

# UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE INTERNATIONAL PROGRAM

Ready for Senior School?

Try a learning challenge with a difference.

**BE READY FOR UNIVERSITY**







## UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE

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University Senior College (USC) is an independent school for Years 10, 11 and 12, located on the Adelaide University campus. USC is different. Not only are USC students enabled to achieve their best academic results, they are well prepared for university education and life beyond school.

USC students learn to take responsibility for their education and discover how to work independently and with others. They benefit from a strong culture of learning and are inspired by passionate teachers who offer ongoing support and mentoring via one-on-one sessions. USC's unique partnership with Adelaide University enables USC students to meet and learn from staff at The University, and to utilise their state-of-the art facilities. This takes learning to the next level.

USC provides a structure that prepares students for university. The USC timetable allows students to complete most of their independent study during the school day, and they still have time for out-of-school interests or work commitments. The adult learning environment starts with simple things, like no school uniform and addressing staff by their first name. These behaviours assist young people to develop independence, confidence and maturity within a diverse learning environment.

USC students are encouraged to develop and maintain a good study schedule to reach their personal best and maintain a balanced, healthy lifestyle. All USC students are assigned a mentor teacher who helps them plan their study schedule, manage their workload and support their wellbeing.

Our curriculum will prepare you for the demands of university and accelerate your learning to achieve your potential. We'll open your eyes to the pathways that will take you on the next step of your learning journey, and provide support to help you get there.



USC offers the South Australia Certificate of Education (SACE) to International students. International students are required to study a minimum of one and a half years of the SACE curriculum to be able to obtain a SACE Certificate. The first step towards success at school in Australia starts with good English communication. Students enrolled at USC will study Intensive English at Adelaide Independent Schools Alliance (AISA) before entering the mainstream of Year 11.

Year 10 at USC offers an exciting opportunity and significant flexibility for students who require acceleration and challenge in their learning. The USC Year 10 experience combines a range of Year 10 and some Stage 1 subjects and most importantly provides a learning environment where everyone wants to learn.

USC follows the Australian Curriculum in Year 10 and includes English, Mathematics, the Arts, Sciences, Humanities and Exploring Identities and Futures. Students will also get a taste of subjects to help with their Stage 1 program. We are a school focused on the pathway to university but we know that subjects like Philosophy, Entrepreneurship, STEM and Psychology are also important and broaden thinking and the educational experience.

Our transition programs will make students and their families feel welcome at USC before they start. Students will have the chance to meet the Dean and our mentors. O Week at the start of the year familiarises students with our school, the Adelaide University campus and the city cultural precinct. There will be chances to engage in activities together – from Fringe shows to adventure.

YEAR 10 SUBJECTS

<b>ARTS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Art - Design*</li><li>• Creative Arts**</li><li>• Music*</li></ul>	<b>CROSS-DISCIPLINARY</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Exploring Identities and Futures</li><li>• STEM**</li></ul>	<b>HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• History</li><li>• Philosophy</li><li>• Society and Culture**</li></ul>	<b>MATHEMATICS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Mathematics</li></ul>
<b>BUSINESS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Entrepreneurship</li></ul>	<b>ENGLISH</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• English</li></ul>		<b>SCIENCES</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Psychology</li><li>• The Sciences</li></ul>

PLEASE NOTE:

- \* Denotes a single semester Arts elective.
- \*\* Denotes a single semester Stage 1 elective.

“USC IS A PLACE THAT  
ALLOWS STUDENTS TO BE  
THEMSELVES, WITHOUT  
BEING CONSTRAINED BY  
UNNECESSARY RULES  
AND NORMS THAT  
INADVERTENTLY LIMIT  
THEIR GROWTH. ”

Yufei, USC Old Scholar



Year 11 students are introduced to a tertiary-style of learning. An integral part of the Year 11 program is the development of study skills to ensure students are taught to manage their time effectively. A high level of student supervision is achieved through a personal mentoring program. Students will receive comprehensive assistance to plan and review their study, developing the disciplined habits that are a necessary strong foundation required for academic success.

Year 11 students choose six subjects per semester. Each subject is taught twice a week for two x 2 hour classes. The academic year is divided into two semesters. Attendance is compulsory and Year 11 is a prerequisite to Year 12.

## YEAR 11 (STAGE 1) SUBJECTS

### ARTS

- Drama
- Music Experience
- Music Advanced
- Visual Arts – Art
- Visual Arts – Design

### BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE, AND TECHNOLOGY

- Accounting
- Business Innovation

### CROSS-DISCIPLINARY

- Exploring Identities and Futures
- Activating Identities and Futures

### ENGLISH

- English (English focus)
- English (Literary Studies focus)
- English as a Second Language (EAL)

### HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Ancient Studies
- Economics
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Philosophy
- Politics, Power and People

### MATHEMATICS

- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics\*

### SCIENCES

- Biology
- Chemistry\*
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Physics\*
- Psychology

## PLEASE NOTE:

- \* These subjects must be studied for two semesters for continuation in Stage 2.
- Specialist Mathematics is only available if Mathematical Methods is also selected or has been completed previously.
- In total, a maximum of three selections of Art and/or Design can be made (i.e. a full year of Art and one semester of Design OR a full year of Design and one semester of Art).
- All other subjects can be selected once or twice depending on individual preference.



**“THE OPPORTUNITIES  
USC CREATES FOR ME –  
FRIENDS, SUBJECTS AND  
CONNECTIONS TO THE  
UNIVERSITY OPEN UP  
SO MANY PATHWAYS.”**

Cameron, Year 11





## YEAR 12 (SACE STAGE 2)

**CRICOS COURSE CODE: 042984G**

In Year 12 students continue to develop the skills and strategies required to achieve a competitive tertiary entrance score for university. Students will learn to evaluate concepts from a critical perspective as they consult different sources of information. The lecture and tutorial style of teaching is introduced, with most subjects having two 1 hour-long lectures with a supporting 2 hour-long tutorial. The lecture/tutorial mode of education mirrors university and ensures that learning is active, participative, motivating and enjoyable.

Teachers enjoy presenting interactive lectures supported by stimulating multimedia presentations. Tutorials provide opportunities for discussion and debate, extending knowledge, developing skills and exploring concepts. Attendance at lectures and tutorials is compulsory.

In Year 12, students typically study 5 full year subjects. Year 12 subject choices will impact on student options for university courses together with the tertiary entrance rank they achieve.

### ARTS

- Drama
- Music Explorations
- Music Studies
- Solo Performance
- Visual Arts – Art
- Visual Arts – Design

### BUSINESS, ENTERPRISE AND TECHNOLOGY

- Accounting
- Business Innovation

### ENGLISH

- English
- English Literary Studies
- English as a Second Language (EAL)

### HUMANITIES AND SOCIAL SCIENCES

- Ancient Studies
- Economics
- Legal Studies
- Modern History
- Philosophy
- Politics, Power and People

### MATHEMATICS

- General Mathematics
- Mathematical Methods
- Specialist Mathematics

### SCIENCES

- Biology
- Chemistry
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Physics
- Psychology



# MUSIC PROGRAM

Music at University Senior College is vibrant and an ever growing learning area, which focuses on individual programs.

## KEY POINTS OF INTEREST IN THE MUSIC CLASSROOM PROGRAM:

- A flexible and individual program tailored to each student's needs and interests.
- USC offers Stage 2 Solo and Ensemble Performance, Music Explorations and Music Studies, allowing for pathways for all Year 12 students who have different levels of musical skills and knowledge.
- Ensembles and solo opportunities are available at Year 10, 11 and 12.
- Access to Elder Conservatorium School of Music facilities and resources.
- Specialised teaching.



Ensembles are largely student directed and dependent on interest from year to year. Many students create their own bands and chamber groups with guidance and support from music staff and the use of our school facilities.



Students are often assessed for Stage 2 Ensemble Performance within external groups such as: Adelaide Youth Orchestras, SA Schools Concert Band and the Elder Conservatorium Symphony Orchestra.







## STUDY ABROAD IN ADELAIDE, SOUTH AUSTRALIA

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A Study Abroad Program at University Senior College is an unforgettable experience. Our programs are suited to students who are currently studying English and who wish to have an experience that will assist them to improve their English, meet new people and learn about another culture.

Students taking part in a Study Abroad Program at the University Senior College will have the opportunity to engage in a range of subjects, live with a local family and take part in a range of excursions in and around Adelaide.

### IN THE STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM YOU WILL:

- Develop your English language skills in an authentic way at school and at home.
- Develop a deeper understanding of yourself and your culture while learning about others.
- Understand what it is like to learn in a school abroad.
- Challenge yourself personally and academically.
- Learn to be more independent, confident and flexible.
- Make new friends and become a global citizen.

### INCLUSIONS

- 24 hour emergency contact
- Application processing and school enrolment
- Pre-departure information
- Adelaide Airport pick-up
- Welcome and school tour
- Student support and counselling services
- All tuition and classroom costs and administration
- Student report
- Overseas Student Health Cover
- AHN accommodation - 3 meals a day
- School Excursions



# CAMPUS FACILITIES

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## THE JORDAN CAMPUS

Our main campus is nestled in the six storey Jordan Building on the grounds of Adelaide University, North Terrace campus. Our facilities include:

- Science laboratories with specialised rooms for Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Earth and Environmental Science
- General classrooms
- Modern and flexible learning and teaching spaces
- Two state-of-the-art lecture theatres
- Student kitchen facilities

## THE GAWLER PLACE CAMPUS

Our Gawler Place campus sits just off North Terrace on Level 9 of the Parc Arcade building at 7-16 Gawler Place. It is home to our Year 10s, Visual Arts, Drama and Music facilities. Expansive spaces are used for Art, Design, Music and Drama lessons, as well as Adelaide Fringe performances and the annual Art and Design Exhibition.

A new music suite equipped with four practice rooms and performance space is located on the ground floor of the Parc Arcade. The Gawler Place campus is also home of the USC STEM Thinker Tinker Maker space.

## ADELAIDE UNIVERSITY CAMPUS

Our fantastic location on Adelaide University's North Terrace campus and our partnership with Adelaide University means you can access:

- Lecture theatres: the majority of Year 12 lectures are held in lecture theatres on the North Terrace campus. Year 12 lectures are recorded and provided online to students.
- Barr Smith Library: borrow, use computers and study spaces, including the silent study room.
- Student Hub: a range of eateries and collaboration/study spaces.
- Adelaide Law School: the location of mock trials, and the seat of law learning in our state for more than a century.
- Little Theatre: the home of Adelaide University's Theatre Guild and a comfortable 120-seat theatre. Used for our Drama productions.
- Schools and research hubs in Physics and Space Science, Chemistry, Biology and Mathematics: extension activities take place right in the heart of the university; learn about cutting-edge research.
- The information technology services provided for University students and staff.
- The fitness hub, clubs and facilities of Adelaide University Sport.



**WITH TWO TWO-HOUR  
TUTORIAL AND LESSON  
TIMES, USC STUDENTS HAVE  
AMPLE TIME TO EXPERIENCE  
THESE RESOURCES ALL  
DURING CLASS TIME.**





## **PATHWAYS TO UNIVERSITY**

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### **HYBRID COURSES**

Our flexible timetable allows for some students to undertake study across different year levels.

If you have been accelerated in your previous school, you may be able to undertake study at the Year 11 level while in Year 10 or the Year 12 level while in Year 11. For example, students have taken Stage 2 Mathematical Methods, Specialist Mathematics, Biology and English during Year 11.

### **ACTIVATE PROGRAM**

Adelaide University offers access to some of its first-year courses to USC students who have completed some Year 12 subjects through its Activate program. USC is ideally situated to take advantage of the Activate program, with students already on the Adelaide University Campus and operating on the same timetable. Each year we have students enrolled in various courses across a range of disciplines.

Students who receive a place the program, will be able to study one of the university courses on offer per semester. If the course is completed successfully, students will be eligible to receive SACE and university credits and have their results count towards their Aggregate and ATAR.



# INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT

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One of the most significant differences between USC and any other school is the powerful combination of focused academic preparation with student care and support. We believe that academic support and personal care are essential to enable students to reach their maximum potential.

Our learning program is interwoven with individual and targeted support. Some, like mentoring, is regular and on-going, while student counselling is there when needed. USC international student support services include:

## INTERNATIONAL TEAM

The Director of International Program oversees international student wellbeing, coordinating support services and fostering cultural integration to enhance the student experience. The International Student Registrar manages enrollment for international students, ensuring compliance with visa and academic requirements while assisting with admissions and student services.

## DEANS OF STUDENT EXPERIENCE

The Deans of Student Experience are responsible for all aspects of the students wellbeing and academic progress and is the first point of contact for parents. The Deans of Student Experience ensures that the needs of international students are met at every decision making level in the College.

## ACADEMIC TEACHING STAFF

USC has an experienced and highly qualified staff, who specialise in preparing students for university entry. Students are encouraged to work closely with teachers, who are available for individual tuition and support for the students in their care. USC teachers have developed the reputation amongst students for being not only great teachers, but great people too.

## MENTORING

Students are allocated a mentor – a member of the USC academic teaching staff – who provides them with care and attention outside of classes regarding overall wellbeing and academic progress. Mentors are responsible for:

- helping students review their academic progress
- assisting with the development of good study skills
- helping make the transition to an adult learning environment
- providing guidance in subject choices, career pathways and tertiary study pathways

**“WE CARRY IMMEASURABLE GRATITUDE FOR OUR YEAR 12 MENTORS FOR CONSISTENTLY CHECKING IN ON US WITH A CUP OF COFFEE IN HAND. THEY WORK TIRELESSLY BEHIND THE SCENES TO BUILD A REASSURING SUPPORT NETWORK AT SCHOOL.”**

Savannah, Year 12







## **COUNSELLING**

Student wellbeing is important, and our counsellors work with everyone in the College community to create a safe, supportive environment in which students can thrive.

Our counsellors can help students with school related matters, including future directions and pathways, as well as personal issues such as transition, adjusting to a new culture, homesickness, making friends and gaining confidence in their new environment.

Our counsellors can also support by offering to talk with others on their behalf, for example with teachers, friends or parents providing permission is given.

## **CULTURAL ORIENTATION**

A cultural orientation program is provided to familiarise students with their new environment and to provide the relevant information about living and studying in Adelaide. Students are assisted with banking and telephone systems, provided with a tax file number and a health care card to access health services. USC students receive an email address; as well as a student identification card which offers transport and service discounts. Students will also be provided with a guide to public transport, a city and metropolitan map and 24-hour emergency telephone numbers.

## **CAREERS AND TERTIARY ENTRANCE ADVICE**

Our staff will guide students to make the right subject choices for Year 11 and for Year 12, ensuring they have met any prerequisites or assumed knowledge for the courses they wish to study at University. USC can also put students in touch with University staff to discuss specific aspects of the study options and help students explore different ways to achieve tertiary study or career goal.

Career guidance starts early with assistance in Year 10 for writing resumes and preparing for job interviews. The Careers Expo is a highlight for all year levels where students and their parents can engage directly with professionals from diverse fields. Students can also participate in weekly lunchtime sessions, each focused on a different career. These sessions provide students with direct insights from universities on what is required to study in that field. In Year 12 they have one-on-one appointments with an Adelaide University recruitment officer regarding their future pathway. Plus, students will be supported by USC Old Scholars through our career coaching program.



# STUDENT ACCOMMODATION

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International students can choose to stay in one of following accommodation arrangements; Nominated Accommodation or Homestay Accommodation.

## NOMINATED ACCOMMODATION

International students and parents can nominate to live with a relative or family friend. The relative needs to be approved by the Department of Home Affairs (DHA). You can find more information on 'Welfare and custody arrangements for students under 18' on the DHA website.

If the student wishes to nominate a family friend (not related) to provide accommodation, they must be 25 years of age or older and will need to be accredited as a nominated homestay family by The Australian Homestay Network (AHN).

Students over the age of 18 can choose accommodation such as apartments and residences close to the campus.

## HOMESTAY ACCOMMODATION

The aim of Homestay is to provide overseas students accommodation with local families in a warm and safe environment, with convenient public transport to the USC. The Australian Homestay Network is the service provider that works with USC to arrange accommodation for our international students. AHN appoints Coordinators who work with schools and homestay families.

Families are selected by completing the AHN application, an interview and inspection of the home facilities. AHN meets national and State regulations and standards to provide:

- 24/7 support to families and student
- Insurance services
- Automated online payment
- Guidance and cultural advice
- Private fully furnished accommodation
- Assistance with establishing banking and phone
- Effective response to concerns or issues in liaison with the College

More information about AHN and its services are available at this web link: [www.homestaynetwork.org/new-students](http://www.homestaynetwork.org/new-students)

## RESPONSIBILITIES

For a successful Homestay experience, University Senior College, the Homestay family, the student and the student's parents all have responsibilities.

### UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE:

- The Principal will be appointed the legal guardian for a student under 18 years of age;
- Will liaise with AHN on all matters pertaining to homestay;
- The Wellbeing coordinator will monitor the health and wellbeing of the student and will monitor attendance;
- The International Registrar will monitor absences;
- The Deans of Student Experience will monitor the academic progress and attendance of the student and concerns about attendance.

### HOMESTAY FAMILY WILL:

- Accept the student as another family member in their home;
- Be responsible for day to day parenting (monitor curfews, health, behaviour, safety, etc.);
- Ensure that the family maintains the standards required by AHN;
- Provide meals and services as arranged by AHN.

### THE STUDENT WILL:

- Follow both the University Senior College "Code of Conduct for International Students" and any other rules set by the family;
- Participate in the Homestay Family life
- Use Homestay placement as an opportunity to practise English and will use English when communicating with the family;
- Comply with Australian law, which does not permit anyone under 18 years of age to purchase cigarettes or alcohol.

### PARENTS OF THE STUDENT:

We appreciate that parents have entrusted us with the care of their much loved child. We do everything possible to honour that trust. Please contact us if there are any concerns.





## ARRIVAL AND ADJUSTMENT

The best possible Homestay family has been chosen by AHN to care for the student. AHN will arrange meeting the student on arrival at the airport and transfer to Homestay accommodation. AHN will also provide pre-departure orientation and further support after arrival to facilitate adaptation to a new cultural context.

The Homestay family will settle the student into their new home, explain public transport and teach the student how to travel to and from school, discuss likes and dislikes with food and explain family rules.

It is very important students are honest with the Homestay family. They are encouraged to try new food, but if it is unpleasant, they are to then tell the Homestay family. If there is a small problem, students are encouraged get help before it turns into a large problem.

Orientation will be done on the first day at school by the International Team. The student will: complete forms giving family contact details; read and sign school policies; be given their Student Card and metroCARD; be given their Health Card and be taken on a tour of our Campus. Help will also be given if the student wishes to open a bank account or purchase a mobile phone card.

It is understood that most students will suffer from homesickness usually during the first few weeks. Everything is different: the language, the food, not living with the family, missing friends, even the climate. As they make new friends and feel more comfortable with the Homestay family the homesickness will pass. The USC School Counsellor and Wellbeing Officer is there to help and if necessary will get assistance from the Deans of Student Experience. Additionally, AHN provides a Coordinator who can assist and support the student in homestay matters.



## OTHER IMPORTANT INFORMATION

### TELEPHONE AND COMMUNICATION

Most students will have a mobile phone and will use it to contact family and friends. Students may use the homestay landline to make local calls; however any calls to mobile phones, interstate or overseas should be paid for by the student on top of the Homestay fee.

The student is expected to have their mobile phone turned on at all times (except when they are in class) and the battery to be charged, so that the College or AHN Coordinator can contact them when necessary. It is important to make sure that if they change their mobile number the College and AHN Coordinator are informed.

Students must check communications from the College each day and must respond to communications from College staff.

### INTERNET

Internet access is part of the AHN package for students.

### TRAVEL

If a student wants to travel within Australia or overseas they need permission from the College. A copy of their travel ticket and the address of where they will be living must be given to the International Registrar. Students under 18 must also have permission from their parents (a permission form can be obtained from the International Registrar and sent to parents).

The student must not leave for holidays before the end of the school term and must return in time for the beginning of the next school term – or at the beginning of the year, in time for Orientation.

Students are not permitted to travel to their home country during the academic year. Return home is permitted during the term holidays.

### OVERNIGHT VISITS WITH FRIENDS

The Homestay family must know the student's whereabouts at all times. If they intend to stay overnight away from their Homestay, the student must ask permission before making plans. It is not acceptable to phone the Homestay family after leaving the house to say that they will not be returning home. If the student is under 18, their Homestay family must phone the Homestay family of the friend to make sure that they are aware that the student will be sleeping there.

### FRIENDS VISITING

The student may seek permission from the Homestay family to allow friends to sleep overnight. It is not acceptable to arrive home with friends without the Homestay family's knowledge and expect these friends to join the family for a meal.

### CHORES

It is acceptable for the student to perform certain chores in the home, such as keeping their own room tidy, helping with the dishes, changing bed linen.

**"I AM GRATEFUL OF  
THE DIVERSITY OF OUR  
USC COMMUNITY. A  
MULTICULTURAL COMMUNITY  
LIKE THIS ALLOWS ME TO NOT  
ONLY EXPLORE AUSTRALIAN  
CULTURE, BUT ALSO ENGAGE  
WITH PEOPLE FROM VARIOUS  
CULTURAL BACKGROUNDS."**

Yanwen, USC Old Scholar





## UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE IS A PLACE ...

- Where everyone can learn and is respected.
- Where you will be challenged in your learning and you will thrive.
- Where you are supported on your pathway to help you get to where you want to be.
- Of welcome, inclusion, connection and where authentic relationships are valued between staff, students and student to student.
- That is diverse and respectful. USC is a safe and supported adult learning environment.



**“THE FRIENDSHIPS FORGED  
IN THE EARLY DAYS REMAINED  
STRONG AND KNOWING  
EVERYONE WAS IN THE SAME  
BOAT OF NOT KNOWING  
ANYONE MADE IT EASIER TO  
FORM DEEP FRIENDSHIPS  
FROM THE GET-GO.”**

Milla, Year 11



Founded in 2002, we are one of the most significant feeder schools to the university sector in South Australia. USC is an adult learning environment for students from Year 10 to Year 12. We have access to great resources to university facilities.

The best way to see University Senior College in action is to visit us. We would love to show you around our campus, and show you how you can find a place in our world.



**BE READY FOR UNIVERSITY**

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CRICOS Provider Number: 02375G

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