

# TERTIARY PREPARATION PATHWAY

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A PATHWAY TO UNIVERSITY



# Tertiary Preparation Pathway

If you're ready for university but not quite ready to launch into a degree, TPP is your perfect pathway. Whether you need to brush up on academic skills first, improve your eligibility for admission requirements 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 to prepare you for your undergraduate degree – you can study up to four courses to gain the skills and knowledge to succeed in your university studies. On completion of the TPP program (four courses) you gain entry into most USC programs through direct application. 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 bring your study skills up to date.

## Money matters

Because the TPP program is supported by the Federal government, 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. Further information can be found at [www.usc.edu.au/feesandcosts](http://www.usc.edu.au/feesandcosts)

## Flexible study options

TPP courses are offered in Semesters 1 and 2 and Session 8 (Summer Session) and you can study full-time (four courses over one semester) or part-time. You can study TPP at Sippy Sippy Downs, Noosa, Gympie, Caboolture or North Lakes. All courses are offered at Sippy Downs, with various courses available at the other locations. Timetable information for each location is published online at [www.usc.edu.au/timetables](http://www.usc.edu.au/timetables)

## HOW TO APPLY

Applications for TPP are lodged through QTAC. Full details of the application process are available at [www.usc.edu.au/tpp](http://www.usc.edu.au/tpp)

USC offers the TPP Educational Access Grant to eligible students to reimburse the cost of the QTAC application fee. Details of the Grant are available at [www.usc.edu.au/tpp](http://www.usc.edu.au/tpp)

International students should complete an International Student Application Form available at [www.usc.edu.au/internationalforms](http://www.usc.edu.au/internationalforms)

## ENTRY REQUIREMENTS

TPP applicants must be a minimum of 17 years of age (International students must be 18 years old).

Students from non-English speaking backgrounds must satisfy the University's English language requirements. Visit [www.usc.edu.au/englishrequirements](http://www.usc.edu.au/englishrequirements)

# TPP COURSES

CRICOS code: 058561K

## TPP101 Academic Skills for Success

In this course, you have the opportunity to develop the writing and study skills necessary to manage tertiary study effectively. As well as general instruction in time management and effective reading and note-taking skills, this course introduces you to the common features of academic writing and includes how to conduct academic research at the University's 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.

## TPP102 Digital Futures

Digital Futures enables you to navigate and adapt to the shifting world of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) at university and in the workspace. This foundational course will assist you in developing computer literacy skills needed at University. The skills developed will enable you to use technology to organise your studies, locate and research information, complete assessment tasks and facilitate your communication at university. This course offers a blend of practical technology skills, through a self-exploratory journey with an emphasis on your study and career development.





### TPP103 Chemistry

Chemistry impacts every part of our daily lives—from the food we digest and how our bodies rid itself of toxins to the clothes we wear, the purification of our drinking water and the materials needed to place humans in space. Our future depends on science; imagine being part of new discoveries. You will acquire knowledge in the basic principles of chemistry. This course also seeks to link those basic principles to elements of biology so that you can better undertake 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 have done so and wish to refresh their knowledge and understanding.

### TPP104 Mathematics

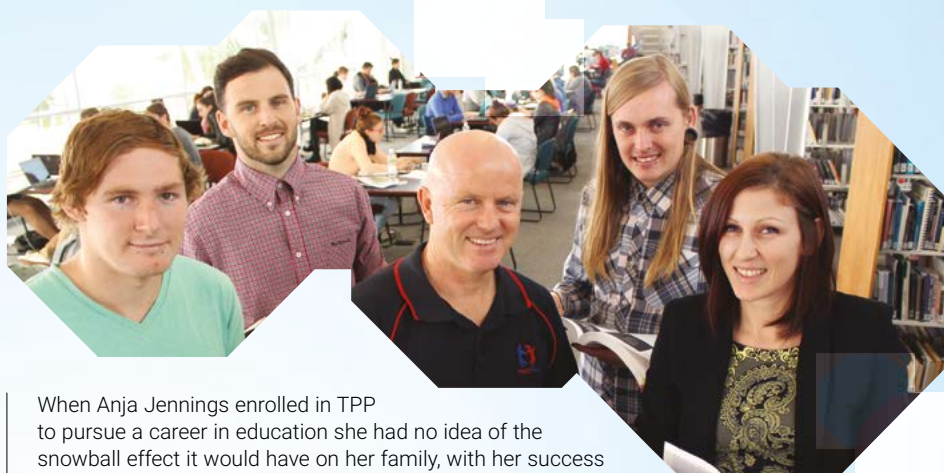
This course is designed to upgrade your mathematical skills for entry into academic programs at the University. It has been specifically designed if you have not taken senior high school mathematics, or if you have done so but wish to refresh your knowledge and understanding of the discipline. An understanding of mathematics concepts is important for any undergraduate. In this course you will cover: order of operations, fractions, algebra, graphing, geometry, scientific notation and significant figures, logarithms, and trigonometry.

### TPP105 Statistics

This course is designed to introduce you to basic statistical skills for entry to academic programs at the University. You will gain an understanding of the research process. The ability to apply statistical concepts is an essential skill for all undergraduates regardless of discipline. This course consists of a weekly lecture where you will be presented with theoretical knowledge. This will be followed by a weekly tutorial, where the theoretical concepts are illustrated, reaffirmed and complemented with practical exercises.

### 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



When Anja Jennings enrolled in TPP to pursue a career in education she had no idea of the snowball effect it would have on her family, with her success inspiring her partner, father, brother and brother-in-law to enrol in the program and continue on with undergraduate studies at USC.

"We are a TPP family success story. It is such a worthwhile program. Now, as a TPP tutor, I love to see the change—that moment when students say, 'Hang on, I can do this. Uni isn't scary ... it's achievable!'"

— Anya Jennings | TPP tutor

communities. This knowledge and understanding will assist you in your future studies in a diverse range of undergraduate programs.

### TPP107 Australian Society and Identity

The impacts of immigration policy on multiculturalism, the continuing disadvantage of Indigenous Australians, and the role of climate change are just a few of the many present day issues that Australia faces. Many issues are polarising and surrounded in controversy. In this course you will explore these issues, using a range of materials and connect the role of past perspectives to current representations. You will develop your critical thinking, oral and written communication skills by analysing credible sources of information about the issues which shape our society and everyday lives.

### TPP108 An Introduction to Working with the Community

Working within the community you will encounter people from a wide range of cultural and religious backgrounds, abilities, sexualities and lifestyles. In this course you will explore community diversity and you will have the opportunity to further your understanding of the challenges that many people face in accessing services and collaborate to develop your skills in working effectively with diversity. You will develop your understanding of social justice principles and community practices which support diverse communities.

### TPP109 Biology

Biology is the study of life, from the cells in our body to the ecosystems we live in. Biology introduces you to biological principles and language through an

exploration of topics that highlight the interconnectedness of life and also provides you with a foundation for first year university biology related courses. The course is specifically designed for those students who are new to biology or wish to reacquaint themselves with the discipline as well as those who are interested in learning more about themselves and the life around them.

### TPP111 Business Study Skills

This course prepares you for the academic study of business through a range of business content, business language and tertiary business study skills. You are introduced to many key topics of general business study; developing 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.

### TPP115 Mathematical Methods for Science and Engineering

This course is designed to upgrade and review your mathematical skills for entry into the science and engineering programs at the University of the Sunshine Coast. This course develops your understanding of: algebra and graphical representation of polynomial, exponential, logarithmic and trigonometric functions; differentiation and integration techniques for these functions; and optimisation applications in science and engineering contexts. The course is suitable for students who have completed high school mathematics or equivalent.

# TPP THE FACTS

Some TPP courses will provide more appropriate skills and knowledge than others in preparing you for a particular undergraduate program. The recommended TPP course enrolment patterns for students intending to apply for USC undergraduate degrees are available on the USC website at [www.usc.edu.au/tpp](http://www.usc.edu.au/tpp)

You can enrol in up to four TPP courses in one semester and complete TPP in one semester, or enrol in as little as one TPP course per semester and complete the program part-time (International students on a Student visa are required to be enrolled on a full-time basis at the Sippy Downs campus).

TPP courses are offered in Semester 1 and Semester 2, with some offered in intensive mode over the Summer Semester (Session 8). Please note, students studying over the Summer Semester are encouraged to not enrol in four courses, due to the intensive nature of the program.

You will receive certification if you complete TPP (four courses of which one is TPP101), however, as TPP is not an award program under the Australian Qualifications Framework, (eg Certificate III, Diploma) the TPP courses completed cannot be used as credit towards an award program.

## What comes next ... how to gain admission to a university degree

Students who successfully complete TPP are eligible to apply directly to USC for an undergraduate place. Students who want to use TPP to gain entry to another university should contact the admissions office of their preferred institution for advice on how to apply and check whether they accept the Tertiary Preparation Pathway as a basis for admission.

The University of the Sunshine Coast 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.

## What is a selection rank?

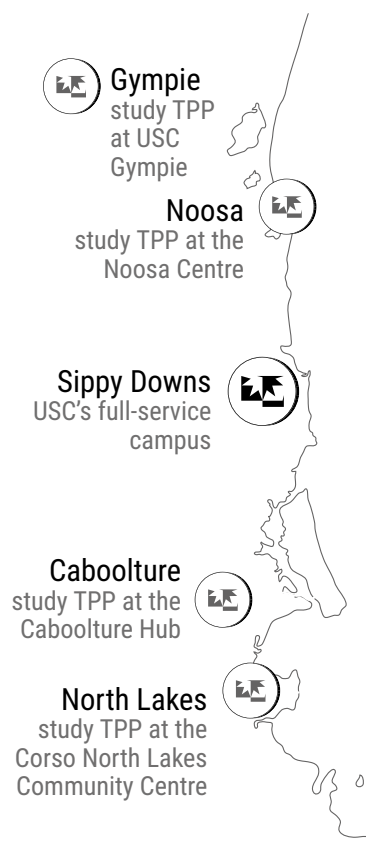
A selection rank or set of ranks is determined for each applicant on the basis of the applicant's qualifications and experience.

If applicants have more than one qualification or type of experience, they will usually be allocated more than one selection rank. Selection ranks are awarded on a scale from 1 to 99 (99 being the highest).

The selection rank achieved through participation in the Tertiary Preparation Pathway will be between 67 and 82 for applicants applying to USC. The calculation of this rank will depend on the number of courses successfully completed and the grade point average (GPA) achieved.

Successful completion of four TPP courses is strongly recommended for all applicants with no other qualifications or experience that would provide a selection rank.

## STUDY LOCATIONS



Published by University of the Sunshine Coast January 2015. | All information contained in this publication is correct at the time of going to press, however the University reserves the right to alter any course, procedure or fee. Prospective students should check for any amendment prior to submitting an application. For the most up-to-date information visit the USC website [www.usc.edu.au](http://www.usc.edu.au) | University of the Sunshine Coast is registered on the Commonwealth Register of Institutions and Courses for Overseas Students. CRICOS Provider Number: 01595D

## More questions?

Contact Student Administration for personalised advice and assistance regarding the Tertiary Preparation Pathway.

**Visit:** Student Central, Ground floor, Building C, USC (Sippy Downs)

**Call:** 07 5430 2890

**Email:** [information@usc.edu.au](mailto:information@usc.edu.au)

[usc.edu.au](http://usc.edu.au)



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Rise, and shine.