International Students

How to do well in studies
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All students want to do as well as possible in their studies. Here are some tips for success:

Understand your units
Unit outlines give you the information you need to understand each unit: what topics are covered, what kinds of classes you will have, what kind of assessment tasks there are, and how and when you can contact your teaching staff. Make sure you read these as soon as you have access to them, and keep referring to them through the semester.

Attend classes
Your classes provide the foundation for building and applying your knowledge of units, so you need to attend. This seems obvious – but in many classes, your attendance may not be recorded, so it is up to you to make sure you attend. Prepare for your classes by previewing the topic and thinking of some questions about it. Take notes during lectures and review lecture recordings or slides to help you remember key information. Actively participate in discussions in tutorials and workshops.

Complete all assessment tasks
This is also an obvious tip. Once again, however, it is your responsibility to make sure you are doing all the work required and submitting it by the due date. Your units may have both minor and major tasks that contribute to your result, so it is important to put enough effort into each task.

Manage your time
Draw up a weekly schedule of your classes, self-study, and any other regular commitments you have. Allow at least six to seven hours of self-study time per week for each unit. Write out all of your assessment due dates and other key dates (such as exams) on your semester/wall planner, and make sure you allow for these in your weekly schedule. Use the planners available at utas.edu.au/students/resources

Build your academic skills
Whether you have a strong academic background or are new to university, you can still improve your skills. From your first semester, use all the resources available to you: Student Learning workshops and consultations, peer learning opportunities at Drop In and unit specific PASS sessions, and UniStart International online resources. Make sure you also ask for feedback on work you have completed, so you can continue to build your skills throughout your studies.

Ask for help
Students should never hesitate or feel embarrassed about needing help, because part of being a successful independent learner is asking for help when needed. It’s always best to ask for help as soon as you face difficulty or are unsure about something, because the earlier you ask, the more options you usually have.

When you have questions about your units, you should talk to your lecturers or tutors, because part of their role is to provide guidance and feedback to students. For different challenges or difficulties, there is a range of other services available to support you while you are studying.

If you are ever unsure about who you can ask for help, contact the International Student Advisers.

Learn to use the library
There are eight libraries providing print and electronic resources, student computers and printers, free wifi, lots of great spaces to study, staff to assist you, and more. The Morris Miller Library in Hobart and the library on Launceston campus offer 24-hour access for students.

utas.edu.au/library/libraries/24-hour-access

> utas.edu.au/students