Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Guide

Making tomorrow
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Cover image: Soul Train, 2015; Blak Douglas and Adam Geczy; featured in Blakattak, Sydney College of the Arts, 2015. Aboriginal cricketer Eddie Gilbert bowled Sir Donald Bradman out for a duck in December 1931 in what Bradman said was the fastest bowling spell he had ever faced. Gilbert endured discrimination: he had to seek permission to play Sheffield Shield cricket. When he died in 1978, leading sportmen, including Bradman, attended his funeral in his home town of Cherbourg, Queensland.
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In 2016, it will be 50 years since Charles Perkins became the first Aboriginal man to graduate from an Australian university, the University of Sydney. The University reaches an important milestone in 2016. By this time, our aim is to welcome another 600 talented and motivated Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people into our diverse University community.

It’s both an aspiration and a call to action.

To encourage your journey, some of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, staff and alumni have shared their thoughts, dreams and hopes for the role of higher education in the futures of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities.

Hear from a mother passionate about education for young Aboriginal people – and her son who followed in her footsteps to university. Be inspired by a lawyer who is using her skills to help change the rural community in which she grew up. Listen to the professional footballer who juggles training sessions with study, and speaks about what it’s like to be an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander person today.

To hear these amazing people share their stories and describe their path to the University of Sydney, visit — sydney.edu.au/2016
Discover
Message from Professor Shane Houston

The University of Sydney’s campuses stand on the traditional country of several Aboriginal peoples – the Cadigal, Deerubbin, Tharawal, Ngunnawal, Wiradjuri, Gamilaroi, Bundjalung, Wiljali and Gureng Gureng peoples.

The University is a vibrant, diverse and proud community within which you will experience a world-class education, be inspired by engaged learning and thinking, and build networks and friendships that will last a lifetime. Our staff and students understand the power of education to shape and transform lives.

At the University of Sydney, we are proud of our great track record. In 1966 Charles Perkins was the first Aboriginal man to graduate from this University, and more recently we have been graduating more Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students than any of Australia’s leading eight universities.

Our research makes a real difference in today’s world as we work on everything from heart health to nanotechnology to weed control on Aboriginal lands. The University brings together people from all social and cultural backgrounds for what is ranked as Australia’s best campus and student experience.

We offer our students a wide range of services, from entry pathways to scholarships, accommodation options, social programs and other opportunities. You can study with us through our Pemulwuy and Cadigal programs. Our dedicated student support staff will be here for you during your time at Sydney.

We have specialist staff to provide you with a culturally safe service, enhance your experience on campus, and make the change from high school to university easier.

The Koori Centre is available for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to enjoy a range of facilities, meet with other students, study in the lounge or computer lab, or just have a laugh.

We know that your commitment and passion, along with the University’s 164 years of excellence in education, are the foundation for success. Your studies will take you on an adventure through which you can engage in truly inspiring activities, perhaps in projects that shape our nation, or as part of a global experience that helps make the world a better place.

I hope this guide enables you to make informed decisions about your educational choices. I wish you all the best and look forward to seeing you on campus soon.

Professor Shane Houston
Gangulu
Deputy Vice-Chancellor
(Indigenous Strategy and Services)
Discover
Your history, your future

The University of Sydney was founded in 1850 on the land of the Cadigal people. Lake Northam was an important gathering place for the first people of the land and now forms the centrepiece of Victoria Park, just outside the University gates.

Our graduates have distinguished themselves in all sectors of Australian society and throughout the world, and include many prominent Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander leaders and achievers.
University of Sydney alumnus Dr Charles Perkins showed that new ways, partnerships and ideas could change the way people think and act. In the same way, our multidisciplinary Charles Perkins Centre is looking for solutions beyond traditional boundaries to offer hope for people with obesity, diabetes and cardiovascular disease.

Sisters Emily and Alicia Johnson are studying arts at the University of Sydney. Emily came to Sydney through the Cadigal Alternative Entry Program (see page 10) after her older sister, Alicia, told her about the strong support she had experienced on campus. The two are not the first in their family to study here: Emily and Alicia’s mother, Priscilla, graduated with a Bachelor of Health Sciences (Aboriginal Health and Community Development) in 2008.

The University has a strong connection to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples: entry pathways to university; scholarships and community engagement; student activism in the Freedom Ride of 1965; and the Vivid Sydney festival and Vivid Path to the Future.

The University also established one of the first Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander-identified courses in an Australian university.

Our strategic plan, Wingara Mura – Bunga Barrabugu (thinking path to make tomorrow), outlines our commitment to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education and service in the interest of a respectful, cohesive society. This strategy makes Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander education, research and engagement one of the University’s core activities.

We are proud of our partnerships with high-profile community groups such as the 2014 NRL grand final winners South Sydney Football Club and Souths Cares. We work with them to encourage young Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to focus on higher education, training and employment.

We are a university at which Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and staff can enjoy their identity freely, safely, confidently and with pride – to engage, learn and grow.
We have created programs for future and current students (as well as academics) not only to gain a world-class education but also real employment opportunities.

Our Breadwinners Programme offers financial assistance to eligible mature age students to upgrade their career prospects with an undergraduate degree, while our newly created Wingara Mura Leadership Program offers current students and early career academics pathways to our professional cadetships and the Wingara Mura Academy to make a real difference. (The Wingara Mura Academy offers postgraduate academic fellowships, and supports and develops Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander early-career academics.)

We want you to dream big and realise your potential here at the University of Sydney.

**Breadwinners Programme**

The Breadwinners Programme offers a unique opportunity for mature-age Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, who work full-time to support their family, to gain their first undergraduate degree.

The program works through an employer/employee agreement that allows you to salary sacrifice a portion of your wage into a fund while you study part time then draw upon these funds in the final two years of your degree while you study full time. You will also receive a funding top-up equal to 80 percent of your salary.

For more information and details about how to apply for Breadwinners please visit sydney.edu.au/scholarships/current/breadwinners

**Wingara Mura Leadership Program**

At the University of Sydney, we are serious about offering Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students suitable opportunities not only to gain a first-rate education, but also real employment to kick start your career. As part of our ongoing commitment under the Wingara Mura Bunga Barrabugu strategy, we have established the Wingara Mura Leadership Program.

This program offers suitable undergraduate and postgraduate students pathways either to join our professional cadetships or the academy. With the support of a supervisor and mentor, you should gain a solid understanding of the workplace and receive valuable career experience in whichever pathway you join.

For more information please visit sydney.edu.au/recruitment/wingara-mura
Inside view

Simone Armstrong
Bachelor of Animal and Veterinary Bioscience
Home town: I live in East Hills, but originated from the Bundjalung clan.

Why did you chose to study at the University of Sydney?
Since being involved in programs like the Australian Indigenous Mentoring Experience, I’ve always been in love with Sydney Uni. The atmosphere and vibe is unbeatable – there are endless opportunities to learn and grow.

Have you always wanted to work with animals?
I’ve always been passionate about animals, and maths and science are my favourite subjects. I’m a firm believer in giving back to the community and I definitely see this as an avenue where I can serve others – furry and fleshy ones!

What do you love about living and studying in Sydney?
Everything. There’s great diversity within the city’s places and communities and I love the natural environment in Sydney too – rivers, waterfalls, bush, beaches, forests. It’s a very centring and calming place to be.

What are you looking forward to about your first year of uni?
I can’t think of something I’m not excited about! The great opportunities that Sydney Uni offers, meeting some inspirational people, making some lifelong friendships, starting my course, joining clubs and societies, taking part in the Indigenous Games, strengthening my identity, learning and growing and, last but definitely not least – the coffee on campus!

Are you planning on joining any clubs and societies?
Of course! I’ll definitely join the Indigenous Society – the chocolate and napping societies have also been taken into consideration.

Any advice for other students thinking about coming to Sydney?
Go for it! There’s something here for everyone to love. And don’t think you’re doing it alone – there’s an incredible team of mentors here ready to support you 110 percent. YOLO (you only live once) – you definitely won’t regret it.
Support
Scholarships

As an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student, you could be eligible for a variety of scholarships and bursaries. These are designed to provide financial help and support you to excel and develop during your studies.

**Scholarships on offer**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Scholarship</th>
<th>Value</th>
<th>Eligibility</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>University of Sydney Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry Scholarship</td>
<td>$10,000 (first-year only)</td>
<td>First-year undergraduate students who achieved an ATAR of 85 or above</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Sydney Indigenous Progress Award</td>
<td>$2000 (one-off payment)</td>
<td>Students who achieved an Annual Average Mark of 65 or higher in their previous year of university study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>University of Sydney International Exchange Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people</td>
<td>$5000 (one-off payment)</td>
<td>Students who have been accepted into the international exchange program</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship</td>
<td>$2492 (up to four years)</td>
<td>Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship</td>
<td>$4985 (up to four years)</td>
<td>Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indigenous Access Scholarship</td>
<td>$4702 (once in a lifetime)</td>
<td>Students from low socioeconomic backgrounds</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
University of Sydney Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Entry Scholarship
This scholarship is designed for students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who have obtained an ATAR of 85 or above in their HSC exams (or equivalent), and are about to start the first year of an undergraduate course at the University of Sydney.

The scholarship is worth $10,000 for one year only, and will be paid in instalments, by semester (subject to enrolment). You don’t need to apply as you will automatically be considered if your ATAR meets the cut-off.

If offered, you will need to accept the scholarship before you enrol for your nominated degree program, in the year that the offer is made. The scholarship may be deferred for up to one year.

University of Sydney Indigenous Progress Award
This is for students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who have completed all attempted units of study with an Annual Average Mark of 65 or higher in the previous academic year and have confirmed enrolment at the census date (31 March) in the year of award. The award is a one-off payment of $2000. You do not need to apply for it, as you will automatically be considered if you reach the required mark.

University of Sydney International Exchange Scholarship for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Students
This scholarship is awarded to students who have been accepted into the University’s International Exchange Program and will be taking a year of undergraduate or postgraduate studies overseas. The scholarship is a one-off payment of $5000. You do not need to apply.

Indigenous Commonwealth Scholarships
Commonwealth Scholarships assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from low socioeconomic backgrounds to pay the costs associated with higher education. There are three types:

- Indigenous Commonwealth Education Costs Scholarship: $2492 for up for four years
- Indigenous Commonwealth Accommodation Scholarship: $4985 for up to four years

External Scholarships for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders
There are also several scholarships provided by external organisations, such as the Charlie Perkins Scholarships and Roberta Sykes Indigenous Education Foundations. For more information:
- indigenousscholarships.com.au

Contact the University of Sydney Scholarships Office
The Scholarships Office administers scholarships and prizes for coursework and research degrees. For advice on eligibility, application process, and information about all scholarships:

Visit us
Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building
160 City Road
The University of Sydney
Our office is open Monday to Friday from 8.30am – 4.30pm

Write to us
Scholarships Office
Level 5
Jane Foss Russell Building (G02)
The University of Sydney
NSW 2006

Visit our website
- sydney.edu.au/scholarships
We update it frequently.

Email us
scholarships.officer@sydney.edu.au

Call us
02 8627 8112
Support
Cadigal Alternative Entry Program

The Cadigal Alternative Entry Program is an access and support program for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It assists with entry to university and offers you academic and social support throughout your degree.

Eligibility
We welcome applications from two main groups.

− Year 12 applicants: Who have completed the NSW Higher School Certificate or equivalent and gained an Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR).
− Mature-age applicants: Who are 21 years or older (at 1 March of the year you would commence your university studies).
− Applicants are required to provide a Certificate of Aboriginality with their application or a statutory declaration providing details that establish they are Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander.

If you are admitted under the Cadigal Program, you will be offered enrolment with a full-time or reduced course load, supported by an academic skills program. Even with a reduced load, you may still be eligible for full-time Abstudy.

One of the benefits of entering through the Cadigal program is that you are automatically reserved a place in the Cadigal Orientation and Academic Skills workshop run by the Learning Centre and Student Support Services, or – for Health Sciences students – the Yooroang Garang Orientation Program.

Year 12 applicants
You will be considered for entry on the basis of your ATAR, as well as individual subject scores in your HSC or equivalent. Other factors can also be taken into account, such as school and community references, work experience and sporting achievements.

Mature-age applicants
You will need to sit an assessment. Your application for entry will be based on the following criteria:
− your assessment result
− your work and life experiences
− evidence of your motivation and goals, and interest in the course(s) selected
− your educational background.

Broadened Cadigal entry criteria
Even if you don’t meet the eligibility criteria, you may still be able to gain entry to the University of Sydney through the Cadigal Program.

If you don’t have an ATAR, tertiary record or rank (usually 1 year/48 credit points of approved tertiary study), you can undertake an Academic Skills Assessment Test. If you achieve satisfactory results, the University will offer you a place through the Cadigal Program or the Cadigal Reduced Load Program (Pemulwuy).

Cadigal reduced load program (Pemulwuy)
If you are in your first year of tertiary study and have been assessed as likely to benefit from additional academic support, you will be invited to join this program. You can enrol in one of these degrees:
− Bachelor of Arts
− Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science
− Bachelor of Health Sciences.
In your first year, you will take a reduced number of foundational units of study (usually two – as directed by your faculty), along with academic skills development workshops, and individual tutoring to build your confidence, competence and capacity to succeed in your studies.

The table below shows what you will enrol in each semester, depending on your degree.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Degree Course structure</th>
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</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Arts (Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences)</td>
<td>Bachelor of Liberal Arts and Science (Faculty of Science)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 1</td>
<td>Orientation, Academic Skills Workshop + 2 units of study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Academic Literacies Extension Workshop + 2 units of study</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bachelor of Health Sciences (Faculty of Health Sciences)</td>
<td>Bachelor of Health Sciences (Faculty of Health Sciences)</td>
</tr>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Semester 2</td>
<td>Academic Literacies Extension Workshop + 2 units of study</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

The skills workshops are recognised by the University and Centrelink as contributing to a full-time course load, so your Abstudy entitlements will not be impacted. Passing all your units of study will see you complete the year with 24 credit points towards your degree. After your first year, you can take a full-time course of four units of study per semester.

Transfer to a different degree
If you want to switch to another degree within the same or a different faculty, you can apply to transfer as soon as you have successfully completed 48 credit points in total towards your degree.

How to apply
To apply for the Cadigal Alternative Entry program, you need to submit two separate applications:
- Universities Admissions Centre (UAC) application. Please submit this before you lodge your Cadigal application. See uac.edu.au for details.
- Cadigal Alternative Entry Program application. Submit the form and supporting documents to the Cadigal Officer in Student Support Services or Yooroang Garang (Health Sciences students). Download the form from sydney.edu.au/cadigal

Include school and work references, certificates and a letter with Confirmation of Aboriginality in your application. The letter can be from your local Land Council, Legal Service, Aboriginal Medical Service, or other official Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander organisation. Alternatively, you could provide a statutory declaration stating your Aboriginality (see page 28).

“I chose Sydney Uni because of its prestigious reputation, its great rugby program and because I wanted to experience the excitement of Sydney life. I can’t wait to start my degree, get into the rhythm of uni life, and start my position at Leighton Contractors as an undergraduate engineer – a role I gained through the university.”

Lachlan Falconer-Adams
Bachelor of Civil Engineering

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Lachlan Falconer-Adams
Bachelor of Civil Engineering
Support
Block-mode courses

If you are not sure how you can balance study with your other commitments, such as work, community or family responsibilities, block mode is the answer.

Courses delivered in block mode (also described as ‘away-from-base’) allow you to do most of your study independently at home. Six times during the year, you will travel to the University for one-week blocks of intensive on-campus classes. During these sessions, you will work closely with your tutors and lecturers, meet your classmates, and have access to academic resources.

If you are eligible to receive Abstudy and meet distance-from-home requirements, the federal government will cover the cost of your travel and accommodation. You will also receive a daily meal allowance.

There are several block-mode postgraduate courses available through the School of Public Health (part of the University of Sydney Medical School). The intensive classes are held at the Camperdown Campus.

Block mode courses in public health
The Sydney School of Public Health offers three block mode courses:
- Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion
- Graduation Diploma in Indigenous Health (Substance Use)
- Master of Indigenous Health (Substance Use).

The courses were developed in consultation with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals and are based on national and international best practice in Indigenous health promotion.

Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health Promotion
This course aims to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health workers with the knowledge and skills necessary to work with their communities to prevent illness and injury, or minimise the harm associated with these conditions.

You will learn how to define and understand what determines your community’s health, as well as its strengths and assets. You will be able to identify health issues and develop realistic, measurable and sustainable solutions.

We emphasise collaborating with community members to build their capacity to address health issues, and working equitably to ensure that people who are most disadvantaged benefit from health promotion initiatives.

Graduate Diploma in Indigenous Health (Substance Use)
This program aims to build the clinical, public health and academic capacity of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander health professionals to prevent and treat alcohol, tobacco and other drug problems.

These professionals have a unique and important role in helping their communities to reduce harm from alcohol, tobacco and other drugs. They can do this in many ways, including through clinical service delivery, policy and research.

The Indigenous Health (Substance Use) program aims to provide Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people with the skills and knowledge to work towards the prevention and treatment of misuse of alcohol, tobacco and other problems.

Master of Indigenous Health (Substance Use)
To complete this master’s degree, you first complete the graduate diploma then choose 12 credit points of electives from the Master of Public Health or Master of International Public Health. These subjects are available in different modes, including face-to-face workshops or lectures and tutorials, online and mixed delivery modes.
“I chose nursing because I’ve always had a passion for helping people. I love that nursing is so broad. I could work in any area, in any country in the world.”

**Brittany Coe**
Bachelor of Nursing (Advanced Studies) 
Hometown: Sydney

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**Block mode course in Education**

**Master of Indigenous Languages Education**
This one year degree is for teachers who want to develop their skills in Indigenous language teaching.

The program consists of eight subjects in the areas of linguistics for Indigenous languages and teaching Indigenous languages.

To enrol in the degree you need to have a recognised teaching qualification such as a four-year degree or a Bachelor’s degree and a Diploma of Education. The master’s degree is not a teaching qualification by itself and you do not need to speak an Indigenous language to enter the course.

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**Graduate Diploma and Graduate Certificate in Indigenous Languages Education**

The graduate certificate is a one-semester program and the graduate diploma is available to students who have completed the certificate and wish to undertake two additional units to qualify for a graduate diploma. Alternatively, students who achieve an average grade of 70 percent may enter the master’s program in the second semester.

For more information contact:
Sheree Connors
02 9351 7008
Toll free: 1800 622 742
sheree.connors@sydney.edu.au

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For more information on these courses and how to apply, please contact:
Jonathan Birch
Administrative Officer for Indigenous Health Programs
Sydney School of Public Health
Edward Ford Building (A27)
The University of Sydney NSW 2006
02 9351 1973
jonathan.birch@sydney.edu.au

- sydney.edu.au/medicine/public-health
Support Services for students

Cadigal Orientation Day
If offered a place at the University through the Cadigal Program, we will automatically reserve a place for you at the Cadigal Orientation Day and in the two-week Academic Skills program.

The Cadigal Orientation Day is on 8 February 2016, and takes place at the Camperdown/Darlington Campus. (If you are a Health Sciences student, you will attend the Yooroang Garang Orientation Program at the Cumberland Campus in Lidcombe, where the faculty is based.)

Orientation Day gives you the opportunity to meet staff from the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student support team, talk with current Cadigal students, learn about scholarships, services and facilities on campus, and gain important information about your courses.

Orientation is also your opportunity to register for services offered to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students by Student Support Services and other groups within the University, such as student organisations. A representative from Centrelink will be available to speak to students about Astudy.

We recommend that you attend the Cadigal Orientation and Academic Skills workshop.

Cadigal academic skills workshop
Straight after Orientation is the Academic Skills series of workshops, which take place over two weeks from 9 – 19 February 2016.

These workshops are a terrific way to kick-start your university experience, as they’ll give you the necessary skills to succeed in your first year of study, such as academic writing, structuring essays, critical thinking, oral presentation, research methods and time management.

You’ll also get a guided tour of the University, lunch at a residential college, opportunities to meet staff and students from your faculty, and time to get to know other students in the Cadigal program.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander undergraduate students commencing at the University through other entry paths are also invited and encouraged to attend.

Cadigal mentor program
During the semester, you will be partnered with a mentor – a current Cadigal student who will offer you support and guidance as you get started at university, in your first year and beyond.

Tutoring
The Indigenous Tutorial Assistance Scheme is designed to help all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students achieve their full academic potential. The scheme supports suitably qualified tutors to provide you with two hours of individual tutoring per unit of study per week during semester. You can have one-on-one private tuition or group sessions.

Academic support is also available in the form of development courses offered by the Learning Centre.
02 8627 8650
itas.support@sydney.edu.au
– sydney.edu.au/learning-centre

Support officers
The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student support team offers you ongoing support while you are at the University. Drop in to say hello, or give one of the officers a call to book an appointment.

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Student Support
Level 5, Jane Foss Russell Building
City Road, Darlington Campus
02 8627 8619
support.cadigal@sydney.edu.au
**Culturally safe spaces**
The University provides a culturally safe space for all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students on the Camperdown Campus. It has a fully equipped computer laboratory, photocopying facilities, research library, a tutorial room for study and a student/staff common room with full kitchen facilities. For details, visit [sydney.edu.au/koori](http://sydney.edu.au/koori)

**Yooroang Garang**
Yooroang Garang is the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student support unit within the Faculty of Health Sciences. Located at the Cumberland Campus, it provides a variety of support programs and has a fully equipped computer lab, study resources, tutorial rooms and a student common room with kitchen facilities.

**Yooroang Garang**
Faculty of Health Sciences
Cumberland Campus
Level 4, T Block
East Street
Lidcombe NSW 2141
02 9351 9066
fhsginfo@usyd.edu.au
- [sydney.edu.au/yooroang-garang](http://sydney.edu.au/yooroang-garang)

**General student support services**
In addition to the types of support provided specifically to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students, there are many other services you can access as an enrolled student at the University of Sydney.

**Accommodation**
Student Accommodation Services can help you find out about living options available on campus. We can also provide information on other accommodation options close to campus.
02 9351 3322
accommodation.info@sydney.edu.au

**Careers Centre**
For current students and new graduates, this is a free service that offers advice, resources and skills development to help you find and plan your career. The centre provides an online Job Alert database, one-on-one careers counselling, workshops and careers fairs to link you with top employers while you study.
02 8627 8403
careers.information@sydney.edu.au
- [sydney.edu.au/careers](http://sydney.edu.au/careers)

**Child Care Information Office**
This service provides information about child care services on and around the University of Sydney campuses, and offers advice on application processes, types of child care available, and community services.
02 8627 8420
child.care@sydney.edu.au
- [sydney.edu.au/childcare](http://sydney.edu.au/childcare)

**Counselling and Psychological Services**
This service helps you develop skills and mechanisms to achieve academic success, personal growth and social wellbeing. It provides a range of free online resources, e-books, skillshops and confidential counselling sessions.
02 8627 8433
caps.admin@sydney.edu.au
- [sydney.edu.au/counselling](http://sydney.edu.au/counselling)

**Disability Services**
If you have a permanent or temporary disability, Disability Services is your main point of contact for services and support to assist with your studies and life as a student. By registering with the service you will have access to assistive technology, lecture support, timetable and exam adjustment and a personal academic plan.
02 8627 8422
disability.services@sydney.edu.au
- [sydney.edu.au/disability](http://sydney.edu.au/disability)

**Financial Assistance Service**
The Financial Assistance Service offers bursaries and interest-free loans to assist students in financial need. These funds can be used to supplement other income and – in emergencies – to help you pay for your living and study expenses such as rent, bond and textbooks.
02 8627 8112
student.financialsupport@sydney.edu.au
- [sydney.edu.au/financial-assistance](http://sydney.edu.au/financial-assistance)
Support
Living in Sydney

The University of Sydney is among the world’s most beautiful universities. Our main campus is close to the central business district as well as some of Sydney’s famous beaches.

Fortunately, because we are close to the city centre, travel costs are relatively cheap, and most students find part-time jobs to help with living expenses.

Unfortunately, however, housing costs can be quite high. The University offers ‘New to Sydney’ housing information sessions in the first few weeks of each semester. These sessions, run by Student Accommodation Services, tell you about on-campus and off-campus accommodation options, and describe some of the financial assistance (such as scholarships) for which you may be eligible.

If you are a rural or regional student, we recommend you consider residential college accommodation. There are six colleges on campus, all of which encourage Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to apply for a place.

Some colleges also offer residential scholarships to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students: including Wesley College, Women’s College, St Paul’s and International House.

If you are eligible for full Abstudy payments, Centrelink allows you to convert payments into a Residential Costs Option, which covers all accommodation and meals, and provides a small fortnightly allowance while you are staying at the college. For more information, call your local Centrelink office, or Abstudy on 132 317.

To apply for a place in a residential college, please contact the colleges directly. You can find their details online at sydney.edu.au/colleges

In your application, make it clear that you are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. Applications close at the end of November each year. Some colleges can waive the application fee if you are in financial need.

The University also has several low-cost flats available for rent from between $190 and $260 per week.

Student Accommodation Services
This office is the first point of contact for future and current students looking for a place to live. We can help you search for accommodation using our extensive online database, tell you about your options, and offer useful resources and advice about living in Sydney.

02 9351 3312
accommodation.info@sydney.edu.au
sydney.edu.au/accommodation
“Tread new fields. Break new ground. Make mistakes in achieving objectives. That’s what it’s all about.”

Charles Perkins (1936-2000)
Aboriginal activist, University of Sydney alumnus and the first Aboriginal man to graduate from an Australian university
Experience
Life at university

In January 2015, more than 170 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students from across Australia came together for the annual Wingara Mura Bunga Barrabugu (thinking path to make tomorrow) summer program.

The summer program is your chance to experience life as a university student. You can stay on campus, take part in lectures and tutorials, try out different subjects and learn about various sectors you’ll be able to work in after completing an undergraduate degree.

You will also receive useful information on pathways to higher education and the financial and academic support available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. Most importantly, you will meet current students and staff and find out what university life is all about.

Which program are you eligible for in 2016?

Wingara Mura (thinking path)
This program offers three days of hands-on activities for students who will be in Year 9 or 10 in 2016. There are seven different streams of activity available. You can choose three different subject areas and spend a day on each one. The streams are:

- Promote change
- Get down to business
- Be creative and constructive
- Get scientific
- Focus on health
- Musicality and me
- Geared to engineering and IT.

1/ Students enjoying a yoga class in the Quadrangle.
2/ Wingara Mura - Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program students celebrate the unofficial launch of A*, an online magazine by and for young people.
3/ The University’s front lawns were brightened with the colours of the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander flags for 2014’s Vivid Path to the Future event.
**Bunga Barrabugu (to make tomorrow)**

This is a five-day, faculty-specific program for students who will be in Year 11 or 12 in 2016. It lets you experience what a potential area of study will be like, after you finish high school. You can choose three areas of preference from:
- Architecture and design
- Business
- Education and social work
- Health (speech pathology, occupational therapy, exercise science, pharmacy, nursing and dentistry)
- Humanities and social sciences (law, philosophy, media and communications)
- Natural sciences
- Sydney Conservatorium of Music
- Visual arts.

**When is it?**
- Wingara Mura runs from 12 to 14 January 2016.
- Bunga Barrabugu runs from 11 to 15 January 2016.

**How can I get involved?**
Talk to your school and family first. They can assist you with your application for the 2016 summer program, by providing a supporting statement and parental permission.

**What does it cost?**
There is no cost to you, your family or school. The University of Sydney will cover all the costs of your travel, meals, accommodation and other expenses associated with the summer program.

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**Where can I learn more?**
If you have any questions, or would like to request an information pack, get in touch with our Campus Experience Project Officer, Bianca Williams.

02 8627 8529
bianca.williams@sydney.edu.au

For more information
- sydney.edu.au/indigenous-summer-program

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**Years 7 and 8 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Explore Uni Day**

Ever wondered what the University looks like or how it works? The University of Sydney invites Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 7 and 8 to the 2016 Explore Uni Day. At this event, you can take part in hands-on tutorials, presentations, demonstrations and practical sessions, plus speak to inspiring Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and tour the campus – all in one day. This is your chance to come along and find out about the University for yourself.

For more information or to register, contact our Campus Experience Project Officer
Bianca Williams
02 8627 8529
bianca.williams@sydney.edu.au

or visit

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**School visits**

We welcome visits from primary and high schools, community groups and other learning institutions. Contact us to make an appointment. It is also possible to invite University staff to visit your school, organisation or institution to speak with students and staff about the pre-tertiary programs available to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

For more information:
Tanika Perry
Indigenous Student Recruitment Assistant
02 8627 0329
tanika.perry@sydney.edu.au

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**Professional development**

Making Tomorrow: A forum for high school staff and teachers who support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students’ educational success.

All over Australia, people work in schools to support Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to make their tomorrow through success in education.

This conference brings people together to share success stories and challenges. Learn from your peers, experts in the field and current Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students of the University of Sydney. We will provide information about pathways, access programs and support for entering university.

**Who**
Aboriginal support staff, careers advisers, secondary teachers, year advisers, senior executives, school counsellors and community organisations.

**When**
Wednesday 9 September 2015

For information and to register: compass.administration@sydney.edu.au
Study
Architecture, music, visual arts and interaction design

Innovation and excellence drive these industries, and our teachers are industry leaders who will help you exhibit and perform in Australia and overseas.

You will join one of the world’s most respected communities of students, researchers and teachers, and take part in innovative and creative educational programs that help you flourish in a range of exciting careers.

− sydney.edu.au/sca/future-students/indigenous-students

Career pathways
Where study in architecture, music, visual arts and interaction design can take you:
− architect
− artist
− musician
− composer
− photographer
− cinematographer
− script writer
− curator
− film director
− multimedia producer.

We are pleased to announce that we accept completion of the Eora TAFE Certificate IV in Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander Cultural Arts as basis for admission to the Bachelor of Visual Arts. You will need to follow the Bachelor of Visual Arts application process available at

− sydney.edu.au/sca/future_students/bachelor_visual_arts

Inside view

Clint Bracknell
Senior Lecturer, Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander
Curriculum Development and Delivery
Division of Architecture and Creative Arts
Sydney Conservatorium Of Music

Clint Bracknell is a musician, composer and writer. He was nominated for ‘Best Original Score’ in the 2012 Helpmann Awards and has received secondary and tertiary teaching awards, including the Barry Hayward Outstanding Aboriginal Educator Award in 2010.

He is a Senior Lecturer for the Division of Architecture and Creative Arts, based at the Sydney Conservatorium of Music and the Arts Music Unit at the University of Sydney. His research centres on Aboriginal Australian music and languages, exploring links between emerging technologies and Indigenous creativity. He is a keen student of the Noongar language and appreciates the guidance and mentorship of Elders and his Wirrlomin family.
Discover your career in health – study our pioneering courses to become a doctor, physiotherapist, registered nurse, oral health therapist, dentist, pharmacist or other health professional.

Study in fields as diverse as biological science, speech pathology, ethics and law, mental health, developmental disability, biomedical engineering, marketing, nursing, dentistry and pharmacy.

Most of our courses offer hands-on experience through clinical placements in hospitals, health clinics, pharmacies or in the homes of those in need. Whether you choose to go on clinical placement to the city, regional or rural areas of Australia or even abroad, you will know you are making a difference while you learn.

Healthcare professionals improve community wellbeing and make a difference to patients and their families. They work not only to heal injury and illness, but to prevent poor health in the community through education, research and promoting healthy lifestyles and early treatment.

The University of Sydney is committed to addressing the complex health issues Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander communities face. That’s why we offer dedicated scholarships and assistance to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students to study in health. We also draw on research and engagement programs from numerous groups within the University, such as the Poche Centre for Indigenous Health, to provide training and expertise for health and community workers, particularly in remote and rural Australia.

We are proud to recognise the achievements of our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students and scholars. Our world-leading centre for research into chronic disease is named after Dr Charles Perkins AO, one of our most respected alumni and a tireless campaigner for the rights of Aboriginal people.

In honouring his name and his work, we acknowledge the invaluable contributions of our Aboriginal scholars, and recognise the benefits to health research, education and service delivery made by people with Aboriginal perspectives.
Study
Business and Law

As the world around us constantly evolves, the way we engage in law and do business also changes.

When you leave us, you’ll be qualified to tread your own path and stand out from the crowd, in Australia and around the world.

At the University of Sydney Business School and the University of Sydney Law School, we are committed to supporting our Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. We are proudly engaged with the University’s Wingara Mura Bunga Barrabugu strategy, through which we aim to connect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and perspectives to our academic community and the nation’s vibrant identity.

Beginning with high school students who are interested in careers in business and law, each year we invite a select group of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students in Years 9-12 from across Australia onto campus to trial university life and business and law studies through the University’s Wingara Mura Summer Program.
At the University of Sydney Law School, we have a dedicated Associate Dean (Indigenous), as well as several other staff to support you and help you in your studies. We also offer a Wingara Mura Mentoring Program.

If you are studying at the Business School, we have a dedicated learning support officer to assist you in your studies. You will also have the opportunity to gain work experience as part of your degree.

− sydney.edu.au/business/wingara_mura

Scholarships

The BlueScope Indigenous Scholarship in Business
BlueScope Steel Australia has donated $75,000 to the Business School for the establishment of a scholarship for an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student. The total value of the Scholarship is $75,000 ($25,000 per year), and will be awarded to a student enrolled on a full-time basis in a bachelor’s degree program.

The scholarship is valued at $6000 per year for up to four years as a grant pending normal degree duration OR covering residential college fees at one of the partner residential colleges of St Andrew’s College or Wesley College.

The scholarship is awarded each year to two students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent. It is based on academic merit and potential to perform well in an area of business.

Victoria Gollan Memorial Fund Scholarship
Established by donations made in memory of Victoria Jane Barclay Gollan, this fund assists an Aboriginal student in the study of law at the University of Sydney. The scholarship is awarded by a committee of two members of the Faculty of Law and a representative of the Koori Centre. The value of the scholarship is $2000 per year.

Career pathways

Where studying business and law can take you:
− marketer
− human resources specialist
− financial specialist
− entrepreneur
− small business owner
− project manager
− accountant
− management consultant
− economist
− lawyer
− stock trader
− global analyst.

University of Sydney Business School and the University Colleges Joint Indigenous Australian Scholarship

The University of Sydney Business School, in partnership with the Wesley College Foundation, St Andrew’s College, the Women’s College and Sancta Sophia College, will award an Indigenous Australian Scholarship to support an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander student who is studying in the Business School and residing at either Wesley College, St Andrew’s College, the Women’s College or Sancta Sophia College.
Study
Humanities and Social Sciences

Influence society, change destinies and inspire others. Studying humanities and social sciences will help you achieve these remarkable goals as you tackle the most pressing social, political and cultural challenges of our time, and use innovative thinking to shape the future.

We attract students from a diverse range of cultures and backgrounds who study in areas ranging from history to film, languages to social work, performance studies to economics, politics to archaeology and teaching to media and communications.

You will also have the opportunity to combine your interests in the humanities and social sciences with other programs at the University of Sydney including science, engineering, nursing, music, law or medicine.

Our courses provide you with valuable skills sought by employers, including critical analysis, research, communication and teamwork.

Indigenous Australian Studies
Both Indigenous and non-Indigenous students have the opportunity to learn about Indigenous Australia — its history, cultures, politics, and cultural production — as part of your degree in the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences. You can also major in this area and combine it with another major in the faculty.

For more information:
- sydney.edu.au/arts/ias/

Indigenous Education
If you would like to become a primary or secondary school teacher, you will need to take a unit in Indigenous Education. You can also choose to enrol in elective units or do an honours degree with research in Indigenous Education.

The Gwen and David Moore Aboriginal Scholarship
A new scholarship is available for students interested in studying in archaeology, anthropology, history, or sociology, with a focus on Aboriginal heritage. The value of each scholarship is $25,000 per year over a four-year period of the degree. Application is open to all commencing students of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent who are enrolled full-time in undergraduate study within the Faculty of Arts and Social Sciences at the University of Sydney. For more information
- sydney.edu.au/arts/scholarships

Career pathways
Where study in Humanities and Social Sciences can take you:
- economist
- diplomat
- multimedia producer
- author
- teacher (early childhood, primary or secondary)
- social worker
- curator
- historian
- sociologist
- journalist
- global analyst.
Rising to environmental challenges has never been more important. These crucial issues include conservation, power and fuel generation, the built environment and developing new and existing energy and food sources.

We have united our best academics across faculties from Science to Engineering and Information Technologies, Agriculture, Architecture, and Veterinary Science to lead innovative approaches to these major sustainability issues in a setting that allows you to flourish.

Career pathways
Where study in Environment and Sustainability can take you:
- architect
- plant geneticist
- soil scientist
- commodities trader
- environmental researcher
- environmental policymaker
- agricultural strategist
- civil engineer
- electrical engineer
- horticulturalist
- conservationist
- chemical engineer
- animal health and welfare professional.

Cecilia’s project aims to understand dementia in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people, following the Kimberley study in 2008, which found the incidence of dementia among Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people to be 5.2 times greater than the general population.

The study found that the main risk factors for dementia in Aboriginal people were older age, male gender and lack of education. However, this important study had limitations that Cecilia aims to address in her project.

“Contrary to common perception, most Aboriginal people do not live remotely but in urban and regional areas, and hence are more likely to have been enrolled in formal education,” Cecilia says.

The scholarship will assist Cecilia with travel for her research and to present her paper at the International Psychogeriatrics Association International Congress in Berlin in October 2015.
Study
Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics

Studying Science, Technology, Engineering or Mathematics (STEM) enables you to take on the biggest issues the world faces.

Research reveals that 75 percent of the fastest growing occupations require STEM skills and knowledge* and a degree in this area will prepare you for careers in global scientific, technological and engineering revolutions. We cover areas as diverse as nanotechnology, molecular biology, robotics, biomedical engineering and computing.

Career pathways
Where studying Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics can take you:
- scientific researcher
- project manager
- nutritionist
- mathematician
- psychologist
- medical scientist
- veterinarian
- plant geneticist
- soil scientist
- food chemistry analyst
- aeronautical engineer
- biomedical engineer
- civil engineer
- chemical engineer
- electrical engineer
- mechanical engineer
- mechatronic engineer
- technology specialist
- software engineer
- consultant and analyst.

*Australian Industry Group research report. Lifting our Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) skills.
Studying engineering and technology at one of the world’s top 50 universities*

Engineers play a vital role in the way we live. They provide creative and practical solutions that promote positive change and support communities around the world.

Studying engineering helps you develop excellent problem-solving, design and research skills that will allow you to drive and lead innovation that will help shape our future.

The Indigenous Australian Engineering Summer School, now in its 18th year, is an annual event established by Engineering Aid Australia. It provides Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander high school students from around Australia with the opportunity to experience engineering studies and careers.

In January 2016, the University of Sydney will host the school. Open to 20 Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students entering Years 11 and 12, the six-day, live-in Summer School offers a taste of engineering as a university course and career. You will be mentored by university students, engage in hands-on activities, participate in site visits to engineering companies and learn about careers in engineering.

To find out how to apply for the school in 2015:
− sydney.edu.au/engineering/iaess

“I have been able to develop empathy and conflict resolution strategies, as well as further develop my communication skills and act as a role model for other, younger Indigenous students within my school and local community.”

Stuart Nelson
Indigenous Engineering Scholarship recipient

Join the next generation of scientific talent
A degree in science is a first step towards a stimulating, challenging and rewarding career. It can take you from microscopic to cosmic levels, to physical and biological processes, to preventing and curing diseases in humans and animals.

It can also lead you to practise psychology and nutrition, and to understand natural resources and conservation.

With major technological advances opening up many new areas, from ecosystems to nanotechnology, there has never been a better time to study science.

Join the big picture with our veterinary teaching hospital
Providing an outstanding environment for learning, discovery and research into the health and conservation of animals has been our mission since 1910.

We’re about people too – our exceptional staff and unique graduates help improve human health, food supply and communities. Our degrees open a path to the bigger picture on offer through veterinary science.
What’s next?
How to apply

Whatever you want to study at the University of Sydney, our website is the best place to start.

Look up all the important details of your course, including fees, assumed knowledge and entry requirements at – sydney.edu.au/courses

Undergraduate
To apply for undergraduate courses, you need to submit an application to the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC).

On-time applications close at the end of September. You can lodge a late application until late January, but a progressive late fee will apply every month after on-time applications close.

The UAC guide and application material is distributed through newsagents in NSW and the ACT in August and September. You can also contact UAC to obtain it directly. Call 02 9752 0200 or visit – uac.edu.au

Postgraduate
To apply for a postgraduate course, talk directly to the relevant faculty. See our website for details: – sydney.edu.au/faculties

Block mode (away-from-base)
If you are applying for a block mode (away-from-base) course, see the information on page 12 for advice on how to apply.

Providing confirmation of Aboriginality
The University of Sydney may need to ask you to confirm your Aboriginality and/or Torres Strait Islander status for an entry pathway (such as the Cadigal Alternative Entry Program), or a scholarship.

You can do this by providing evidence to show that:
  – you are of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent; or
  – you self-identify as an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

Evidence of descent
To show evidence of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent, you can provide one of these documents:
  – a letter stamped with the common seal and signed by the chairperson of an Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Land Council, in whose area the person lives or has previously lived; or
  – a letter stamped with the common seal and signed by a delegate of an incorporated Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander organisation, such as the Aboriginal Medical Service or Aboriginal Legal Service.

Evidence of self-identification
To demonstrate self-identification, you can sign a statutory declaration that you are an Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander person.

Note: Proof of receipt of Abstudy will not be accepted as confirmation of Aboriginality unless accompanied by evidence of Aboriginal or Torres Strait Islander descent or self-identification (as described above).
Did you know?

One of our Deputy Vice-Chancellors, Professor Shane Houston, is the first Aboriginal Deputy Vice-Chancellor at an Australian university.

Our alumnus Dr Charles Perkins was the first Aboriginal man to graduate from an Australian university.

In 1996, Marlene and Marilyn Kong (twin sisters) became the first Aboriginal people to graduate with a medical degree from the University of Sydney. Marilyn is now the nation’s first Aboriginal obstetrician-gynaecologist.

Tanya Major, Young Australian of the Year 2007, graduated with a master’s degree in Public Policy from the University of Sydney.

We have awarded honorary doctorates to four Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people: former international tennis player Evonne Goolagong Cawley MBE AO; the first Aboriginal woman to be awarded an Order of Australia, Professor Lowitja (Lois) O’Donoghue AC CBE DSG; Marion Scrymgour, a member of the Northern Territory Legislative Assembly since 2001; and musician and singer Geoffrey Gurrumul Yunupingu.

Important dates

Semester 1, 2016
Info Day: 5 January
Wingara Mura Bunga Barrabugu Summer Program: 11 – 15 January
Cadigal orientation: 8 February
Cadigal academic skills workshop: 9 – 19 February
Orientation week: 22 – 26 February
Lectures begin: 29 February

Semester 2, 2016
Lectures begin: 25 July
Open Day: 27 August
Semester ends: 19 November

Dates are subject to change.
For the most current information, please check our website: sydney.edu.au/dates