

Certificate of University Studies (COUS) - DipISF

	Online
Semester intake:	Semester 1 (February) Semester 2 (July) Semester 3 (November)
Fees:	Commonwealth supported place Domestic full fee paying place International full fee paying place
Standard duration:	0.5 year full-time, 1 year part-time
Program articulation:	To: Diploma of University Studies

Contact us

Future Australian and New Zealand students	Future International students	Current students
Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 269 500 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 5315 Email: study@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Phone: +61 7 4631 5543 Email: international@usq.edu.au	Ask a question Freecall (within Australia): 1800 007 252 Phone (from outside Australia): +61 7 4631 2285 Email usq.support@usq.edu.au

Program aims

The Certificate of University Studies aims to equip students with the necessary skills to successfully respond to the numeracy, literacy, critical thinking and e-literacy demands of higher education studies and the professional workplace, in addition to assisting students to successfully manage the complexities of life/work balance. The Certificate provides students with a broad introduction to the academic culture of university studies and an enhanced understanding and knowledge of foundational issues, principles and strategies needed in order to be successful in the first year undergraduate level of study. The program will appeal to those who want to enhance and develop their broad award-level study skills prior to possibly sampling a range of discipline courses and determining whether to embark on a more specialised degree program, or opting instead to graduate out with a new sub-degree qualification.

Program objectives

On the successful completion of the Certificate of University Studies graduates will have:

- Demonstrated effective communication and interpersonal skills and an ability to successfully pursue an undergraduate program of study in either the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts, or the Faculty of Health, Engineering, and Sciences;
- Acquired sufficient knowledge about USQ's award level programs of study, to make an informed choice about further undergraduate studies in the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts, or the Faculty of Health, Engineering, and Sciences;
- Developed an enhanced awareness of the nature of award-level study in the Faculty of Business, Education, Law and Arts, or the Faculty of Health, Engineering, and Sciences;
- Developed foundation knowledge, skills and competencies in a series of generic first year award-level undergraduate courses.

Australian Qualifications Framework

The Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) is a single national, comprehensive system of qualifications offered by higher education institutions (including universities), vocational education and training institutions and secondary schools. Each AQF qualification has a set of descriptors which define the type and complexity of knowledge, skills and application of knowledge and skills that a graduate who has been awarded that qualification has attained, and the typical volume of learning associated with that qualification type.

This program is at AQF Qualification Level 05. Graduates at this level will have specialised knowledge and skills for skilled/paraprofessional work and/or further learning.

The full set of levels criteria and qualification type descriptors can be found by visiting www.aqf.edu.au.

Program Information Set

View USQ's admission criteria, student profiles and a summary of all offers made under [Course Admission Information Set](#) via the QTAC website.

Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

International applicants must have a minimum entry level of IELTS 6.0 or equivalent. There is no specified minimum educational achievement entrance standard. Normally, to be eligible for enrolment in the program a person will have attained an age of at least 18 years in the year of the proposed enrolment. Students will need to complete the online application form for entry to the Diploma programs. All applicants are also required to complete online diagnostic tests in Mathematics, e-literacy, and English Communication Skills. Applicants will then be given advice detailing whether the Certificate of University Studies is the most appropriate pathway for them to undertake. Some students may be advised to undertake the [Tertiary Preparation Program](#).

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

Program fees

Commonwealth supported place

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of a students' higher education and students pay a [student contribution amount](#), which varies depending on the courses undertaken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [HECS-HELP](#).

Domestic full fee paying place

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

International full fee paying place

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Program structure

Students must successfully complete four core courses before they are able to graduate with a Certificate of University Studies, or continue and transition into a USQ Diploma.

Core courses

There are four compulsory courses:

- [DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society](#)
- [DIP1001 Academic and Professional English](#)
- [DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study](#)
- [DIP1003 Essential Mathematics](#) or [DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy](#)

Students can commence with any of the four courses but for students unaccustomed to online learning it is recommended they start with [DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society](#).

Students who want to progress to the [Diploma of Engineering and Spatial Science Foundations](#), or the [Diploma of Science Foundations](#) need to take [DIP1003 Essential Mathematics](#). All other students need to take [DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy](#).

Students can progress their studies in either part-time or full-time mode. All four courses can be taken in a single semester for those pursuing full-time studies.

Program completion requirements

To graduate from the Certificate of University Studies students must successfully complete the four compulsory core courses.

Required time limits

Students have a maximum of two years to complete this program.

IT requirements

Students must have reliable and ready access to email and the Internet. Students should have access to a scanner for [DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy](#). For information technology requirements, please see the [minimum computing standards](#).

Certificate of University Studies Recommended Enrolment Pattern

Students are able to enrol in any offered mode of a course (on-campus, external or online), regardless of the program mode of study they enrolled in.

The recommended enrolment pattern for the four compulsory core courses is as follows:

Course	Year of program and semester in which course is normally studied						Enrolment requirements
	On-campus (ONC)		External (EXT)		Online (ONL)		
	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	Year	Sem	
DIP1000 E-Literacy for Contemporary Society					1	1,2,3	
DIP1001 Academic and Professional English					1	1,2,3	
DIP1002 Strategies for Successful Study					1	1,2,3	
DIP1003 Essential Mathematics					1	1,2,3	
<i>or</i>							
DIP1004 Mathematical Literacy					1	1,2,3	