Australia
UCEAP Advising Notes

Objective of the Advising Notes Document
This document is an advising tool written by a Berkeley Study Abroad adviser to review program specific details that may impact a student’s decision to apply for an EAP program. The document is not a summary of eligibility requirements, academic, housing, application and other logistical details freely available to students on the UCEAP and BSA websites. The best source of detailed program information is always the UCEAP Program Guide from the prior academic cycle. If any concerns you have are not addressed on the UCEAP website, in the Program Guide or the Advising Notes document, please contact the BSA adviser for this program.

RESOURCES

Advisor Contact Information
For BSA Adviser name, email and drop-in advising hours, visit http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu/advising

EAP Alums & Reciprocal Exchange Students
EAP alumni are one of your best resources for information about the program. If you would like to be put in touch with alums, simply send the BSA Adviser an email with your list of questions and the contact information of returnees who have agreed to be contacted will be shared.

EAP Alum-Created Resources
Some of our returnees have created presentations to share with others. You can look at their work through the Student Created Resource Google folder that we will continually update.

Faculty Contact
UC Berkeley Plant Biology Professor Russell L. Jones was Director of the UC Study Center in Australia for two years, between 2006 and 2008. As the former Study Center Director, Professor Jones is an excellent resource for information about everything from housing, to the Australian higher education system, to what feedback students have given about each university. He is an especially good source of information about doing research with faculty in Australia, something he strongly encouraged students to do while he was Study Center Director. You can email him your questions or request an appointment with him via email (rjones@nature.berkeley.edu).
PROGRAMS

Host Universities
UCEAP applicants can study at one of many prestigious partner universities in Australia. Previously, select universities (University of Sydney, UNSW, University of Melbourne and University of Queensland) were part of an exchange network of universities where students apply to the “Australian Universities” as a whole and rank their preferred locations (similar to applying to the UCs). Starting fall 2020, students will be applying directly to individual host institutions and programs.

- International Security @ Australia National University (Canberra)
- Marine Biology & Terrestrial Ecology @ University of Queensland (Brisbane)
- Sustainability Studies @ University of Tasmania (Hobart)
- Sydney Summer Physics @ University of Sydney
- University of Melbourne
- University of Sydney
- University of New South Wales (Sydney)*
- University of Queensland (Brisbane)

SYDNEY SUMMER PHYSICS (Summer)
For Advising Notes about the New Summer Physics program at the Univ. of Sydney, please go to the Physics Advising Notes.
https://myapp.berkeley.edu/uceap/advisingnotes/physics.pdf

MULTISITE: PACIFIC ISLAND ENVIRONMENTAL & COMMUNITY HEALTH, AUSTRALIA & SOLOMON ISLANDS (Spring)
For Advising Notes about the Multisite Australia & Solomon Islands PIECH program, please go to the specific page for this program.
https://myapp.berkeley.edu/uceap/advisingnotes/multisite_australia_si.pdf

MARINE BIOLOGY & TERRESTRIAL ECOLOGY, UNIV. OF QUEENSLAND (Fall)

Course Articulation
Courses on this program have been articulated by the Integrative Biology department for satisfying certain requirements in the major.
**Integrative Biology:** Biol 106 Human & Terrestrial Ecology, 5.3 units counts towards Group B & Field Lab. Biol 160 Marine Biology, 8.7 units counts towards Group B & Field Lab. Please check site for latest information

Course Prerequisites
While there are no course prerequisites for the program, students are expected have basic knowledge in biology. Additional coursework in biological sciences, ecology, statistics, lab experience and scientific writing is recommended and will be taken into consideration during selection, especially if the program becomes impacted. Students without knowledge in these areas may not be considered for selection. Please speak with the BSA Adviser if you have any concerns.

Curriculum
Students only take two classes worth 14 units on this program. If you wish for more course flexibility, we recommend considering the Australian Universities option. The program culminates with an independent research project and research symposium.

Special Demands of the Program
Many days of the MBTE program are spent on field trips, which include long, often strenuous, hikes. Students should be prepared for the physical challenges of the program.
What are my chances being selected to the host university I apply to?
If the student is fully qualified, turn in a complete and thoughtful application by the deadline, their chances for being selected into their UCEAP program of choice is very likely. Please note that there is a different process for applying to the Sydney Summer Physics program.

GPA Requirement
Please note that University of Sydney and University of Queensland has a higher 3.0 GPA minimum that must be met at the time of application and maintained throughout the pre-departure period. The other semester length options, including the Marine Biology and Terrestrial Ecology program held at the University of Queensland has a 2.85 GPA requirement.

How do I choose between host institutions?
Choosing between the host universities in Australia will require some research. All host institutions have a range of disciplines and academic, co-curricular and extra-curricular opportunities to choose from. Like the research you conducted when applying to the UC system, each university will also differ in size, location and campus culture.

We recommend that you carefully consider the following aspects of your host institution.

- **Academic fit**: It is important that you think about whether the host university you are interested in are a good match for your academic interests. Some programs offer a set list of classes that all students take, while others offer a narrower range or focus. The remaining programs offer a wide array of courses to choose from every term.
  Select host universities may have course restrictions for exchange students, so please examine those carefully choosing a university.

- **Special Opportunities**: internships, student groups, leadership programs may be unique to specific institutions

- **Non-academic concerns**: geographical preference, weather, relatives who live in a certain city, employment opportunities, etc.

Selection Timeline and Terminology
The UCEAP application goes through multiple steps. Students are “nominated” for the program by campus. The application is also reviewed by UCEAP systemwide office in Goleta, CA and then at our UC Student Center in Melbourne, Australia before they are forwarded and “referred” to the respective host institution Australia. After students complete all necessary predeparture paperwork and procedures, their status will be changed to “placed.”

Academics
- **Flexibility is important.** Keep in mind that the courses you find in the EAP Course Catalog or on the host university’s web site may not be offered the semester(s) you will be abroad. Often times you will not have concrete information about what courses will be offered until a couple months before departure or even until upon arrival in Australia. Be prepared for the possibility that you will have to modify your plans.

- **How many courses/units will I take?** Students are required to take a minimum of 16 (semester) units each semester. The usual course load is about four classes per semester, but this can vary by university and the specific courses selected.

- **Do Australian universities have “Fall” and “Spring” semesters?** When researching courses on the host university web sites, be aware that “Semester 1” is the equivalent of Berkeley’s Spring semester and “Semester 2” is equivalent to Fall.

- **Which courses will transfer as upper/lower division?** First year Australian courses are considered lower-division by UC, while second and third year courses will translate as upper-division. Third year courses can be considered similar to first-year graduate coursework in the US.
Use the following Glossary of Academic Terms to make your course search on the host university web sites easier.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>In the U.S.</th>
<th>In Australia</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Major</td>
<td>Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School / College (e.g., School of Engineering)</td>
<td>Faculty</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Course (e.g., History 40a)</td>
<td>Unit / topic / subject / class</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Professor / Faculty</td>
<td>Member Academic Staff, Lecturer</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grades</td>
<td>Marks</td>
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<td>College / School/University</td>
<td>Uni</td>
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Cost of the Australian Visa
Before departure you will receive instructions from UCEAP on how to apply for your student visa. The Australian visa is expensive. At the time of writing, the visa application fee is $620 Australian dollars (AUD). You can pay this fee by credit card (and since you will apply for your visa online, this is also the easiest way to pay the application fee).

Calendar
Semester 1 runs from February to late June
Semester 2 runs from July to November

* Caution: UNSW’s spring program runs February-end of August and will conflict with the start of the fall semester at Berkeley.