

Tertiary Preparation Pathway



University of the
Sunshine Coast
The best of both worlds



www.usc.edu.au/tpp

Tertiary Preparation Pathway

The Tertiary Preparation Pathway (TPP) is specifically designed for students who may not be able to gain admission to university through traditional means, thereby allowing them to study a University degree program. It also allows students to get a taste of what university life is like. Additionally, students who already have the entry rank for admission to their desired program at University, and who want to refresh their learning skills or gain knowledge in a particular area, can complete specific TPP courses (subjects) without undertaking the full pathway.

Approximately three-quarters of students who have completed the TPP are now studying for degrees at USC or at other Queensland universities.

Money matters

TPP courses are free-of-charge to domestic students, ie Australian and New Zealand citizens and Australian permanent residents and permanent humanitarian visa holders. Domestic students who study three or four courses in one semester (full-time) may also be eligible for income support payments from Centrelink, eg Youth Allowance, Austudy, ABSTUDY.

Please note that tuition fees apply for international students.

Entry requirements

TPP applicants must be a minimum of 17 years of age prior to enrolment and satisfy the University's English language requirements. The minimum age for international students is 18 years.

How to apply

Complete and submit a Tertiary Preparation Pathway Application Form by the due date ensuring you attach the appropriate supporting documentation which will include a copy of your driver's licence or birth certificate as proof of your age and evidence of any other prior qualifications. International students should complete an International Student Application Form.

The application form and due dates are available on the USC website at www.usc.edu.au/Students/Future/HowtoApply/TPP/Howtoapply.

TPP—the facts

The list of courses (subjects) offered in the TPP and their descriptions are set out below. Information is also available at www.usc.edu.au/tpp.

Some TPP courses will provide more appropriate skills and knowledge than others when it

comes to preparing you for a particular undergraduate program.

The recommended TPP course enrolment patterns for students intending to apply for USC undergraduate degree programs are available on the USC website at www.usc.edu.au/tpp

To complete the TPP, you must gain a minimum of a pass in four courses, one of which must be TPP101 Academic Skills. You may enrol in up to four TPP courses in one semester and can therefore complete the TPP in one semester. You may enrol in as little as one TPP course per semester. International students on a student visa are required to be enrolled on a full-time basis.

TPP courses are offered in Semester 1, Semester 2 and some are offered in an intensive mode in the Summer Semester. Timetable information for each semester, including semester start and finish dates, is published online, www.usc.edu.au/timetables.

TPP is designed to be used as both a preparation program and, a pathway into an award (Bachelor Degree/Associate Degree) program. You will get certification if you complete TPP (four courses of which one is TPP 101), however, it should be noted that it is not in itself an award program under the Australian Qualifications Framework, (eg Certificate II, Diploma) and the courses completed cannot be used as credit towards an award program.

TPP Courses

(CRICOS code: 058561K)

TPP101 Academic Skills for Success

In this course students have the opportunity to develop the writing and study skills necessary to manage tertiary study effectively. As well as general instruction in time management, effective reading and exam preparation, this course introduces students to the common features of academic writing and methods of composing. Students will be given opportunities to apply and develop these study and academic writing skills in a number of formative (not assessed) tasks undertaken during class.

TPP102 Computer Literacy

This course enables students to acquire sufficient basic knowledge of personal computers, the University's computer network and the associated software packages available for use by undergraduate students. The course is specifically designed for those students who do not possess a basic literacy in information technologies, or who wish to refresh their knowledge prior to entering degree programs.

TPP103 Chemistry

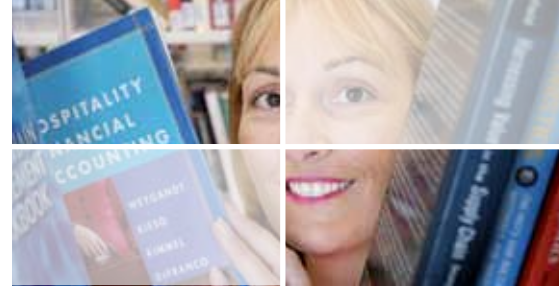
This course enables students to acquire sufficient basic knowledge in the principles of chemistry so that students are better equipped for study in first year level university chemistry, cell biology and related disciplines. The course is specifically designed for those students who have not taken senior high school chemistry or who wish to refresh their knowledge and understanding of the discipline.

TPP104 Mathematics

This course is designed to upgrade the mathematical skills of students entering academic programs at university. It has been specifically designed for those students who have not taken senior high school mathematics, or who wish to refresh their understanding of the discipline. A basic understanding of mathematics concepts is important for any undergraduate. It is, however, an essential skill for all science undergraduates regardless of discipline.

TPP105 Statistics

This course is designed to upgrade the statistics skills of students entering academic programs at the University. An understanding of, and ability to apply, basic statistical concepts is an essential skill for all undergraduates, regardless of discipline. It is assumed that students taking this course will have a mathematical ability equivalent to Year 10 level.



What comes next ... how to gain admission to a University degree program?

Students who complete courses in the TPP are offered the opportunity to apply directly to the University of the Sunshine Coast for a place in an undergraduate degree or associate degree program.

Students seeking admission to other universities following completion of the TPP will have to apply for admission through the Queensland Tertiary Admission Centre (QTAC) or other relevant University admission centre for interstate Universities. Students wishing to use TPP as a pathway to other Universities are strongly advised to contact the Admissions office of the relevant University to check program eligibility requirements and ensure that the University accepts completion of the USC Tertiary Preparation Pathway as a basis of admission.

The University of the Sunshine Coast applies two selection principles to all applications to Undergraduate programs:

- **Eligibility**—Applicants for a program must satisfy the Minimum Entry Requirements (eg English language proficiency and subject prerequisites). If an applicant does not satisfy the entry requirements for a course, their application is not considered for that program.
- **Merit**—Applicants who do satisfy the Minimum Entry Requirements then compete for a place on the basis of their Selection Rank. Offers are made to applicants in descending rank order until all quota places are filled.

What is a selection rank?

A selection rank or set of ranks is determined for each applicant on the basis of the applicant's qualifications and experience. If applicants have more than one qualification or type of experience, they will usually be allocated more than one selection rank. Selection ranks are derived from tables or lists of conversions called schedules, on a scale from 1 to 99 (99 being the highest).

Completion of at least three (3) courses in the Tertiary Preparation Pathway will allow the

allocation of a selection rank that may be used as a basis for admission into an undergraduate program at USC. Successful completion of the full TPP program (ie four courses), however, is strongly recommended for all applicants who have no other qualifications or experience that would provide a selection rank that could be used as a basis of admission. Depending on the results/grades achieved in the program, students who successfully complete the four course TPP program will be allocated a minimum selection rank of 75 and maximum selection rank of 86.

Got more questions?

If you have more questions or are not sure whether the Tertiary Preparation Pathway is the best pathway for you to choose to pursue your goal to attain a University degree, personalised advice and assistance is available from the Coordinator, Enabling Programs in Student Administration. Please contact Student Administration 07 5430 2890; information@usc.edu.au.

TPP106 Introduction to Aboriginal Societies

This course provides students with an introduction to 'traditional' Aboriginal societies and cultures and a brief overview of their history since British settlement. Students will use this content to acquire and develop a range of skills and understandings needed for meaningful and successful engagement with university studies generally.

TPP107 Contemporary Australia

This course explores what it means to be Australian; some of the social, political and environmental issues that currently affect Australians as well as the background to those issues; and how Australia relates to the rest of the world.

TPP108 An Introduction to Working Within the Community

This course will provide an introduction to some of the critical conceptual understandings that underpin effective human services practice. Rather than developing any particular skills of human services practice, the course will provide an overview of the community sector and introduce students to some of the issues that surround inequality and disadvantage. Students will draw from a broad range of research providing critical insights into a range of inequalities and inequities that impact, on several levels, on an ideally socially just and sustainable society. This course directly introduces students to: the welfare state, social justice issues, human rights, inequality and cultural diversity.

TPP109 Biology

This course enables students to acquire sufficient basic knowledge in the principles of cell biology and Biochemistry that students can better undertake study in first year level university biochemistry, cell biology and related disciplines. The course is specifically designed for those students who have yet to complete high school biology, or who have done so and wish to refresh their knowledge and understanding of the disciplines.



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