Tertiary Preparation Pathway

If you want to study at university but aren’t quite ready to launch into a degree, TPP is your perfect pathway. Whether you want to brush up on study skills, need an alternative admission pathway or just want a taste of university life, a fee-free TPP course can help you rise, and shine.

The Tertiary Preparation Pathway (TPP) helps you prepare for your undergraduate degree. You can study up to four courses to gain the skills and knowledge you need to succeed in your university studies. After you successfully complete the TPP program (four courses), continue your study with USC and gain entry into most USC programs. If you already meet the admission requirements for your preferred degree, you can still do TPP – although you may choose only one or two courses to update your study skills. TPP is also a great opportunity to ensure you meet the relevant prerequisites for your chosen undergraduate degree.

Fee-free study

The TPP program is supported by the Australian Government, meaning courses are free-of-charge for domestic students (Australian and New Zealand citizens, Australian permanent residents and permanent humanitarian visa holders). Tuition fees apply for international students. For more information, visit usc.edu.au/feesandcosts

BRIANNA HANSEN
USC Student, Bachelor of Human Services
Community Education Counsellor
“I studied TPP before I started my degree. I saw TPP as a stepping stone into the program I wanted. It gave me a better ranking and improved skills and was the best thing I could have done to prepare for my undergraduate degree. I’d recommend TPP to anyone looking to start their studies.”

KATHLEEN PITT
USC Student, Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood)
“I am grateful that I was able to complete TPP as a pathway to the Bachelor of Education (Early Childhood). It removed some of my misconceptions, assisted my learning and gave me confidence during the first semester of my degree. For anyone who has doubts about whether they could attend university, I say just give it a try. It is surprising how well you can actually do and how much you will enjoy learning and making connections with like-minded people.”
Choosing which TPP courses to study

Before you decide which TPP courses to study, consider where you would like TPP to take you. Your first step is to look at USC’s undergraduate degrees and decide which one you’d like to study once you have completed TPP.

Next, check the recommended TPP courses for your chosen program at usc.edu.au/recommendedtppcourses

If you’re not sure what career you’d like to pursue, or which undergraduate programs to consider, contact our Student Central team for information and advice.

07 5430 2890
information@usc.edu.au

HOW TO APPLY

Applications for TPP are lodged through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC). For more information on the application process, visit usc.edu.au/tpp

USC offers the TPP Educational Access Grant to eligible students to reimburse the cost of the QTAC application fee. Details are available at usc.edu.au/tpp

International students should complete an International Student Application Form at usc.edu.au/internationalforms

ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

TPP applicants must be a minimum of 17 years of age or have completed year 12 (International students must be 18 years old). Students from non-English speaking backgrounds must satisfy USC’s English language requirements. Visit usc.edu.au/englishrequirements
TPP Courses

TPP101 Academic Skills for Success
This course develops the writing and study skills you need to effectively manage university study. It teaches time management, effective reading and note-taking skills, and the common features of academic writing. You will learn how to conduct academic research at the USC library, and how to use an approved referencing system for your written assessment tasks. You will be given many opportunities to apply and develop these study and academic skills during tutorial/workshop sessions. This course meets the English prerequisite for relevant undergraduate programs.

LOCATION AND SEMESTER OF OFFER
Caboolture Semester 1, Semester 2
Fraser Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*
Gympie Semester 1, Semester 2
Noosa Semester 1, Semester 2
North Lakes Semester 1, Semester 2
Sunshine Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*

TPP102 Digital Futures
Digital Futures enables you to navigate and adapt to the shifting world of technology at university and in the workplace. This foundational course develops the computer literacy skills you need to use technology to organise your studies, locate and research information, complete assessment tasks and communicate creatively and critically. This course offers a blend of practical technology skills through a self-exploratory journey, with an emphasis on your own study and career development.

LOCATION AND SEMESTER OF OFFER
Caboolture Semester 1, Semester 2
Fraser Coast Semester 1, Semester 2
Gympie Semester 1, Semester 2
Sunshine Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*

TPP103 Chemistry
Chemistry impacts every part of our daily lives: the food we digest, how our bodies rid themselves of toxins, the purification of drinking water, and the materials needed to send humans to space. In this course you will learn the basic principles of chemistry, which will support your study in undergraduate chemistry, cell biology and related subjects. The course is designed for students who have not taken high school chemistry, or who want to refresh their knowledge and understanding. This course meets the Science prerequisite for relevant undergraduate programs.

LOCATION AND SEMESTER OF OFFER
Caboolture Semester 1, Semester 2
Fraser Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*
Gympie Semester 1, Semester 2
Sunshine Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*

TPP104 Mathematics
This course upgrades your mathematical skills for entry into undergraduate programs at USC. It is designed for students who may not have taken senior high school maths, or who want to refresh their maths knowledge. The course teaches basic mathematical concepts in a flexible, interactive format that lets you ask questions and build confidence.

LOCATION AND SEMESTER OF OFFER
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Fraser Coast Semester 1, Semester 2
Gympie Semester 1, Semester 2
North Lakes Semester 1, Semester 2
Sunshine Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*

TPP105 Statistics
This course develops your basic statistical skills for entry into undergraduate programs at USC. The ability to apply statistical concepts is an essential skill for all undergraduates, regardless of the degree they study. This course consists of two lectures per week, which cover theoretical knowledge. Each lecture is followed by a tutorial, where you will complete practical exercises to illustrate and build on the theoretical concepts you’ve learned. You will also build your understanding of the research process.

LOCATION AND SEMESTER OF OFFER
Fraser Coast Semester 1, Semester 2
Sunshine Coast Semester 1, Semester 2, Session 8*

TPP106 An Introduction to Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Societies
It is an imperative of the reconciliation agenda in Australia and in universities to learn and teach about Australia’s First Peoples. This course provides you with an introduction to Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander societies and cultures. There is a focus on Indigenous ways of knowing, and you will use the course content to acquire and develop a range of skills and understandings needed for meaningful and successful engagement with Indigenous communities. This knowledge and understanding will assist you in your future studies in a diverse range of undergraduate programs.

LOCATION AND SEMESTER OF OFFER
Fraser Coast Semester 1, Semester 2
Sunshine Coast Semester 1, Semester 2

* Note: Session 8 is the intensive Summer teaching period which begins at the end of November and runs to the middle of January.
**TPP107  Critical Thinking in Society**

Critical thinking is the process by which we collect and evaluate evidence to reach rational, informed conclusions – an essential skill for university students. Using the framework of the sociological imagination, you will investigate contentious issues in contemporary society. You will learn how to debate topics based on fact and logic and to develop respectful, cogent and informed arguments. You will learn how to think, not what to think. You will have the opportunity to complete your assessments on a topic that interests you and is relevant to your future studies.

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**TPP108  An Introduction to Working Within the Community**

Can you think of a course of study or an occupation that does not involve working with people? Undergraduate programs include group tasks, work experience and research opportunities, which will require skills and knowledge to work effectively with others in the classroom, in the field or electronically. This course prepares you for exactly that. University study requires you to have appropriate personal, social and technical skills, to know yourself as a learner and to work ethically with diversity and difference, which will contribute to your overall success at university and working life beyond.

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**TPP109  Biology**

This course gives you basic knowledge in the principles of biology, to prepare you for first-year biology courses. The course is designed for students who have not taken high school biology, or who want to refresh their knowledge. This course meets the Science prerequisite for relevant undergraduate programs.

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**TPP111  Business Study Skills**

This course prepares you to study business at an undergraduate level. It introduces the key topics of general business study, and helps you develop skills in case study analysis, business report writing and group oral presentations. The course covers introductory research and referencing skills, including sourcing relevant information from printed sources and using research tools such as library databases. Business Study Skills provides you with strategies and competencies to undertake undergraduate courses in business.

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**TPP115  Mathematical Methods for Science and Engineering**

This course develops a foundation for further studies in mathematics. It comprises most of the maths content of the Queensland Year 12 Maths B curriculum (excluding statistics), and meets the maths entry requirement for Engineering at USC. To succeed at this course, you will need to have completed senior high school maths and have a strong maths ability. A pre-test to assist in judging your assumed knowledge, which should be completed prior to commencing this course, will be available on the course web page.

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YOU CAN STUDY TPP AT THESE LOCATIONS

TPP: the facts

• Enrol in up to four TPP courses in one semester, or enrol in as little as one TPP course per semester and complete the program part-time. Please note: International students on a Student Visa must be enrolled on a full-time basis at the Sunshine Coast campus.
• TPP courses are offered in Semester 1 and Semester 2, with some offered in intensive mode over the Summer Semester (Session 8).
• You will receive certification if you complete four TPP courses (including TPP101). However, as TPP is not an award program under the Australian Qualifications Framework, TPP courses cannot be used as credit towards an undergraduate degree.
WHAT COMES NEXT?

How to gain admission to a university degree

Students who successfully complete TPP can apply directly to USC for a place in an undergraduate degree.

USC applies two selection principles to all applications to undergraduate programs:

• Eligibility—Applicants of 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 program, 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.

Students who want to use TPP to gain entry to another university should contact the relevant admissions office to check whether they accept TPP as a basis for admission, and for advice on how to apply.

What is a selection rank?

If you successfully complete TPP, you will be awarded a selection rank. Selection ranks are awarded on a scale from 1 to 99 (99 being the highest).

The selection rank you achieve through TPP will depend on the number of courses you successfully complete and your grade point average (GPA). The highest achievable rank for TPP students applying for a USC undergraduate program is 82.

If you do not have other qualifications or experience that would provide a selection rank, we strongly recommend that you complete four TPP courses.

Note: Some high-demand undergraduate programs, such as the Bachelor of Medical Science, Bachelor of Midwifery and Bachelor of Nutrition and Dietetics have entry requirements that cannot be met through TPP.

KEIRAN DAVIS
USC Graduate Bachelor of Biomedical Science
Keiran is now studying Medicine and is on his way to becoming a doctor.

Keiran, 34, left high school at the end of Year 11 to pursue an apprenticeship and worked as a house painter for more than 10 years until a desire to “do more” inspired him to enrol at USC.

Keiran enrolled part-time in USC’s Tertiary Preparation Pathway (TPP) program, choosing subjects that would prepare him for entry into the Bachelor of Biomedical Science.

He said TPP helped build the confidence and skills he needed to commit to a full degree.

“Once I settled in and received some great marks I started to love the learning. My fellow students were also studying for the first time, so it was nice to have that commonality and to be able to share our challenges and successes.”
OPEN DAY 2018

Saturday 23 June – USC Fraser Coast
Sunday 22 July – USC Sunshine Coast
Sunday 5 August – USC Caboolture

More questions?
Contact Student Central for personalised advice and assistance regarding the Tertiary Preparation Pathway.

📞 07 5430 2890
✉️ information@usc.edu.au

usc.edu.au