Starting Uni

For the Division of Education, Arts and Social Sciences

Learn about:
• What’s the expectation?
• How uni study might be different to other study you’ve done.
• What these differences mean for you.
• What it means to be an independent learner.

Language and Learning Advisers
Learning and Teaching Unit
EASS Division
Expectations

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What have you heard about studying at Uni?
What are you expecting?

• Lots of free time vs heavy workload
• New study/learning/teaching style
• Lack of social life vs great social life
• Understanding tasks
• Referencing/using sources

• Isolation
• Stress
• Computers
What might be different?

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- **Size** of uni and **numbers** of students
- **Time** in class
- **Kinds** of classes
- **Staff expectations**
- **Availability** of staff
- **Teaching methods**
- **Assessment types** – different formats
- **Assessment criteria** – formal and more demanding
- Others?

What might be different for you? More information about differences between uni and other institutions can be found at *Starting Uni.*

Implications

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• need to make new friends/contacts
• need to adapt yourself to a new lifestyle, culture and learning environment
• need to acquire new skills, strategies and resources
• need to become an independent learner
What does this mean?
• you are responsible for your own learning.

What does an independent learner do?
• Takes control of and integrates their learning
• Is organised and has good time management skills
• Is responsible for their study, learning and attendance
• Is pro-active, asks questions, clarifies problems

You may already have some of these skills. What might be an area that you might need work on?
Strategies to become an independent learner

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• Make a network of friends.
• Use your time wisely – prioritise and plan. Get a balance.
• Understand the university and how it works - see First 6 weeks in EASS for answers to questions.
• Understand the rules and regulations of the university and the expectations of assessment and learning
• Ask questions, aim to seek answers to problems. Good starting points are:
  • Campus Central
  • Learning and Teaching Unit (LTU)
  • Lecturers and Tutors
  • Library
  • Your School Office
Familiarise yourself with the computer, the internet and UniSA website (the intranet) - visit Online@UniSA

- Regularly check your course homepages and emails
- Bookmark useful websites

Visit The first 6 weeks in EASS, Smart Start for more information about studying at uni.

Familiarise yourself with the Learning and Teaching Unit (LTU) and the support it has to offer and

L3 EASS for resources and workshops to help you with your academic skills