

Flexible learning options



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Southern Cross University is committed to providing flexible options for its students and enhancing all aspects of student life. Admission to the University is flexible, and takes into account the wide range of study and work experience that students bring.

About half of the University's undergraduate programs are offered in external or mixed internal/external mode. Students can also select to study full or part time, depending on their work and family responsibilities.

To support all students studying internally or externally, the University offers students access to an online environment. This portal – 'MySCU' – provides students with access to extensive resources ranging from library search facilities and course timetables to online training and information about student support services such as counselling. It also offers secure, personal access to online sites relevant to each student's area of study.

The University Library provides an extensive range of online resources, and incorporates a distance education service providing resources and assistance to students in a timely manner. Through its participation with the University Library Australia, Southern Cross University is able to offer students access to other university libraries. The Library's website is the gateway to many online resources including electronic books and journals, past exam papers, subject guides and interactive self-paced information literacy tutorials.

The University's Teaching and Learning Centre supports academic staff in establishing suitable curriculum for flexible learning, and has developed a guide to flexible teaching for quality learning – 'Pathways to Good Practice' – which is provided to all University staff.

In 2004, both the Tweed Gold Coast Library and Teaching and Learning Centre were invited to participate in a national database of good practice.

The University also received national recognition for its work in support of flexible learning through the Australian Universities' Quality Audit report which commended initiatives such as MySCU, the Teaching and Learning Centre and electronic library.

In order to enhance delivery of its flexible learning options, the University has developed online and telephone administration and student support services across each of its campuses. Students are able to enrol on the Internet, access telephone counselling and seek learning support on line in areas such as academic research, reading, writing and critical learning. These support services are provided through the University's Learning Assistance Unit.