

2026 International Student Handbook



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Welcome

Welcome to the **School of Communication and Arts (SCA) at the University of Queensland (UQ)**. Bringing together a wealth of expertise and creativity across all facets of communication, journalism, writing, literature, art history and the arts – we look forward to being a part of your student journey! You are now a part of our growing cohort. As a community committed to diversity, we strive to ensure an intellectually nurturing, inclusive environment where everyone gets the same opportunity to succeed. We value the important role you fulfil in UQ and recognise that transitioning to student life in Australia can be exciting but also challenging. This handbook compiles the key services/opportunities that are available for you in UQ and beyond. It features a range of resources from free counselling and mental health to academic skill development programmes and more. If you have a question or would like to discuss how we can support you to get the most out of your UQ experience, please ask! In addition to the links, contact information for staff members and the School office is listed below.

We wish you all the very best in your journey!

Professor Jenna Ng (Head of School)

[Associate Professor Helen Marshall](#) (Director of Teaching and Learning)

Starting Your Student Journey

Find out everything you need to know about commencing as a UQ Student via our **Starting at UQ** website via, my.uq.edu.au/staring-at-uq as well as our information pages for International and interstate students at <https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/international-interstate-students>

Orientation and Connect Week

UQ's orientation event program is split over two weeks, O-Week and Connect Week. Sessions include Library tours, Learn.UQ, WiFi, and IT information, study strategies, and more. Some sessions require registration. The Connect Week Program is [here](#).

Student Services Workshops and Information Sessions

Beyond the orientation program, Student Services offers free and practical [workshops](#) and [information sessions](#) for UQ students. Workshops include "Jumpstart for Undergraduates," "Skills for Study," "Ten Steps to Better Assignments," and more. [Information sessions](#) include "Finding Accommodation," "Safety in Australia," "Budgeting and Finance for Students," and more. Many information sessions are recorded (some in Mandarin.)

Student Advisors

UQ's advisers can provide information on migrating your family, transitioning to Brisbane, accommodation, finances, health issues, English language, OSHC and student visas.

Phone: (07) 3365 1704

Email: internationalstudent@uq.edu.au

Book an appointment: <https://life.uq.edu.au/accessibility-and-welfare-advisers>



ACADEMIC SUPPORT

At UQ there is a wide variety of academic support on offer, including English language development, using the library, peer learning and digital software sessions to list a few.

English language development

- **UQ College's Academic Communication Skills (ACS)**

ACS courses support international students and students with English as an additional language to participate fully and succeed in their UQ course. ACS courses:

- Are **free**
 - Are interactive workshops with opportunities to practice language and receive feedback
 - Help you communicate clearly and effectively in academic contexts
 - Help you take part in academic life at UQ
 - Help you achieve your learning goals
 - Can be one of your five supplementary activities for a UQ Employability Award.
- **UQ Academic English (ACE101x) MOOC:** online course: <https://www.edx.org/course/academic-english?index=product&queryID=2f3b5408195752c4d49277958f12708a&position=1>
 - **Opportunities outside UQ:** You can access additional free **English** resources via, <https://www.youenglishcorner.net/brisbane.html>

Writing and submitting assignments

- **Academic Integrity Modules:** All new to UQ students must complete the **compulsory** Academic Integrity Modules. These modules are designed to help you understand your obligations and responsibilities as a UQ student. <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/library-services/it/learnuq-blackboard-help/academic-integrity-modules>
- **Tertiary Writing Program:** The Tertiary Writing Program comprises 3 sessions of 1.5 hours each over consecutive days. It is recommended for all new undergraduate students. Register at: <https://my.uq.edu.au/tertiary-writing-program>
- **Study Skills Workshops:** Offered by Student Services, these workshops cover topics including “reading strategies for university,” “referencing well and avoiding plagiarism,” and “effective listening and note-taking skills.” Register at: <https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/workshops>
- **Meet a learning adviser:** learning advisers help you develop the learning skills you need for university. Make an appointment via, <https://my.uq.edu.au/contact/student-life/how-learning-adviser-can-help>
- **Writing for International Students (WRIT1001)**
https://my.uq.edu.au/programs-courses/course.html?course_code=WRIT1001

- **Fundamentals of Academic Writing (WRIT1005):** is a course run by the School of Communication and Arts. Find out more via https://programs-courses.uq.edu.au/course.html?course_code=WRIT1005 or email Dr. Beck Wise: b.wise@uq.edu.au
- **Peer writing support (bring your draft):** free sessions run by Student Services that offer academic writing support and feedback in a friendly environment. Register now via, <http://www.uq.edu.au/student-services/upcoming-workshops>
- **Write, Cite and Submit:** covers essentials about planning, writing, referencing and submitting your assignments. Available via <https://uq.pressbooks.pub/digital-essentials-write-cite-submit/chapter/module-overview/>
- **Improving writing through corpora** is a **free** 8 hour course which aims to provide you with the tools, knowledge and skills to become a 'language detective', using special software to improve your academic writing. Find out more via, https://edge.edx.org/courses/course-v1:UQx+SLATx+2018_S2/about

For postgraduate students

- Academic English & Thesis Writing for International Students ([WRIT6001](#))
- [Workplace Writing and Editing \(WRIT 7035\)](#)
- [Tertiary writing program](#) (as described above; also recommended for postgraduate students)
- Learning advisors aren't multilingual specific but do writing support: <https://my.uq.edu.au/contact/student-life/how-learning-adviser-can-help>

Library support

- [UQ Library Services for Students](#) include referencing guides, assessment planners, and software training modules: <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/library-services/services-students>
- **Meet your librarian:** our librarians can help with research support or one on one consultations about how to use the library resources <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/about/contact-us/contact-your-faculty-services-librarians>
- **Digital Essentials:** developed with UQ students, these online modules allow you to quickly build your digital skills. As a new UQ student, we recommend starting with UQ systems, digital citizenship, internet essentials, communicate and collaborate online. You can register via, <https://web.library.uq.edu.au/research-tools-techniques/digital-essentials>

Using AI responsibly at UQ

- **AI Student Hub:** your resource for understanding and using artificial intelligence (AI) responsibly at UQ, which includes AI for study, for assessment, referencing and acknowledgements, access and training <https://guides.library.uq.edu.au/tools-and-techniques/ai-student-hub/ai-for-study>

RESOURCES IN THE SCHOOL OF COMMUNICATION AND ARTS

Student Support Links

Includes links for Assessment, Equipment bookings, Internships and Field Trips, and Academic Integrity

<https://communication-arts.uq.edu.au/student-support>

MaPS and Jactech

The Media and Production Support (MaPS): team in the School offers a range of training and support services to students to produce digital content including video, audio, and photographs. Find out more via <https://communication-arts.uq.edu.au/aboutmaps>

Jactech loans high quality production equipment to students. Make bookings here: <https://jactech.com.au/>

Student Wellbeing

Taking care of your wellbeing is just as important as your academic studies!

UQ offers a variety of health and wellbeing resources

<https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/health-wellbeing>

- **UQ Counsellors:** All current UQ students can access **10 free counselling sessions** each year. <https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/health-and-wellbeing/mental-health-and-emotional-support/counselling> Business hours phone: 1300 275 870. Crisis Line: 1300 275 870
- **Student advocacy and support (SAS):** you can access a range of free services including academic, legal and visa advice <https://www.uqu.com.au/supporting-u>
- **External resources:** there are a variety of different mental health resources that you can access in Australia.
 - Headspace <https://headspace.org.au/eheadspace/>
 - Beyond Blue <https://www.beyondblue.org.au/home>
 - Lifeline <https://www.lifeline.org.au/>
 - QLife <https://qlife.org.au/>

Diversity, disability and inclusion

- **Accessibility on campus:** <https://campuses.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/access/campus-accessibility>
- **Advisers:** UQ's diversity, disability and inclusion advisers assist students with a disability, mental health or medical condition, illness, injury or exceptional circumstances. They can help you put together a Student Access Plan (SAP). A SAP will include discussion around in-class participation, activities, and assessments as well as recommendations for reasonable adjustments in your courses to accommodate the impact of your condition or circumstances. <https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/student-support/diversity-disability-and-inclusion/make-appointment-student-adviser>
- **UQU Disabilities Collective** is a group for UQ students who experience disability, chronic illness, mental illness, neurodiversity and/or are Deaf: <https://www.uqu.com.au/representing-u/uqu-collectives/disability-collective>

Global experiences

- **Short term experiences:** over 100 summer or winter short-term opportunities for a variety of different disciplines each year employability.uq.edu.au/short-term-experiences
- **Exchange program:** study overseas for 1 Semester or 1 year and gain credit towards your UQ program <https://employability.uq.edu.au/student-exchange>

Internships, placements and careers

- **School of Communication and Arts Internship, Field Trip, and Placement Resources:** https://communication-arts.uq.edu.au/sca_internships
- **UQ Internship Opportunities:** <https://employability.uq.edu.au/internship-opportunities>
- **UQ Careers and Employability :** access these resources to start plan your future: <https://employability.uq.edu.au/>

Ways to make new friends

There are plenty of great ways to connect with other students!

Clubs and societies

- **Journalism and Communication Student Society (JACS):** <https://www.facebook.com/UQJACS>
- **UQ English and Literature Society:** <https://www.facebook.com/UQEELS/>
- **UQ Society of Fine Arts:** <https://www.facebook.com/people/Society-of-Fine-Arts/100075994244795/>
- **UQ Film Appreciation Society:** <https://www.facebook.com/uqfas/>
- **Underground Theatre Company:** <https://www.facebook.com/UndergroundBrisbane/>
- **UQ Queer collective** is a UQ Union community group that supports LGBTQIA+ students at UQ <https://uqu.com.au/uqu-collectives/queer-collective/>

Campus Events

A series of exciting social events are happening all around Campus within the first few weeks of the semester and beyond. Find out what's on via, <https://www.uqu.com.au/entertaining-u>

Connect with a UQ Mentor

- UQ has a broad range of great mentoring programs to help you make the absolute most of your time at UQ and to stay connected. If you're new to UQ, the **O' to 4 Program** has been specifically designed for all new students to participate in during their first few weeks of university life. The program connects you and a small group (usually around 8 -10) of other new students studying in the same faculty with a student mentor. Mentors will take you on a campus tour, answer questions and recommend orientation events to attend; just to name a few <https://my.uq.edu.au/mentoring>

Social Media

https://x.com/uqcom_arts?lang=en

<https://www.facebook.com/UQjacpot/>

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/uqcaps/>

<https://www.facebook.com/watchmaps/>

<https://www.facebook.com/uqlife>

Useful information

- **my.UQ:** central website providing advice for Current Students, including searching for frequently asked information or sending specific questions. Available via your dashboard at my.uq.edu.au
- **Your student account:** Every UQ student has a password protected account that provides access to a range of online resources including email, cloud storage, VPN access etc.
<https://my.uq.edu.au/information-and-services/information-technology/uq-accounts-and-passwords/about-your-student-account>. If you need help or forget your password, contact Information Technology Services (ITS) on 3365 6000 or help@its.uq.edu.au. Find out more via, <https://coo.uq.edu.au/operational-areas/information-technology-services/contact-information-technology-services-division>
- **my.UQ email:** it is important you check your UQ email account regularly as it is the University's official means of communicating with you regarding important matters. Use my.UQ to access your emails, view your calendar and course materials, access UQ Library and see today's important reminder student.my.uq.edu.au
- **Visa issues:** contact the Visa Officer with any questions at uqvisaofficer@uq.edu.au
- **UQ timetable planner:** plan your schedule; try different course enrolment combinations, select classes, resolve conflicts, and export your timetable <https://www.uqplanner.app/>. Course enrolment and class sign-on *cannot* be done using this planner, this must be done via sinet.uq.edu.au. Queries and requests for timetabling support can be sent to timetabling.commart@enquire.uq.edu.au
- **Student Centre:** your one-stop shop for all student administration and general enquiries relating to UQ, including academic transcripts, forms and letters
- **Academic Calendar:** with current information on all enrolment deadlines and census dates <https://about.uq.edu.au/sites/default/files/2024-12/academic-calendar.pdf>

School of Communication and Arts 2026 Program Convenors Semester 1

(see <https://communication-arts.uq.edu.au/our-people> to locate individual email addresses for staff)

Convenor, B Communication program Lemi Baruh
 Convenor, B Commun Digital Media major Bonnie Evans
 Convenor, B Commun Strategic Communication major Caroline Wilson-Barnao
 Convenor, B Journalism program Anne Kruger
 Convenor, BA Art History major Paolo Magagnoli
 Convenor, BA Australian Studies minor Sam Lindop
 Convenor, BA Drama major Bernadette Cochrane
 Convenor, BA English major and English Literature major Melissa Dickson
 Convenor, BA Film & Television major Matthew Cipa
 Convenor, BA Journalism & Mass Communication major Anne Kruger
 Convenor, BA Media and Digital Cultures major Adrian Athique
 Convenor, BA Writing major Taryn Bashford
 Convenor, BA Professional Writing and Communication major Taryn Bashford
 Convenor, Master of Writing, Editing, and Publishing program Mel Seward
 Convenor, Master of Communication program Elena Block

Timetabling enquires:

Email: timetabling.commarts@enquire.uq.edu.au

General enquiries:

Email: communication-arts@uq.edu.au

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