

Centre for Continuing Education

Do you want to gain admission to the Australian National University? Consider the University Preparation Scheme...

University Preparation Scheme (UPS) courses provide students 20 years and older with a qualification to compete for a place at the ANU or other universities. They are designed for students who did not complete schooling, or completed schooling a number of years ago or whose qualifications are not enough. Half year intensive courses commence in mid February or mid July.

A UPS course enables you to develop the necessary academic skills for tertiary study, gain confidence in the tertiary environment and recognise the level of scholarship and commitment necessary for successful university study. Assessment is based on performance during the course and your result from the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT).

Completing these courses does not guarantee you entry to University, but does give you a qualification to compete for a place. UPS courses cannot be included in, or credited toward, a degree program at the University.

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS ABOUT UPS

Who can join the UPS?

Mature-age entry to the ANU is potentially open to anyone 21 years and older in the year they start undergraduate study and who possesses permanent Australian residency status.

What are the choices?

There are CCE-based courses and College-based courses. You do either one CCE-based course or two College-based courses. Additional workshops are offered to assist study or STAT exam preparation.

What does it cost?

In 2012 fees are \$795 for CCE based UPS courses or \$400 per College-based UPS courses.

What is the duration of UPS courses?

The UPS consists of 52 hours of tuition and is offered in two separate one-semester programs. Each semester long programs are over 13 weeks and two nights a week.

Where and when are classes held?

Most classes are held on the ANU Campus on weekday evenings, but some College-based courses may have day-time lectures.

How do I enrol?

UPS courses are advertised in the **CCE Course Guide**, an insert in *The Canberra Times*, usually in early December or early June, or from the CCE website www.anu.edu.au/cce.

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How do I obtain an ANU Student Number?

UPS students do not receive an ANU student number. However, you **may** be able to apply for a number for the duration of your UPS study. Those undertaking College-based courses should apply through their lecturer or the College Administrator. Those undertaking CCE based UPS courses please apply by email: enquiries.cce@anu.edu.au or phone 6125 4580.

How are UPS students assessed?

There are two components to UPS assessment. Students are assessed on their performance in the course by the course tutor/lecturer, and also receive a score after sitting the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) (Multichoice test). The scores are merged into one final assessment rating on completion of the course and STAT test, by the ANU Admissions Office.

How much homework will I be required to undertake

In most cases you will be required to undertake approximately the same amount of study at home as you are completing in class. However, this may vary from course to course.

How the UPS works at the ANU

UPS course enrolments are administered by the CCE. You may enrol in an approved CCE unit or two college-based UPS approved units. The courses are intended primarily as a means of developing the academic skills and confidence necessary to successfully undertake undergraduate studies.

UPS candidates must satisfy all course requirements (as assessed by the tutor), and sit the Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) (Multichoice test). It is the **students' responsibility** to complete the application for the STAT in the UAC Guide published in August each year (see UAC entry below).

Applicants applying for admission through UPS will be ranked on the tutor's assessment plus the STAT result and no other qualifications will be considered. Applicants who already hold qualifications which satisfy admission requirements may wish to undertake a UPS unit as means of developing the academic skills and confidence necessary to successfully undertake undergraduate studies. Students who think they may already hold qualifications that satisfy admission requirements should check their eligibility with the ANU Admissions Office, 6125 5594.

Students who choose to undertake more than one UPS unit (eg Mathematics Bridging and a CCE unit) will have their results considered by the ANU Admissions Office in conjunction with their STAT result.

Approved CCE units

These are specially designed courses which are based on a subject area such as philosophy or psychology to resemble a typical first year course. They have the added benefit of explanation, discussion and advice on techniques in research, study and essay writing. Each unit has 52 hours of study with either one or two two-hour sessions per week.

Approved College-based UPS courses

Each semester some first year courses in the Colleges of Arts and Asian Studies can be taken by UPS students. UPS students attend classes but do not have the same privileges as an undergraduate student. College-based UPS students who are successful in gaining admission to ANU **may** ask to receive exemptions for courses completed through UPS but this should be discussed with the Department concerned beforehand.

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Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT) (see <http://www.uac.edu.au/admin/stat.html>)

The second component of UPS assessment is a Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT). This is a scholastic aptitude test that all ANU UPS students are compelled to sit towards the end of their UPS year. Students should register for the STAT through application forms in the UAC Guide. A registration fee is applicable.

APPLYING FOR ADMISSION TO UNIVERSITY AFTER COMPLETING THE UPS

Through the Universities Admission Centre (UAC) (see <http://www.uac.edu.au>)

Application forms to enter university and registration forms for the STAT are obtained by purchasing a copy of the UAC Guide available from August each year in campus bookshops and newsagencies. It is essential that all UPS students complete both forms found inside the UAC guide, ie application for entry to university and registration for STAT, and mail them to UAC by the due dates. Please contact UAC directly for current STAT fees. On time applications close on the last working day in September. Do NOT wait until you have completed your UPS course to apply. Late applications for admission may be made direct to the ANU Admissions Office after UAC has ceased application processing (usually the first week of February). Late applications attract a Late Application Fee and are not recommended since only a few places, if any, will remain vacant after the UAC Main Round of Offers in mid January. It is advisable to seek advice from the ANU Admissions Office before lodging any late applications.

Faculty Prerequisites and Mathematics Bridging Courses

UPS participants should note that if intending to apply for admission to a degree course in Engineering, Software Engineering or Information Technology, and for some subjects in the Science Faculty a mathematics prerequisite **may** be required in addition to the UPS unit. Please also note that although the Faculty of Economics and Commerce degree courses no longer have mathematics prerequisites, it will be assumed that applicants will have knowledge of the specified mathematics at the level of an ACT Mathematical Methods major, or NSW 2 unit Mathematics.

If you are intending on undertaking Maths Bridging as a UPS unit you must contact the ANU Admissions Manager on (02) 6125 8194 for advice prior to enrolment.

For information on Maths Bridging Courses contact ANU College on (02) 6125 5000 (website: http://www.anucollege.com.au/Programs/math_bridging.shtml) or the ANU Mathematics Department on (02) 6125 2908.

Chemistry prerequisites

ANU's, Bachelor of Biotechnology, Bachelor of Medical Science and Bachelor of Global and Ocean Sciences require Chemistry as a pre-requisite (ACT Chemistry Minor, or NSW 2 unit Chemistry). Students interested in undertaking one of these courses should contact the Admissions Office on 6125 5594 BEFORE undertaking the UPS program to discuss this prerequisite as it is not possible to meet the prerequisite through the UPS program.

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WORKSHOPS FOR UPS STUDENTS

The Centre for Continuing Education offers workshops to assist UPS students. They occur during 1st semester and again, during 2nd semester. These workshops are not a compulsory component of the scheme but are provided as optional units for an additional fee. Workshops will also be advertised in the CCE Course Guide available just prior to each semester.

USE OF UNIVERSITY LIBRARIES

Students enrolled in the University Preparation Scheme are eligible for special borrowing rights with the campus libraries. These students should register at the Circulation Desk at the Chifley, Hancock or Menzies Library. Fees apply.

The ANU Library catalogue can be accessed by all borrowers in all main libraries. Within the library buildings the ANU library website can only be accessed by ANU staff and regular ANU students (unfortunately, this service is NOT available to UPS students). Electronic databases are also only available to staff and ANU students. The ANU Library website can be accessed from off campus, but electronic databases cannot. The Library's web page address is: <http://anulib.anu.edu.au>

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