.edu.au)

**Study Abroad and Exchange Office**

**Phone:** + 61 7 5595 1034

**Email:** [studyabroad@bond.edu.au](mailto:studyabroad@bond.edu.au)

**Admissions Support Team**

**Phone:** +61 7 5595 5705

**Email:** [international@bond.edu.au](mailto:international@bond.edu.au)

We look forward to welcoming you at Bond University and wish you a safe journey to Australia and a successful and memorable experience during your academic career at Bond University.

### HELPFUL HINT:

We suggest that you print out a copy of this guide and carry it with you in your hand luggage so you can easily refer to it whenever you need to.



Preparing for Arrival At Bond University is published by Student Administration, Bond University, July 2008. This publication is intended as a general introduction to Bond University. Whilst all care has been taken to ensure information is correct at the time of printing, the University reserves the right to alter any information in this publication without prior notice.

## APPLYING FOR A STUDENT VISA

If you intend to travel from overseas to study in Australia, in most instances, you will need a Student Visa.

To apply for a Student Visa, you must first accept your offer to study at Bond University by returning the completed 'Response to Offer' form, along with any necessary documentation and payment of the required fees. You will then be issued with an electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE) form which you will need to submit your Student Visa application.

Applications and processing of Student Visas can take some time - up to several months in some instances - so please ensure you provide ample time to obtain your Student Visa before your studies commence. You will also be required to pay a visa application fee which is charged by the Australian Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

All international students are issued with a 573, 574 or 575 Student Visa for multiple entry to Australia. Visas are normally issued for the length of the course and your visa expiry date should coincide with your course completion date. AusAid students are required to leave Australia and return home at the end of their award, irrespective of any remaining visa validity.

Applying for a student visa is the responsibility of the applicant. Bond University staff are not able to assist students in filling out visa application forms or applying for a visa online.

For all visa enquiries and applications, contact your local Australian Embassy, High Commission or Diplomatic Mission. For further visa information, visit the Department of Immigration and Citizenship website (see 'Helpful Contacts' above).

### Know your visa expiry date!

Please ensure you know when your student visa is going to expire. Overstaying your visa is a very serious crime under Australian Federal Law. If you overstay your visa (either accidentally or on purpose) you will be deemed an UNLAWFUL CITIZEN and be eligible for detention and/or deportation at your expense. If you stay in the country after your visa has expired, Bond University cannot assist you in any way. Students who have 'forgotten' when their visa expired and been in the country after the visa expiry date have been asked to leave Australia and been excluded from Australia for a period of up to three years.

### If you have already left home:

If you are already in Australia and have not yet applied for a Student Visa, are on a tourist visa or unsure as to what visa you should be on, please contact the International Student Compliance Officer at the Student Administration Office located in Student Court. For further information, see the DIAC website or phone 131 881 to speak to an Immigration Officer on the Gold Coast.

## HELPFUL CONTACTS

- For further information on applying for a Student Visa, visit the Department of Immigration and Citizenship website at [www.immi.gov.au/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/index.htm)
- To find your local Australian Embassy, High Commission or Diplomatic Mission, online, go to [www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/overseas/index.htm)
- For a list of contacts at the Department of Immigration and Citizenship, go to [www.immi.gov.au/contacts/index.htm](http://www.immi.gov.au/contacts/index.htm)

## CONDITIONS OF YOUR STUDENT VISA: THE RIGHTS AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

It is the responsibility of all international students holding a Student Visa to know and abide by the conditions of their Student Visa as set by the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC).

- Program Duration: You must complete your program within the duration stipulated on your Confirmation of Enrolment (CoE);
- Academic Progress: You are required to maintain satisfactory academic progress by attending classes and meeting prescribed course requirements;
- Enrolment: You must maintain a full time enrolment for the duration of your studies. For an undergraduate program this means four (4) subjects per semester, for a postgraduate program this means three (3) subjects per semester. Study Abroad and Exchange students staying for one or two semesters only are required to take a minimum of three (3) subjects per semester at the undergraduate or postgraduate level.
- Change of Provider: You cannot change provider within the first six months of studies unless there are exceptional circumstances;
- Deferral: You cannot interrupt or defer your studies, except for compelling or compassionate grounds;
- Health Insurance: Student Visa holders are required to maintain Overseas Student Health Cover for the duration of your studies;
- Address Update: Please make sure you advise the University via eStudent immediately of changes in your Australian address and contact details;

Under the ESOS Act, Bond University is required by law to run regular reports monitoring each Student Visa holder's compliance with the above and other visa regulations and to report all Student Visa breaches. It is vital that you are aware of all requirements related to your Student Visa and how any breaches may impact on your studies and your continued stay in Australia. If you are contacted regarding a visa regulation issue you must contact the International Student Compliance Officer immediately. For more information about your student visa regulations please check the Visa Regulations section of the Bond University website at [www.bond.edu.au/students/manage/international/visaregs.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/students/manage/international/visaregs.html).



### PASSPORTS

It is your responsibility to make sure that your passport is valid at all times during your stay in Australia. If it is due to expire, contact your nearest Embassy, High Commission or Consulate and apply for a new passport. While your passport is being renewed, please keep a certified photocopy of the pages containing your personal details and current visa stamp and keep them in a safe place in case of emergencies.

### YOUR DIPLOMATIC MISSION IN AUSTRALIA

Make sure you have the contact details for your country's embassy and/or consulate in Australia and their nearest office to the Gold Coast. A current list of countries with official representation in Australia can be found by visiting the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) website [www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au).

It is also recommended that you bring with you certified copies of your passport, driver's license, social security / national identity card and any other important documents. Should you misplace the originals whilst you are in Australia, these copies may assist you with obtaining replacements or with any dealings with your embassy/consulate. You may also want to leave copies of these documents with your family.

### WORKING IN AUSTRALIA AS AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT

Your Student Visa may include permission to work part-time in Australia – check the conditions of your Student Visa to see if this applies in your case before seeking or taking up any employment opportunity.

Holders of a Student Visa with work rights may work up to 20 hours per week during semester time and full-time in the holiday breaks, but you cannot start work prior to the

commencement of your course. If you are travelling with dependents, they may also be allowed to work up to 20 hours per week.

You should not expect to cover tuition fees or living expenses from casual work in Australia. Bond University's on-campus Career Development Centre (see contact details at the end of this book) may be able to help you find part-time work, as well as providing assistance with the preparation of your resume and curriculum vitae.

### NEED TO KNOW!

The Department of Immigration and Citizenship conduct random workplace checks and, if you are found to be working before your commencement date or for more than 20 hours per week after your course commencement date, you will be deemed to have breached your Visa and be liable for detention and/or deportation, and will be excluded from entering Australia for up to three years.



### APPLYING FOR A TAX FILE NUMBER (TFN)

If you intend to undertake paid work, you will need to apply for a Tax File Number (TFN) which your employer will ask you to quote on the Employment Declaration form. If you earn any income in the form of interest, dividends or unit trust distributions in Australia, your financial institutions will also ask for your TFN.

Your TFN determines how much tax will be deducted from your salary and/or from any interest earned on money invested in a financial institution.

If you choose not to give your TFN, employers and financial institutions may withhold tax at the highest rate of 48.25% from your income and remit this tax to the Australian Tax Office. If this happens, you will have to wait until you have submitted an income tax return before you receive any refund for excess tax paid/withheld.

The current rates of income tax can be found at the Australian Tax Office website: <http://www.ato.gov.au>. The income tax threshold includes all income derived while residing in Australia, including interest, salaries and wages.

If you are unsure of your Student Visa conditions in relation to working it is strongly recommended you contact DIAC by phone on 13 18 81 or visit the DIAC website [www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)

### OVERSEAS HEALTH COVER

Under the terms and conditions of your Student Visa, international students are required to have and maintain Overseas Student Health Cover (OSHC) for the entire duration of their stay in Australia. OSHC gives you access to out of hospital and in hospital medical services to help you maintain your health.

#### WHAT DOES OSHC COVER?

##### Out of Hospital Medical Services, such as

- Medical services provided by most General Practitioners
- All other medical services such as pathology and radiology (including specialists)

##### In Hospital Medical Services, such as

- Public Hospital (admitted patient in shared ward, same day services, accident and emergency and outpatient medical and post-operative services)
- Private Hospital

##### Prescription Medicines

- For prescription medicines prescribed by your doctor

##### Ambulance Services

- when medically necessary for admission to hospital or for emergency treatment
- 

OSHC Worldcare is Bond University's preferred provider for Overseas Student Health Cover - <https://www.oshcworldcare.com.au/Default.aspx>

### WHAT TO BRING

You've completed all the paperwork to secure your place at Bond University, you've got your passport and Student Visa and you're ready to head to your new life in Australia. It's time to pack your bags and we thought the following list of essentials might serve as a handy checklist:

**Clothing:** Everyday wear at universities in Australia is casual and comfortable. Men tend to wear jeans or long shorts and t-shirts while women generally choose jeans, t-shirts and skirts. September to March are the warmer months with average temperatures on the Gold Coast ranging from 15 degrees Celsius (59 degrees Fahrenheit) up to 28 degrees Celsius (83 degrees Fahrenheit). April to August are cooler with average temperatures ranging from 11 degrees Celsius (52 degrees Fahrenheit) to 26 degrees Celsius (77 degrees Fahrenheit). A warm jacket is necessary for the winter months.

**Medications & Prescriptions:** If you are required to take ongoing medication, you will need to bring your medical history and a doctor's prescription for all medications. Be aware that you may not be able to bring your medication into Australia. Restricted medications, such as Adoral and Ritalin, may only be brought in to Australia in small quantities (usually only one month's supply). To obtain restricted medications in Australia, you will need a prescription from an approved registered Queensland practitioner, which can be done by a referral to a local psychiatrist. You will also need to provide a current report (written in the past year) from your specialist at home which must be on your specialist's letterhead and lists your specialist's name and qualifications, your diagnosis, the medication/s prescribed and the relevant doses of each. Please contact the Medical Clinic at Bond University if you have further questions: +61 7 5595 4043.

**Drivers Licence:** if you plan on driving in Australia you will need to bring your current driver's licence. If it is in a language other than English, you will also need to have a certified translation. Alternatively you can bring an International Driving Permit.

**Laptop:** Students may bring desktop or laptop computers and similar electronic equipment duty free into Australia, provided the Australian Customs Service is satisfied that these items are intended to be taken out again on departure (i.e. not sold). You may be required to show the Customs Officers a copy of your Confirmation of Enrolment or Offer letter to provide evidence of your student status.

**Electrical Goods:** You may wish to bring electrical goods such as a hairdryer, rice cooker or other small items but be aware that Australia's electricity is supplied at 230/240 volts (50 hertz). Unless the item has a multi-voltage option, you will need to use an adaptor/convertor. Australian power outlets only accept flat three or two-pin plugs, depending on whether an earth connection is fitted. You will find that adaptors and converters purchased in Australia work better than those purchased overseas. You'll find them easily available at electrical, travel and some luggage outlets, as well as at most airports at a cost of between \$12 and \$20. Care should be taken with expensive items such as laptops and digital cameras to



ensure that the correct adaptor/convertor is used. Most electrical items you will need can be bought in Australia.

**Glasses:** If you wear glasses or contact lenses, bring spares, as well as a copy of your lens prescription.

**Other Useful Items:** small sewing kit, torch (flashlight), sports gear, toiletries, umbrella, dictionary, alarm clock, camera, calculator, bilingual dictionary.

**Cash:** As a guide, we recommend that you bring approximately \$AU400 with you for immediate use when you first arrive as it may take several days to set up and/or access your new bank account in Australia. The ANZ Bank offers our students the ANZ Bond Elite Bank Account and ATMs are located on campus.

### LUGGAGE ALLOWANCE

Airlines vary in the amount of luggage they allow passengers to carry on the plans but there is usually a limit of 20kg per person for bags going in the hold and 5-7kg for hand luggage. Check with your travel agent - preferably before you pack your bags - to ensure you know the luggage restrictions for each airline that you will be flying with as excess baggage costs can be very high. Porters are not available to carry your luggage at Australian airports so make sure you can lift and carry whatever you bring.



## AUSTRALIAN QUARANTINE RESTRICTIONS

Australia is an island continent with unique flora, fauna, ecosystems and waterways, free from many pests and diseases found elsewhere in the world. As a result, the laws we have for quarantine are very strict. Upon arrival you must declare all plant material, food and animal products to ensure they are free from pests. Make sure that your shoes are clean of any and all dirt particles or these articles will be sent to quarantine and you could miss connecting flights.

Whilst you are still on the plane you will be given an 'Incoming Passenger Card' to fill in. This is a legal document and you must read it carefully and fill it out truthfully. Tick 'yes' if you are carrying any food, plant material, animal products or other items such as equipment used with animals, biological materials, soil and sand. You will be heavily fined or even face prosecution if you do not declare goods that need to be checked by quarantine.

Don't be surprised if your flight crew spray the inside of the cabin before landing. This spray kills flying insects, which may have entered the aircraft at an overseas port and may be harmful to Australian wildlife or plants. The spray is recommended by the World Health Organisation and is not harmful to passengers.

### NEED TO KNOW!

The Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS) inspects incoming luggage, cargo, mail, animals and plants and their products, and provides inspection certificates for a range of exports. To find out more about what items are restricted by our quarantine laws, visit the AQIS website at [www.daff.gov.au/aqis/travel/entering-australia/cant-take](http://www.daff.gov.au/aqis/travel/entering-australia/cant-take)

## CUSTOMS

The Australian Customs Service manages the security of Australia's borders, working closely with other government and international agencies including the Australian Federal Police, the Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service (AQIS), the Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC) and the Department of Defence, to detect and deter unlawful movement of goods and people across the border.

On arrival in Australia, you will be required to present your passport and completed Incoming Passenger Card to the Customs Officer. If you have any products to declare, proceed to the green gate/channel after you have collected your luggage. If you are unsure whether you have something to declare, it is best to go through the green channel, just to be on the safe side. Remember - if you need to bring any medications with you, bring a letter from your doctor or a medical prescription in case Customs ask you to produce documentation.

## DUTY FREE ALLOWANCES

You may bring any of the following goods duty and/or tax free in your accompanied baggage:

- \$AU900 worth of goods (\$AU450 for people under 18 and both air and sea crew members) including gifts given to you or intended for others, souvenirs, cameras, electronic equipment, leather goods, perfume concentrates, jewellery, watches and sporting equipment. Alcohol and tobacco products cannot be included in this concession. These goods can be:
  - Obtained overseas
  - Purchased in Australia duty or tax free before departure
  - Purchased from an inwards duty free shop on arrival
  - Goods for which a tax refund has been approved through the Tourist Refund Scheme
- 2.25 litres of alcoholic beverages for each passenger aged 18 years or over
- 250 cigarettes, or 250 grams of cigars or tobacco products for each passenger aged 18 years or over. One opened packet containing 25 cigarettes or less is also allowed.

Most personal items such as new clothing, footwear, and articles of personal hygiene may be bought into Australia in accompanied baggage, free from duty and/or tax.

### NEED TO KNOW!

If you exceed the concession limits set out above, Australian Customs Service will charge you the duty and tax on the purchase/importation of items. To find out more about duty free allowances for arriving passengers and other Australian customs regulations, visit the ACS website at [www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm](http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm).

## CURRENCY

Australian currency is the only legal tender accepted in Australia. The currency system (\$AU) is decimal with the basic unit of one dollar being equivalent to 100 cents. Coins come in \$2, \$1, 50c, 20c, 10c and 5c denominations, while notes come in \$100, \$50, \$20, \$10 and \$5 denominations. When shopping, your purchases will be rounded to the nearest 5 cents.

Currency exchange facilities and ATMs are located at most major city airports if you need to exchange international currency for Australian dollars when you arrive. Currency can also be exchanged at banks and some hotels. It is a good idea to bring enough Australian dollars with you to cover your living expenses for the first few days or until you can organise an Australian bank account and have access to your other funds.

Once you have arrived, you should also be able to withdraw Australian currency from the majority of ATMs (there are two located on the Bond campus) using a Cirrus or Maestro card. Credit cards are widely accepted in Australian shops and for the payment of bills.

## INTERNATIONAL AIRPORTS

Bond University is located on the Gold Coast in Queensland. The closest international airports are located in Brisbane and Coolangatta (Gold Coast). Both of these airports are connected to Bond by public transport (train or bus transfer). When making your flight plans please consider which airport you will be arriving at and how you will be getting from the airport to your accommodation.

Brisbane airport is approximately one hour and fifteen minutes' drive north of the Gold Coast following the M1 Motorway. There is a toll gate on this Motorway which charges a toll of \$2.60. There is also a train from the airport to the Robina train station which is a short taxi or bus ride from Bond University.

The Gold Coast Airport is located at Coolangatta, approximately 30 minutes' drive south of Bond University. There is no train linking Robina to the Gold Coast Airport, so it is best to book an airport bus transfer (approximately \$20) or take a taxi (approximately \$50).

### NEED TO KNOW!

Gold Coast Airport website:  
[www.goldcoastairport.com.au](http://www.goldcoastairport.com.au)

Brisbane Airport website:  
[www.bne.com.au](http://www.bne.com.au)

Airtrain website:  
[www.airtrain.com.au](http://www.airtrain.com.au)

## AIRPORT TRANSFER SERVICE

Bond University has an Airport Arrival Pick-up Service at the domestic and international terminals of the Brisbane Airport operated by CoachTrans ([www.coachtrans.com.au/default.aspx](http://www.coachtrans.com.au/default.aspx) or phone +61 7 3358 9700).

The Arrival Pick-up Service for Coolangatta Airport is operated by Con-X-ion Coaches ([www.con-x-ion.com](http://www.con-x-ion.com) or phone +61 7 5556 9888).

If you are living on campus you can book either of these services at: [www.myroom.bond.edu.au/airport\\_transfers/](http://www.myroom.bond.edu.au/airport_transfers/).

If you are living off campus you can book at: [bookings.coachtrans.com.au/CTWebBooking/NewBooking.asp](http://bookings.coachtrans.com.au/CTWebBooking/NewBooking.asp) or [www.con-x-ion.com/book.asp](http://www.con-x-ion.com/book.asp).

## WHEN TO ARRIVE

Arrive in plenty of time to settle into your new accommodation before the start of Bond Week. Bond Week is an orientation week held prior to every semester that all new students are expected to attend. It's also a great time to meet other new students and become familiar with your new home. Dates for Bond Week are listed on the academic calendar at [www.bond.edu.au/students/manage/timetables/academiccalendar.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/students/manage/timetables/academiccalendar.html).

## WHERE TO GO ON ARRIVAL

If you are staying on campus, you will be dropped off at the Student Court. You will need to go directly to the Student Residence Office which is up the first set of stairs you will see, across the walkway and turn left at the gym. The Student Residence Office is the first office on your right. The friendly staff there will help you get to your room and settled in.

If you are arriving after hours, go to the Security Office in the Student Court. They will give you the key to your room and show you where to go. You will then need to check in with the Student Residence Office first thing the next morning.

If you are living off-campus and will be arriving late, please be sure to contact your accommodation to make arrangements for your check-in. Off-campus housing providers are not hotels and do not have 24-hour receptions.

## CAMPUS MAP

You'll find a map of the Bond University campus that can be downloaded and printed out on our website: [www.bond.edu.au/about/directions/campus-map.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/about/directions/campus-map.html)

To enter the Student Residence you need to have a student photo ID card. Student ID cards are available during Bond Week. Please ask a staff member at the Student Residence office and they can assist you with entry if you don't have a Student ID card.

Please note if you haven't got a full time enrolment you won't be issued with a student photo ID card. However you will be issued with a blank card which give you access to the accommodation building until your enrolment has been finalised.

Please be aware that there will be no meals available on campus until Sunday night prior to Bond Week. Food can be purchased from shops, cafes and restaurants located near the campus at Market Square or from a supermarket at Robina Town Shopping Centre.



## LIVING IN AUSTRALIA

Australia is one of the most culturally diverse countries in the world. In our ultra-cosmopolitan coastal cities, you'll enjoy a clean, safe environment where people go out of their way to extend a warm, friendly welcome.

Over 75 percent of Australia's 21 million people live in urban centres, predominantly in the capital cities along the east coast and yet the remote inland areas known as the Outback play an important part in Australia's history and mythology.

Since the first European settlers arrived just over 200 years ago, migrants from all over the world have followed in their footsteps, helping to create a rich melting pot where the customs and traditions of all cultures are respected.

## AUSTRALIAN VALUES AND PRINCIPLES

We ask all our international students to extend tolerance and understanding to others and to uphold the shared principles and values that underpin the Australian culture and provide the basis for Australia's free and democratic society. These values include:

- **Respect for the equal worth, dignity and freedom of the individual:** All Australians are free and equal and are expected to treat each other with dignity and respect. Commonwealth laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, sex, disability and age in a range of areas of public life and the Human Rights and Equal Opportunity Commission has been established to handle any complaints relating to these laws. Australians also reject the use of violence, intimidation or humiliation as ways of settling conflict in our society.
- **Freedom of speech:** All Australians are free, within the bounds of the law, to say or write what they think about Australian governments or about any other subject or social issue as long as they do not endanger people, make false allegations or obstruct the free speech of others. The same applies to Australian newspapers, radio and television and other forms of media. Australians are free to protest the actions of government and to campaign to change laws. However, there are laws that protect an individual's good name against false information or lies, as well as laws against inciting hatred towards others because of their culture, ethnicity or background.
- **Freedom of religion and secular government:** All Australians are free to follow any religion they choose, so long as its practices do not break any Australian law. Australians are also free to not follow a religion. Religious intolerance is not acceptable in Australian society.

Australia has a secular government and does not have any official or state religion. Governments treat all citizens as equal regardless of religion. Religious laws have no legal status in Australia and only those laws enacted by parliament apply, for example, in divorce matters. Some religious or cultural practices, such as bigamy (being married to more than one person at the same time) are against the law in Australia.

- **Freedom of association:** Subject to the law, Australians are free to gather together and to protest against the government or any other organisation as long as the protest is peaceful and does not damage or injure any people or property. The freedom to associate includes the freedom to join or not to join any organisation or group, provided it is legal. Such organisations and groups include political parties, trade unions and social groups.
- **Support for parliamentary democracy and the rule of law:** Australia is a parliamentary democracy, where Australian citizens participate in how the country is governed and how Australian society is represented. Elected parliaments are the only bodies able to make laws in Australia or delegate the authority to make laws and they are fully accountable to the Australian public. Everyone in Australia must obey laws established by governments and all Australians are protected by the rule of law. This means that no-one is exempt from or 'above the law', even those who hold positions of power such as politicians or the police.
- **Equality under the law:** All Australians are equal under the law, regardless of their race, ethnicity, country of origin, age, gender, marital status, disability, or because of their political or religious beliefs. Being treated equally also means that getting a job or being promoted must be on the basis of a person's skills, ability and experience; not their cultural background or political beliefs. It also means that people cannot be refused service in a shop or hotel or other service facility because of their race, colour, religion, gender or marital status.
- **Equality of men and women:** Men and women have equal rights in Australia. Jobs and professions are open equally to women and men. Men and women can serve in the military and both can also hold positions in government.
- **Equality of opportunity:** Australians value equality of opportunity and what is often called a 'fair go'. This means that what someone achieves in life should be a product of their talents, work and effort rather than their birth or favouritism. Australians have a spirit of egalitarianism that embraces mutual respect, tolerance and fair play. This does not mean that everyone is the same or that everybody has equal wealth or property. The aim is to ensure there are no formal class distinctions in Australian society.
- **Peacefulness:** Australians are proud of their peaceful society. They believe that change should occur by discussion, peaceful persuasion and the democratic process. They reject violence as a way of changing peoples' minds or the law.

## GEOGRAPHY, PEOPLE AND CLIMATE

### GEOGRAPHY

Australia is one of the world's oldest land masses. It is the earth's biggest inhabited island and the sixth largest country in the world. It is also one of the driest, with just 6 per cent of its land considered suitable for agriculture.

Distances are vast and visitors are often surprised at the size of the country and how long it takes to travel from city to city. Australia stretches about 4000 kilometres from east to west and 3700 kilometres from north to south. It takes about five hours to fly from Sydney to Perth.

In total area, Australia is about the same size as the United States (not including Alaska), more than double the size of India and 32 times the size of the United Kingdom.

### PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Australia has a great diversity of landscapes with an unusual array of flora and fauna. We are committed to protecting and conserving its environment and its rich and unique biodiversity. More than 10 per cent of continental Australia (around 77 million hectares) is protected. Another 65 million hectares of marine areas are also protected, including the Great Barrier Reef Marine Park off the North Queensland coast. Seventeen parts of Australia are on the World Heritage List, including the Great Barrier Reef, the Tasmanian Wilderness, the Wet Tropics of Queensland, Kakadu National Park, Uluru-Kata Tjuta National Park in the Northern Territory, the Lord Howe Island Group and the Gondwanan Rainforests of Australia.

### THE PEOPLE

Australia's original inhabitants, the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, have been living in Australia for at least 40 000 years and possibly up to 60 000 years. The rest of Australia's people are migrants or descendants of migrants who have come from nearly 200 countries since the start of European settlement in 1788.

In 1945, Australia's population was about seven million people. Since then, more than 6.5 million migrants, including around 675 000 refugees, have settled in Australia. Today, Australia has a population of 21 million people, of which 43 per cent were either born overseas or have one parent who was born overseas.

### The First Australians

When the first European settlers arrived just over 200 years ago, it is estimated that around 750,000 indigenous Australians were living throughout most areas of the Australian continent. Indigenous Australians had their own unique spiritual beliefs, a reverence for the land, a rich and diverse culture and an ongoing art tradition that is one of the oldest in the world. Their lifestyles, cultural traditions and languages differed according to where they lived, with around 700 languages and dialects spoken.

### The First Europeans

From the early 1600s, Dutch, Portuguese and Spanish explorers reported sightings of various parts of the coastline of what was then known as Terra Australis Incognita (the unknown south land). In 1770 an Englishman, James Cook, in his ship; HM Barque Endeavour, charted the east coast of Australia and claimed it for the British Crown. Britain subsequently decided to use the new outpost as a colony for convicted criminals. European settlement started with the arrival of a fleet of 11 ships in Sydney Harbour on 26 January 1788. The First Fleet, commanded by Captain Arthur Phillip, brought an estimated 1500 people, including 750 convicts, to settle the new colony.

### CLIMATE

Australia is so large that it experiences most climatic conditions, ranging from snow and frost to heat waves. The coldest areas are in Tasmania and the Australian Alps on the Victoria/NSW state border, where winter snow falls are enjoyed at a range of ski resorts. In contrast, much of northern Australia has a tropical climate with parts of Queensland, the north of Western Australia and the Northern Territory experiencing monsoon-type rainfalls during the wet season between January and March.

Our seasons are the opposite of those of the northern hemisphere. Summer is from December to February, autumn from March to May, winter from June to August and spring from September to November. The coldest average temperatures are experienced in July when daytime temperatures fall between 10 and 20 degrees Celsius (50 and 68 degrees F) in southern regions, and in the high 20s or low 30s degrees Celsius (70s and 80s F) in the northern tropics.

January and February are the hottest months in southern Australia, and November/December are the hottest in the tropics. Average daytime temperatures in summer exceed 30 degrees Celsius (80s or 90s F) in most inland areas, and reach 40 degrees Celsius (104 F) in parts of Western Australia. They are cooler (20s C/70s or 80s F) near southern coasts, in highland areas and in Tasmania.

<b>Spring</b>	September to November	15-25 C (59-77 F)
<b>Summer</b>	December to February	20-28 C (68-83 F)
<b>Autumn</b>	March to May	16-25 C (61-77 F)
<b>Winter</b>	June to August	11-21 C (52-70 F)

The Gold Coast region enjoys a comfortable sub-tropical climate ideal for outdoor enjoyment all-year round. The Coast averages 245 days of fine and sunny weather each year and has an average rainfall of about 1400mm annually, the majority of which falls in the summer period.

Daytime temperatures on the coastal strip are generally in the 20s (Celsius). In the hinterland areas, however, winter temperatures can be lower at around 16 degrees Celsius (61 degrees Fahrenheit) with cool nights and light early morning frosts.

### HELPFUL HINT!

Find out what the weather is like right now on the Gold Coast at [www.weather.com.au/qld/gold-coast](http://www.weather.com.au/qld/gold-coast). For information on Australia-wide weather patterns, see the Bureau of Meteorology website at [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au).

## ADJUSTING TO THE AUSTRALIAN CULTURE

It is a big step to relocate to live and study in another country. You have to deal with a different education system, another language, unfamiliar food, and cultural differences. As such, it is quite common for students to experience some feelings of adjustment.

After the initial excitement of arriving on the Gold Coast and finding out about your studies during Bond Week, you may start to feel a little down and stressed as you face the daily challenges of the language barrier, university workload and the lack of familiar friends and family. You may also feel frustrated and confused about your own cultural identity and the Australian cultural identity.

This is all very normal and something that almost all international students will go through. It takes time to adjust - in fact, it may take several months before you start to feel comfortable in this new environment - but be assured that you will eventually regain your confidence and become more relaxed as you familiarise yourself with your new home.

Ultimately, the experience of studying abroad will give you more confidence and maturity than you would ever gain by staying at home and you will look back at your time at Bond University as one of the best experiences of your life.

A few tips to make the adjustment a little easier:

- **Be Patient:** Don't expect too much of yourself. Start by familiarising yourself with your new surroundings, don't be afraid to try different foods, speak to Australians and ask them about anything you're not sure of, make an effort to meet your classmates.
- **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 the 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 they're using, 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. Though cross-cultural transactions can be difficult and can lead to stress and frustration, 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 'bi-cultural'.

- **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 from the qualified counsellors available to you on campus through Student Services or talk to a local medical practitioner.

### DON'T BE AFRAID TO ASK FOR HELP

Students Services have qualified staff who can help you through this time if you'd like to talk to someone about how you are feeling and coping. It is particularly important to seek help if you find that the process of cultural adjustment is affecting you adversely. You can make an appointment with one of our Counsellors in Student Services or see the Student Compliance Officer in Student Administration.

## LAWS AND SOCIAL CUSTOMS

Community behaviour in Australia is governed by a combination of formal laws and informal social customs. All people in Australia must obey the nation's laws or face the possibility of criminal and civil prosecution. People are also expected to generally observe Australian social customs, habits and practices even though they are not normally legally binding.

### LAWS

- **Criminal offences:** Serious criminal offences include murder, assault, sexual assault, paedophilia, violence against people or property, armed robbery or theft, dangerous driving of a motor car, possession and use of illegal drugs, fraud or having sexual relations with young people who are aged below the legal age of consent (which varies from state to state in Australia).
- **Domestic violence:** As in other countries, violence towards another person is illegal in Australia and is regarded very seriously. This includes violence within the home and within marriage, known as domestic or family violence.
- **Drugs, smoking and drinking alcohol:** The penalties for supply or possession of illegal/illicit/unlawful drugs can be very severe. They are even more severe for those found guilty of producing, supplying or selling them. Smoking tobacco and drinking alcohol are not illegal, but there are many restrictions on their public use. Smoking tobacco is prohibited in a public places, including most government offices, health clinics and workplaces. Drinking alcohol is legal in Australia but only in certain places at certain times. It is against the law for any person to sell or supply alcohol to a person under the age of 18 years.
- **Traffic laws:** Driving a motor car is regulated by state and territory governments. To drive a car in Australia, residents must have a local driver's licence and the vehicle must be registered. Some Australian road safety rules to consider are:
  - Drivers must always keep to the left hand side of the road.
  - Pedestrians should always look right first before crossing a road.
  - Seat belts and child restraints must be worn by all vehicle occupants.
  - Always carry a copy of your driver's licence in English.
  - Do not drive faster than the speed limit signs allow; and drive slower in rain or fog.
  - Drinking alcohol and then driving is not advised. For experienced drivers the blood alcohol level is 0.05. Provisional drivers and young drivers may not have any alcohol before driving.
  - Fatigue causes many crashes in Australia. When driving long distances, stop and rest every 2 hours.
- **Humane treatment of animals:** It is against the law to mistreat or neglect animals. People are expected to treat all animals humanely, whether they are domestic pets or found in the wild.
- **Guns and other weapons:** Carrying weapons such as knives or firearms is against the law in Australia.

### SOCIAL CUSTOMS

There are very few social customs which apply only in Australia. However, in some cases, there are differences in emphasis or approach compared to practices in other countries. If in doubt, ask a friend, a neighbour or work colleague. For example, most Australians tend to be relatively informal in their relationships with acquaintances and work colleagues. In the workplace and among friends, most Australians tend to call each other by their first names.

#### • Polite behaviour

'Please' and 'thank you' are words that are very helpful when dealing with other people, and buying goods or services. When asked if you would like something, like a cup of tea, it is polite to say, 'yes please', or just 'please' if you would like it, or 'no, thank you' if you do not. When you receive something, it is polite to thank the person by saying 'thank you'.

Australians often say, 'excuse me' to get a person's attention and 'sorry' if they bump into them. They also say, 'excuse me' or 'pardon me' if they burp or belch in public or in a person's home.

Australians also queue or line up when waiting to be served in a shop, a bank, a government department, a cinema or anywhere where a number of people are all seeking a service at the same time.

Being on time for meetings and other visits is important.

#### • Personal hygiene

The best way to protect yourself, your family and other people from illness and disease is to have good personal hygiene. Most Australians look after themselves and others by washing their hands before they prepare food, before they eat, after they have coughed or sneezed, after using the toilet, after handling animals or before or after any activity where they might put their health or other's health at risk by passing on germs.

#### • Invitations

If you get an invitation to lunch, dinner, barbecue, party, wedding, birthday, or any type of event, you will usually respond either on the spot or with a letter, phone call or an email. The midday meal is called 'lunch', and the evening meal is usually called 'dinner'. Some Australians also refer to the evening meal as 'tea' and can use the term to mean either dinner or, literally, a cup of tea or 'cuppa'. If invited for tea, the time of the event is a good sign of whether your host means dinner or just a cup of tea. An invitation to tea, any time after 6 pm (1800 hours) usually means dinner.

## MEASUREMENT CONVERSIONS

Distances, weights and measures are governed by the metric system in Australia. The following basic measurement conversions may be helpful:

1.6 kilometres	=	1 mile
30.5 centimetres	=	1 foot
1 kilogram	=	2.2 pounds
20 kilograms	=	44 pounds

To view more conversions go to: [www.onlineconversions.com](http://www.onlineconversions.com)

## COST OF LIVING

The following table is provided to give you a general idea of the cost of some items in Australia but please be aware that the prices are only an indication - they should not be used as the basis of your budget for living in Australia. All prices are Australian Dollars.

### WEEKLY LIVING COSTS

Rent (shared or separate)	\$100-250 (and upwards)
Food per week	\$80-100
Electricity, gas per week	\$25
Transport	\$15-20
Telephone, postage	\$20-30
Other (clothes, entertainment, etc)	\$35+

### FOOD

Slice of pizza	\$3.00 - \$5.50
Whole pizza	\$10.00 - \$18.00
Bread - white (loaf)	\$4.00
Milk (2 litres)	\$3.20
Bottle of soft drink (600 ml)	\$2.50
Bottle of water (600 ml)	\$2.00
Takeaway coffee	\$3.50
Phone call (to AU mobile)	\$0.50/minute (can vary)
Big Mac	\$3.60
Newspaper	\$1.00 - \$1.70
Cinema ticket (student rate)	\$10.50
Phone call (local)	\$0.50
Bus ticket (student rate)	\$1.70 - \$5.00 (can be reduced by buying weekly tickets)
Shampoo	\$6.00
Toothpaste	\$3.00
Rice (1kg)	\$2.00

## LIVING ON THE GOLD COAST

The Gold Coast is Australia's leading tourist destination. If you like sun, surf and sand, unpolluted air and a relaxed lifestyle, with great accommodation and heaps of tourist attractions thrown in, then you'll love living here. Millions of visitors visit every year from around the world. We have great championship golf courses, sandy beaches and the World Heritage listed Gondwana Rainforests of Australia for bush walking and sightseeing.

### BEACHES

The Gold Coast has some of the most beautiful beaches in the world. The most popular of the Coast's 21 beaches include:

- Main Beach - a haven for surfers and fishermen alike, you can be as active or as passive as you please - surf, wakeboard, bodyboard, or just lay on the sand (after applying plenty of sunscreen!).
- Surfers Paradise - a perfect swimming beach where you can join in a game of volleyball on the sand or hit the waves on your board. And the action doesn't stop when the sun goes down either, with movies playing on the beach throughout summer.
- Broadbeach - features beautiful parks along the foreshore, equipped with sheltered picnic areas, barbeques and great playgrounds for the kids. You can enjoy the beach markets in Kurrawa Park or the trendy shops and restaurants nearby.
- Mermaid Beach - somewhat quieter than Surfers Paradise and Broadbeach, with small swell, sheltered picnic areas, bike tracks and a children's playground.
- Nobby Beach - a quiet option, perfect for relaxing with the family.
- Currumbin, Tugun and Bilinga beaches at the southern end of the Gold Coast are also popular with families.
- Kirra Point is one of the Gold Coast's most famous surfing beaches. Experienced surfers will find challenging waves and beginners will enjoy the smaller waves that break in closer to the shore.
- Greenmount Beach and Rainbow Bay are north facing beaches providing sheltered conditions for swimming. You might just spot a whale if you walk around the point to Snapper Rocks.

### HOW TO STAY SAFE AT THE BEACH

- Protect yourself from the sun: Always wear a hat, sunglasses, a shirt and factor 30+ sunscreen and drink plenty of water to avoid dehydration.
- Smoking and alcohol are not allowed on the beach.
- Never leave your valuables unattended.
- Only swim between the red and yellow flags.
- Never swim where you see the 'Dangerous Current' sign or when the beach is closed.
- If in trouble, raise one arm to attract the lifeguards attention.

### THEME PARKS

The Gold Coast has the fastest, the longest, the highest and the most exciting thrill rides in the country. Visit [www.myfun.com.au](http://www.myfun.com.au) or [www.dreamworld.com.au](http://www.dreamworld.com.au) to find out more.



If you'd prefer to steer clear of the crowds at the theme parks, you can still get your thrills bungee jumping in the middle of Surfers Paradise, sky diving, paragliding, abseiling or hot air ballooning.

The Great Barrier Reef is also within easy reach and scenic flights from the Gold Coast for snorkelling and diving is ideal for a great weekend break away.

### SHOPPING

The Gold Coast is home to two of the largest shopping centres in the Southern Hemisphere, which feature chain stores, department stores and specialty stores. Visit [www.pacificfair.com.au](http://www.pacificfair.com.au) or [www.robinatowncentre.com.au](http://www.robinatowncentre.com.au) for more information.

You can also hunt for bargains at one of the 20 markets including Surfers Paradise's Friday night markets, Broadbeach's lantern-lit markets from September to May, and more than 500 stalls at the Carrara Markets every weekend.

If you prefer designer labels, visit the new Circle on Cavill complex in Surfers Paradise or take a drive to Marina Mirage in Main Beach.

### NEED TO KNOW!

For more information about the Gold Coast, try the following websites:

[www.verygc.com.au](http://www.verygc.com.au)

[www.queenslandholidays.com.au/destinations/gold-coast](http://www.queenslandholidays.com.au/destinations/gold-coast)

[www.sunzine.net/goldcoast/welcome.html](http://www.sunzine.net/goldcoast/welcome.html)

[www.reflections.com.au/GoldCoast/index.html](http://www.reflections.com.au/GoldCoast/index.html)



## ACCOMMODATION

Bond offers a great variety of on-campus accommodation including motel-style rooms, twin share rooms, single rooms with shared amenities and bungalows. Off-campus accommodation options include homestay and rental accommodation in apartments, units and houses close to the University campus.

### ON CAMPUS

On-campus accommodation can be booked online at <https://www.myroom.bond.edu.au/>, where you'll also find a full description of the type of rooms available. Please be aware that on campus accommodation fills up very quickly so you will need to book early if you wish to live on campus.

### OFF CAMPUS

There is a wide range of rental accommodation available near the University. The options include houses or apartments on a single or shared basis, with rentals varying from AUD\$150 to AUD\$500 per week, depending on size, location and the number of bedrooms.

### Living by Yourself

You can generally find fully furnished one bedroom apartments (or studios) if you prefer the privacy and independence of living on your own. If you are not used to living alone, be aware that you may find that it can be quite lonely at times. Getting to know your neighbours may help you cope with any difficulties that you face.

### Sharing with Flatmate(s)

Sharing a two or three bedroom apartment or house with other tenants is an economical way to live off campus, with the costs of rent and household bills (gas, electricity, telephone) divided between flatmates. Whilst you may have to sacrifice your privacy, you'll have the advantage of your flatmates' company and you'll find that sharing the costs in this way is cheaper than renting a one-bedroom apartment.

The downside of sharing is that getting along with your flatmates may be a challenge. It is always a good idea to set up some basic house rules to cover issues such as cleaning and the payment of bills, as well as taking into account everyone's particular habits and/or customs.

### Sharing with Roommates

Sharing a bedroom with another student is also a very economical option which offers the same benefits and challenges as living with flatmates. Discussing lifestyle and living habits is very important for this type of living arrangement.

### What does it cost?

The following will give you some indication of the rental costs but should not be taken as firm prices:

Studio apartment	\$200 to \$300 per week
One bedroom	\$200 upwards per week
Two bedroom unit	\$275 upwards per week
Three bedroom unit	\$320 upwards per week

### Where to Find Rental Accommodation

Varsity Lakes and Robina are the closest suburbs to the university. There are also plenty of other areas linked to the campus by public transport. If you want to be close to the beach, look for Burleigh, Miami, Nobby Beach, Mermaid Beach or Broadbeach. You'll find a map at [www.bond.edu.au/about/directions/index.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/about/directions/index.html).

The following websites provide you with comprehensive information on accommodation.

[www.accommodationpeople.com.au/](http://www.accommodationpeople.com.au/)

[www.realestate.com.au/](http://www.realestate.com.au/)

[au.easyroommate.com/](http://au.easyroommate.com/)

Alternatively, our local newspaper, the Gold Coast Bulletin, advertises rental properties and share accommodation in their weekend edition or you can contact a local real estate agent for a list of suitable rental properties.

If you are looking for a flatmate, go to the Bond Students Portal, [www.bondstudents.com](http://www.bondstudents.com), where students advertise their rental vacancies each semester. Notices are also often put up around the campus by students looking for flatmates and apartments to rent.

### Residential Tenancy Authority

If you rent through a real estate agent, you will need to be aware of your rights as a tenant and what conditions may be attached to your lease. You'll find all the relevant information on the Rental Tenancies Authority website at [www.rta.qld.gov.au](http://www.rta.qld.gov.au).

The Residential Tenancies Authority was established under the Residential Tenancies Act 1994 and is responsible to the Minister for Public Works, Housing and Information and Communication Technology. It is a self-funding statutory authority, operating on income generated from interest earned on the bonds it holds as custodian.

### HOMESTAY

Homestay is a popular choice for English language students and those looking for a more family-orientated lifestyle. The arrangements for each homestay will vary depending upon your host family. More information on this option is available at: [www.studygoldcoast.org.au/accommodation/accom\\_centre.htm](http://www.studygoldcoast.org.au/accommodation/accom_centre.htm).



## BOND WEEK

Bond Week is your first official week on campus. It includes a full program of welcome sessions, Faculty and course-specific information sessions where you will meet your lecturers and social activities that give you an opportunity to meet fellow students and learn more about what's available on campus and around the Gold Coast.

There are also a couple of Bond Week central information points that you will find helpful:

- **The Enrolment Hub** - covers all your academic needs, including help with finalising enrolments and submitting any outstanding documentation. You can also speak to an Admission Officer or Program Advisor and pick up your Student ID card.
- **The Information Hub** - covers the social and support services available on campus. Here you can arrange your gym membership, talk to an OSHC (health insurance) representative, open an ANZ Bond Elite Account, exchange foreign currency, purchase a Bond Week Pack and sign up for social activities on and off campus.

A Guide to Bond Week will be sent to you via email prior to the start of the semester or you can pick up a printed copy of the program during Bond Week.

## SEMESTER DATES

Bond University schedules three 14-week academic semesters per year, starting in January, May and September. Each semester is preceded by an orientation week (Bond Week) and is followed by a vacation period of about three weeks. The semesters are named using the last two digits of the year followed by 1 for the first semester, 2 for the second semester or 3 for the third semester - e.g. the 2008 semesters were referred to as O81, O82 and O83.

2009 Semester Dates *			
Event/Activity	January semester (O91)	May semester (O92)	September semester (O93)
Bond Week	12-16 January	11-15 May	7-11 September
CLASSES COMMENCE	19 January	18 May	14 September
Examinations commence	17 April	14 August	11 December
Examinations end	27 April	22 August	19 December
SEMESTER ENDS	27 April	22 August	19 December
Examination results available	11 May	7 September	11 January 2010

2010 Semester Dates *			
Event/Activity	January semester (101)	May semester (102)	September semester (103)
Bond Week	11-15 January	10-14 May	6-10 September
CLASSES COMMENCE	18 January	17 May	13 September
Examinations commence	15 April	12 August	9 December
Examinations end	24 April	21 August	18 December
SEMESTER ENDS	24 April	21 August	18 December
Examination results available	3 May	6 September	10 January 2011

\* Dates subject to change without notice

## SUBJECT ENROLMENTS

In order to ensure that you have a place in your preferred subjects, we strongly recommend that you enrol in your individual subjects prior to Bond Week. This can be done very easily online, via our eStudent website at: <https://estudent.bond.edu.au/t1tbmain.asp>. Once you are on the site, simply follow this Step-by-Step guide:

- Step 1** Log in using the Student Identification (SID) number which you'll find on your Letter of Offer and your password which is your date of birth in the format DD/MM/YYYY (e.g. if you were born on 21 June, 1980, your password would be 21/06/1980).
- Step 2** Confirm the Personal Details, Citizenship Details, Cultural Details and Disability (choose Y/N) as shown on screen.
- Step 3** Go to My Enrolment and select ENROL in Subject from the menu.
- Step 4** Select a subject by clicking on the button next to it - you can only choose one subject at a time - and use the 'I want to ...' links at the bottom of the page to add more subjects. These subjects have been added to your Potential Enrolment List.
- Step 5** When you have added all your subjects to your Potential Enrolment List, use the 'I want to...' links at the bottom of the page to ENROL in the subjects in your Potential Enrolment List.
- Step 6** You will now need to REGISTER in classes for each of your chosen subjects. Follow the 'I want to register in classes' link or select Register in classes/Timetable from the main menu.
- Step 7** To register for any classes where there is no choice of class time, select the Register in classes that do not have optional times for the ticked subjects' and follow the prompts.
- Step 8** To register for lectures, tutorials, workshops, etc that offer a choice of different class times, select the View my timetable or register in classes for the ticked subjects link.
- Step 9** When you have finished choosing all of your classes, click on Return to the timetable overview page'. The hourglass icon next to your classes will indicate whether you have registered in all required lectures, tutorials, workshops, etc.

Subject enrolments can be changed up to the end of Week 2 each semester, giving you time to discuss your subject selection with a Program Advisor at the Enrolment Hub during Bond Week.

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

## INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES

Bond University has a strong component of international students who hail from over 80 different countries worldwide, creating a dynamic, multicultural community. As such, we value the differences and diversity brought to the campus by our international students and make every attempt to ensure they feel welcome.

### BOND MATE PROGRAM

Our Bond Mate Program is designed to help students make friends before they even arrive on campus. You will be paired up with a current Bond student who will show you around the campus and be able to answer all your questions about the Gold Coast, living at Bond and what it's like to study here, as well as introducing you to other current and new students. You can register for the BondMate program on the Bond University website.

Visit: [www.bond.edu.au/international/study/mate-program.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/international/study/mate-program.html)

### STUDENT LEARNING SUPPORT

Student Learning Support, a part of Teaching and Learning Services, provides assistance to students who need help improving their academic skills as well as their English language ability. The friendly staff can help you understand what to write, how to structure your essay, and offer guidance on grammar, punctuation, sentence structure and referencing. They can suggest additional activities or provide specific help with your assignments and presentations.

#### Contact:

Student Learning Support is located on Level 4 of the Humanities building (opposite the lifts). Appointments can be made by signing up for a time on the sheet at the entrance to the centre. Students are allowed one 30-minute appointment per week.

**Phone:** +61 7 5595 2676

**Email:** [learningsupport@bond.edu.au](mailto:learningsupport@bond.edu.au)

**Website:** <http://www.bond.edu.au/tls/service/learningsupport/>

### STUDY SUPPORT

If you are finding your courses demanding, you may find out study skills sessions can help. These group sessions are held at the beginning of each semester and cover self-awareness, memory function and study techniques. Individual sessions can also be arranged.

**Phone:** +61 7 5595 1111

**Email:** [services@bond.edu.au](mailto:services@bond.edu.au)

### COUNSELLING SERVICE

The Bond University Counselling Service is staffed by fully qualified, registered practitioners who offer free, confidential counselling relating to a wide range of issues. Personal counselling can involve anything from lack of motivation through to depression and harassment, as well as study skills and advocacy. If necessary - and with your approval - our Student Counsellors will speak on your behalf to the Registrar, academic staff, academic advisors and your parents. They can also arrange outside professional help if required.

#### Contact:

Student Counsellors, Mark Stringer, Juliet Baxter and Kate Bartlett

**Phone:** +61 7 5595 4002

### RELIGIOUS SERVICES

Bond University is a non-denominational campus. Our Pastoral Care service can provide you with information about local worship centres and religious information for the various faiths represented in the wider Gold Coast and Brisbane region. Christian and Muslim student associations have also been established on campus and meet regularly.

#### Contact:

Bond University Chaplain, Pastor Christian Kahnt

**Phone:** 0401 609420

### MEDICAL SERVICES

The Student and Staff Medical Clinic at Bond University is a modern and efficient medical centre, staffed by qualified professionals who can assist you with any medical enquiries. Consultations with the doctor and nurse are covered by your OSHC health insurance upon presentation of your OSHC card. (A \$5 non-refundable fee will be charged that cannot be claimed against your OSHC).

#### Contact:

The Medical Clinic is located on the ground floor of the Student Court. Appointments can be made by phoning +61 7 5595 4043 or by going into the Clinic.

For further information about your OSHC insurance, contact Student Administration or the International Student Officer.

### Emergency Assistance:

For emergency medical assistance on campus, call Security on 07 5595 1234.

For emergency medical assistance off campus, phone 000 (fire, police and ambulance).

### DISABILITY SERVICES

Students with a disability are encouraged to contact Student Services at the earliest possible time to meet staff and learn about the services available. If you are an international student with a disability you will need to submit all documentation to Disability Services before your arrival to ensure adequate support can be put in place. For more information visit [www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/disability-support.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/disability-support.html).

#### Contact:

Laura Ryan, Disability Officer  
Student Services

Monday, Wednesday and Thursday

**Phone:** +61 7 5595 4014

**Email:** [lryan@bond.edu.au](mailto:lryan@bond.edu.au)

### SECURITY

Bond University provides on-campus security, monitoring all areas of the University for the safety of all staff, students and visitors 24 hours a day 7 days a week. These staff members are trained in all emergency procedures and should be contacted and listened to in the event of an emergency.

#### Contact:

The Security Office is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is located on the ground floor of the Student Court, next to Juicy Bits Cafe.

**Phone:** +61 7 559 51234

**Email:** [security@bond.edu.au](mailto:security@bond.edu.au)

# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT SERVICES



## **BANK ACCOUNTS**

The ANZ Bank offers Bond University students banking facilities via their ANZ Bond Elite account. You can open an account and/or pick up an information pack from the ANZ Bank representative at the Information Hub during Bond Week. Two Automatic Teller Machines (ATMs) are located on campus.

The Commonwealth Bank offers a service where students can open an Australian bank account prior to departure. Students are able to transfer money to their Australian bank account before they leave home so they can have immediate access to funds on arrival (once they have provided their passport as identification at their nominated branch).

### **Contact:**

For more information about the ANZ Bond Elite bank account, go to:  
[www.anz.com.au/bondelite/bondelitehome.asp](http://www.anz.com.au/bondelite/bondelitehome.asp).

For more information about a Commonwealth bank account, go to [www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia](http://www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia)



## **LIBRARY**

Bond University Library provides customer-focused, quality innovative services, information resources and programs to support the teaching, learning and research needs of the University community in two locations on campus (the Main Library and the John and Alison Kearney Law Library) and via the Internet. The library collection includes over 235,000 volumes and 1,800 journal titles in print, as well as hundreds of DVDs, laserdiscs, CD ROMs, video and audiocassettes. Access is provided to over 22,000 full-text electronic journals, and over 100 journal databases. The Library also has a large collection of classical music CDs and feature films in both video and DVD formats acquired to support the film and media courses.

### **Contact:**

**Phone:** +61 7 55951510  
**Email:** [library@bond.edu.au](mailto:library@bond.edu.au)

## **COMPUTER SUPPORT**

Information Services operates a Service Desk to help students needing computer support. The Service Desk supports all University-owned equipment, as well as providing instruction for connection of privately owned equipment to the network. For those living on campus, a number of fellow students volunteer to help with computing problems - in most cases, this is probably the best place to start if you are having any difficulties.

### **Contact:**

**Phone:** +61 7 5595 4444  
**Email:** [helpdesk@bond.edu.au](mailto:helpdesk@bond.edu.au)  
**Web:** [www.bond.edu.au/ts/](http://www.bond.edu.au/ts/)

## GLOSSARY OF UNIVERSITY TERMS

We recommend that you familiarise yourself with the following list of university terms which are commonly used by teaching and administrative staff:

<b>Award</b>	A degree, graduate diploma, graduate certificate, associate degree, diploma or associate diploma conferred by the University upon completion of a program or a program of research.
<b>Co-requisite</b>	If Subject A is a co-requisite of Subject B then Subject A must be studied in the same semester as Subject B, or have been passed in an earlier semester.
<b>Credit points</b>	The numerical value assigned to a subject which, when related to the total subject points for the program, is a measure of the size of the subject's contribution to the content of the program (for example, most undergraduate subjects constitute 10 credit points).
<b>Deferred examination</b>	If you miss a scheduled examination due to serious illness or other cause, you may be able to sit the exam at a later date.
<b>Enrolment</b>	The process whereby a student is allocated a place in one or more subjects each semester. The enrolment process requires the payment of appropriate fees, completion and submission of required documents and the signing of an agreement to abide by the rules and regulations of Bond University.
<b>Examination</b>	A formal assessment conducted at a time determined by the University.
<b>Faculty</b>	The academic organisational unit consisting of academic and administrative staff headed by a Dean, responsible for all matters concerning the programs and subjects it supervises.
<b>Grades</b>	A record of the level of assessment in subjects completed at the University.
<b>Honours</b>	Some Bachelor Degrees (ie: undergraduate) may be completed "with Honours". This may involve either the completion of a separate Honours Year or additional work in the later years of the program or meritorious achievement over all years of the program.
<b>Intensive mode</b>	Subjects delivered in a short, concentrated period.
<b>International student</b>	A student who is not an Australian or New Zealand citizen or person granted permanent residence status in Australia.
<b>Lecture</b>	Formal classes in which lecturers present program material to all students enrolled in a given subject.
<b>Major / Double Major</b>	A sequence of at least six defined subjects within one discipline area, studied as part of your chosen degree. A 'double major' refers to a sequence of at least 12 subjects within one discipline area.
<b>Minor</b>	A sequence of normally four subjects within one discipline area, studied as part of your chosen degree.
<b>Office of Admissions (OA)</b>	The administrative unit which deals with all aspects of student recruitment and admissions.
<b>Plagiarism</b>	The deliberate copying of material from published sources is regarded as a serious act of academic misconduct.
<b>Practicum</b>	A subject designed to give students practical experience.
<b>Pre-Registration</b>	Enrolment and class registration for a subsequent semester.
<b>Prerequisite</b>	A set of conditions that must be met by a student before they can enrol in a particular subject.

## GLOSSARY OF UNIVERSITY TERMS



<b>Program</b>	A combination of subjects which, according to degree rules, leads to an academic award.
<b>Registrar</b>	The Registrar heads the University's Administration, reporting to the Vice-Chancellor and acting as Secretary to the University Council.
<b>Registration</b>	The process at the start of each semester where commencing students are formally recorded as students of the University. The registration process also involves payment of tuition fees.
<b>Sanction</b>	A sanction may be placed on a student's record as a result of misconduct or non-compliance with University regulations. It prevents a student from accessing specified information (results) or undertaking specified actions (enrolment, admission, graduation).
<b>School</b>	The academic organisational unit within a Faculty consisting of academic and administrative staff led by a Head of School, responsible for all matters concerning the programs and subjects it supervises.
<b>Special Requirements</b>	Approval given to students who have a disability or other impairment to take centrally scheduled examinations under special conditions.
<b>Student Administration</b>	The administrative unit which deals with all aspects of student enrolment and administration.
<b>Student Identification number (SID)</b>	The eight-digit number assigned to a student during the application process which is used as a means of identification for all official University processes.
<b>Subject / Subject Code</b>	A segment of instruction approved by a Faculty as being part of the requirements for a program offered by the University. Each subject is identified by a unique subject code.
<b>Tutorial</b>	Usually less formal than a lecture, tutorials are small classes in which material from lectures and readings can be discussed in more detail.
<b>Vice-Chancellor</b>	The Chief Executive Officer of the University, responsible for its leadership and management.



## BEFORE YOU LEAVE HOME, MAKE SURE YOU HAVE ...

- Applied for and received your Student Visa
- Read and understood the conditions of your Student Visa
- Booked an airport transfers if you need one
- Booked and confirmed your accommodation if required
- Organised your travel arrangements so you arrive on time for Bond Week
- Obtained the contact details for your home country's Embassy/Cultural Mission in Australia
- Photocopied all important documents that you plan to bring with you
- Obtained a letter for your prescriptions from your medical practitioner if you have any special medications that you need to bring through customs

## DOCUMENTS TO BRING WITH YOU

- Passport
- Student Visa (ensure it is valid for the duration of your studies)
- A certified copy of your passport in your checked luggage as well as copies of any other travel documents
- Valid drivers licence or an international licence if you plan to drive in Australia
- Letter of Offer, eCoE, a copy of this booklet, other papers referring to your scholarship award.
- Medical and immunisation records if needed
- If you are travelling with your spouse or children, include marriage certificate and/or children's immunisation and school records
- Include receipts of valuable new goods you are bringing to Australia
- The contact details for your Embassy/High Commission in Australia
- Any other legal documents

## THINGS TO PACK

- Bring a positive attitude to start your new adventure
- Official document folder (see Document Checklist)
- Cash for immediate use (approx \$200-400 AUD)
- Personal items (Perhaps some photographs, recipes, favourite music for reminders of home)
- Print out a copy of this guide to pack in your hand luggage for reference
- Clothing: layered clothing works well to keep you warm in winter and most students dress casually in jeans, skirts and shirts
- Electrical goods: computers, etc
- Adaptor plugs: Australia has 250 volts power. The electrical 3-pin plug is different from most other countries so you may need to purchase an adaptor plug for electrical appliances. These are readily available at electrical or travel stores throughout Australia.
- If you wear glasses or contact lenses, bring spares and lens prescriptions
- Other useful items: small sewing kit, torch, sports gear, toiletries, umbrella, dictionary, alarm clock

### VISA AND DEPARTURE INFORMATION

Department of Immigration and Citizenship (DIAC)  
[www.immi.gov.au](http://www.immi.gov.au)

**Australian Quarantine and Inspection Service**  
[www.daffa.gov.au/aqis/travel](http://www.daffa.gov.au/aqis/travel)

**Australian Customs Service**  
[www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=4224](http://www.customs.gov.au/site/page.cfm?u=4224)

**Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade**  
[www.dfat.gov.au](http://www.dfat.gov.au)

### MEDICAL

**Therapeutic Good of Australia**  
(bring medicines into Australia)  
[www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/general-guidance-for-travellers-bringing-medicines-to-and-from-australia](http://www.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/general-guidance-for-travellers-bringing-medicines-to-and-from-australia)

**OSHC Worldcare Assist**  
[www.oshcworldcare.com.au/Default.aspx](http://www.oshcworldcare.com.au/Default.aspx)

**Queensland Health**  
[www.health.qld.gov.au](http://www.health.qld.gov.au)

**Dr Peter Karsas - Bond University Doctor**  
[www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/medical-services.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/medical-services.html)

### FINANCIAL

**ANZ Bond Elite Account**  
[www.anz.com.au/bondelite/bondelitehome.asp](http://www.anz.com.au/bondelite/bondelitehome.asp)

**Australian Taxation Office**  
[www.ato.gov.au](http://www.ato.gov.au)

**Commonwealth Bank Account**  
[www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia](http://www.commbank.com.au/movingtoaustralia)

### BOND UNIVERSITY

**Student Administration**  
[www.bond.edu.au/students/currentstudent.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/students/currentstudent.html)

**Study Abroad and Exchange**  
[www.bond.edu.au/study/international/index.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/study/international/index.html)

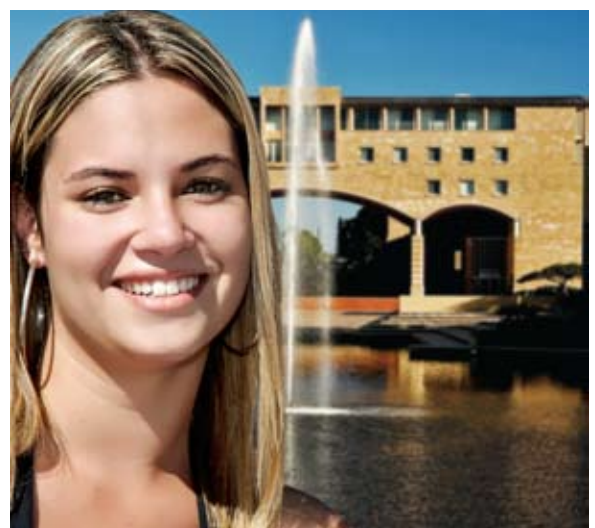
**Admissions**  
[www.bond.edu.au/future](http://www.bond.edu.au/future)

**Student Services**  
[www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/medical-services.html](http://www.bond.edu.au/about/life/support-services/medical-services.html)

**Career Development Centre**  
[www.bond.edu.au/career-development](http://www.bond.edu.au/career-development)

**Library**  
[www.bond.edu.au/library](http://www.bond.edu.au/library)

**Computing**  
[www.bond.edu.au/ts](http://www.bond.edu.au/ts)





**Office of Admissions**

Bond University  
Gold Coast Queensland 4229  
Australia

Study Abroad and Exchange:  
Phone: +61 7 55951034  
Email: [studyabroad@bond.edu.au](mailto:studyabroad@bond.edu.au)

International enquiries:  
Phone: +61 7 5595 1024  
Email: [international@bond.edu.au](mailto:international@bond.edu.au)

Fax: +61 7 5595 1015

[www.bond.edu.au](http://www.bond.edu.au)



CRICOS CODE 00017B

**Emergency Contact Details:**

Australian Ambulance, Fire or Police  
Service  
Phone: 000 (24 hours)  
Bond University Security and  
Emergency  
Phone: 07 559 51234 (24 hours)