



**Southern
Cross
University**
Australia

2027

Study Abroad Guide 2027



scu.edu.au/studyabroad

Live, study, explore →

CRICOS Provider: 01241G
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Australian University



**Southern Cross
University**
Australia



Ready for uni with a difference?

When you join Southern Cross University, you'll be studying in the revolutionary and award-winning Southern Cross Model that's unique in Australia.

Six-week terms, immersive learning experiences, real-world scenarios; our courses are designed for your success, both at uni and beyond.

You'll be connected to an alumni network that spans the globe and join a community of like-minded, passionate people who are building a better future for everyone.

Together, we are Transforming Tomorrow.

Excellence in education, research and student experience



5-star Student Support in
five study areas (2026)



Top 500 universities worldwide
World University Rankings 2026



Rated 5-stars (2025)

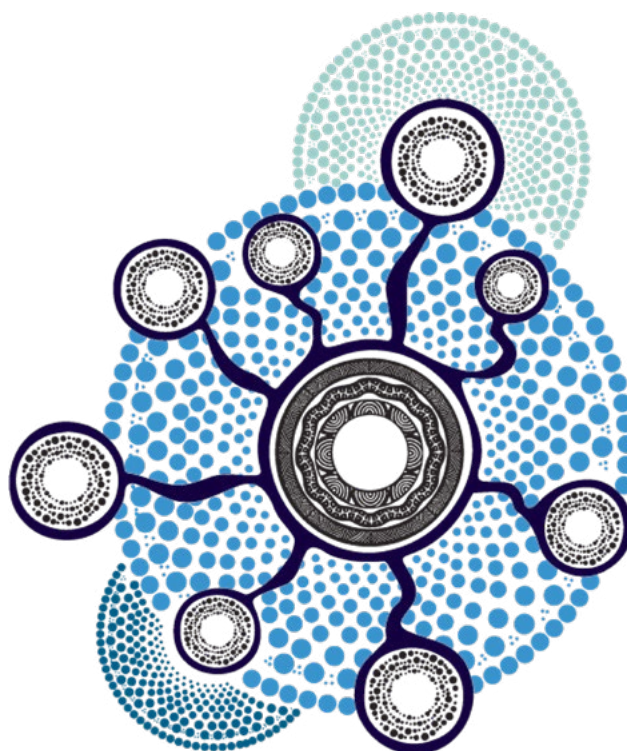
Contents

Our campuses	4
Make the most of your SCU experience	5
Student stories	6
Gold Coast campus	8
Lismore campus	9
Coffs Harbour campus	10
Life at Southern Cross	11
The Southern Cross Model	12
Cost of living	13
Gold Coast program	14
Lismore program	16
Coffs Harbour program	18
How to apply	20
Arriving in Australia	22

Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge Widjabal Country as the Country where Southern Cross University originated and grew, and from where it continues to grow. It seeded the growth of our Gumbaynggirr Campus in Coffs Harbour, our Yugambeh Campus in Coolangatta and it planted the seeds to transform the Countries we are on.

Understanding our origins will make each step into the future a more purposeful one, leading all to transform tomorrow.



Our campuses

Study across Australia's east coast and beyond.

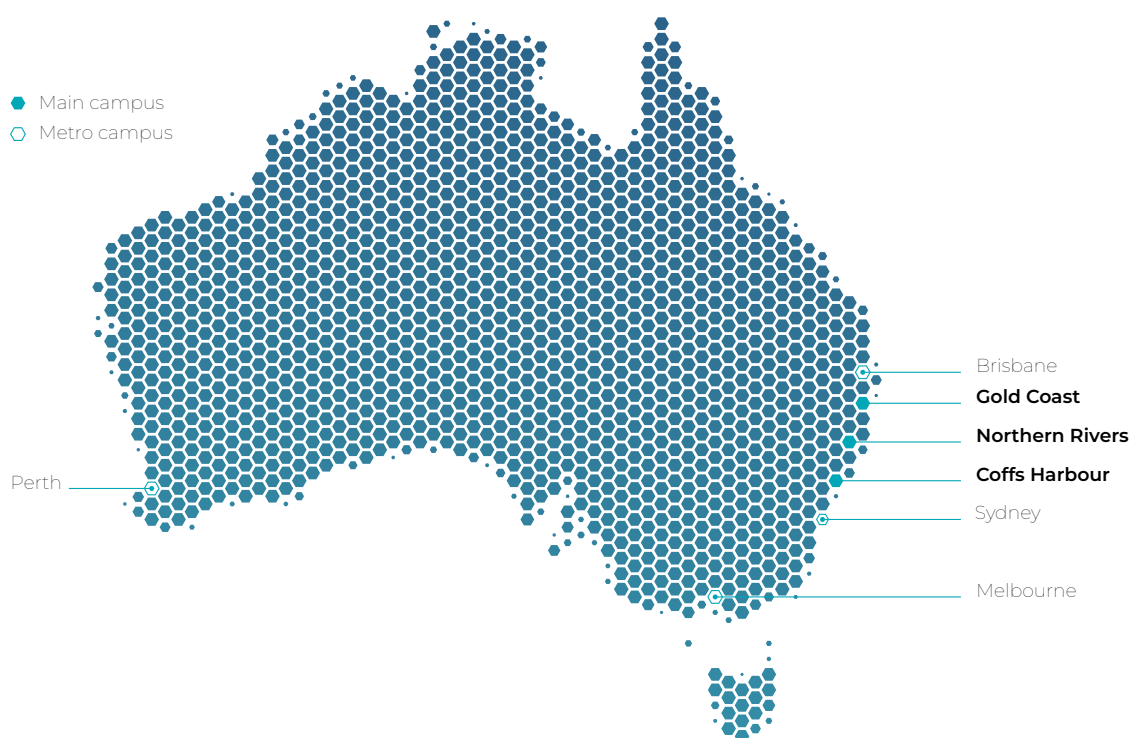
Whether you're drawn to beachside living, vibrant regional communities or city-based study hubs, Southern Cross Uni offers a connected learning experience across six locations. With quality education, supportive learning environments and campuses spanning Queensland, New South Wales and major Australian cities, you'll find a place to belong and opportunities to thrive.

7
campuses

20,000+
Students

90,000+
Graduates

140+
Countries



Main campuses
**Gold Coast,
Lismore,
Coffs Harbour**

Metro and Hotel
School campuses
**Brisbane, Sydney,
Melbourne, Perth**

Make the most of your experience

Studying at Southern Cross University is about more than just classes. Join a vibrant community, explore some of Australia's most beautiful destinations, build lifelong friendships, and create unforgettable memories through our exciting student experiences.



Weekend Camping Trips

Escape the classroom and experience Australia's great outdoors. Our camping trips are a fantastic way to meet new people, explore nature, and enjoy a true Aussie adventure.



Aussie Adventures

Discover some of the region's most spectacular destinations, including:

- Twin Falls
- Stradbroke Island
- Mount Tamborine



Surf Lessons

Experience one of Australia's most iconic pastimes. Whether you're a complete beginner or looking to improve your skills, our surf lessons offer a fun and active way to enjoy the coast.



Sports Competitions

Get involved in friendly competition, stay active, and represent SCU through a range of sporting activities and events.



Cultural Events

Experience Australia's rich cultural diversity through festivals, celebrations and community events throughout the year. Take part in activities that showcase and celebrate Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures, providing opportunities to learn about Australia's First Nations peoples, traditions, stories, art, and connection to Country while connecting with students from around the world.



Trips to Byron Bay

Visit Australia's famous beachside destination. Enjoy beautiful beaches, local markets, coastal walks, and the relaxed Byron Bay lifestyle.



All-Campus Get-Togethers

Meet students from across the university at social events designed to help you build connections, make friends, and feel part of the SCU community.

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Study a session
in Australia and
explore our
beautiful
country...



Alyza's Story

"I chose to study abroad at Southern Cross University on the Gold Coast because of its location right on the water, the variety of things to do in the area, and the courses available that aligned well with my major. The professors were extremely helpful and supportive, and classes were split into two 6-week terms, which made the workload feel much more manageable and allowed me to really focus on each course. Everyone I met at SCU was so friendly and kind, and I loved that there were always different events and activities happening on campus to keep students engaged and connected."

One of the most surprising things about Australia was the lifestyle and morning culture. I loved seeing so many people outside and active throughout the day, whether it was surfing, running, walking, or getting coffee."



I also loved the opportunity to take a “Learn to Surf” class, which was such an amazing experience and something I never imagined I would get to do while abroad. Beyond the academics, I met so many amazing people, formed lifelong friendships, and had countless experiences that pushed me outside of my comfort zone.

Alyza Johnson
University of Wisconsin La Crosse



“My time here at Southern Cross University has been nothing short of spectacular! I have been able to study alongside new people, become a local, volunteer at The Friends of the Koala rehabilitation centre, and explore all around Australia. I have had astounding support from the International Support staff and all the other amazing individuals I have met.”

Olivia Schreifels
University of Wisconsin Eau Claire



Gold Coast campus

Our Gold Coast campus is located at Coolangatta on the lands of the Yugambeh Nation, just 400 metres from North Kirra Beach, and adjacent to the Gold Coast Airport. Many vantage points offer stunning views of the Pacific Ocean.

The campus is spread across three contemporary buildings that house innovative learning spaces, health science laboratories, computer labs, student lounges, the University's Digital Enterprise Lab and an on-campus Health Clinic.



Transport
hub



On-campus
Health Clinic



Digital Enterprise
Lab



Beachside
campus

Take a virtual tour of our
Gold Coast campus



Lismore campus

Lismore is the foundation Southern Cross campus, located in the heart of the Northern Rivers on the lands of the Bundjalung Nation. Set on acres of lush rainforest that includes a koala hospital, Lismore is within easy reach of both national parks and the ocean.

The campus is home to state-of-the-art engineering and environmental science facilities, specialist health labs and simulated hospital wards, a Learning Centre and library complex, heated pool and gym, on-campus accommodation and a Health Clinic.



On-campus
Health Clinic



Innovation
Hub



On-campus
accommodation



Surrounded
by nature

Take a virtual tour of our
Lismore campus





Take a virtual tour of our
Coffs Harbour campus



Coffs Harbour campus

Coffs Harbour campus is located on the lands of the Gumbaynggirr Nation at the heart of an education and innovation hub. Coffs Harbour boasts a relaxed coastal lifestyle, but this growing city also hosts international sporting events and regional festivals thanks to outstanding facilities and a major regional airport.

A multi-million-dollar Health Sciences Building on campus features a biomechanics running track and high-tech simulation teaching laboratories. The campus also has a fitness centre, on-campus accommodation, sporting fields and close proximity to beautiful beaches and national parks. The University's world renowned National Marine Science Centre is located in nearby Charlesworth Bay.



Coastal
lifestyle



International
sports



National Marine
Science Centre



On-campus
accommodation

Life at Southern Cross Uni

Southern Cross Global

The team assists students with pre-departure information, settling in, orientation, student visa advice and health insurance advice, wellbeing and welfare. The team assists students with unit selection, pre-departure information, settling in, orientation, student visa advice and health insurance advice, wellbeing and welfare.

Orientation

Orientation is the first week before studies commence. It is designed to help students settle into their new environment and meet new friends.

Community engagement

Students can volunteer with local community organisations including the Koala Hospital located on the Southern Cross University Lismore campus, or at local festivals.

Peer Mentoring with an SCU Student

Receive guidance and support from experienced SCU students who can help you settle into university life, navigate your studies, and make the most of your time at SCU.

Ambassadors

Student ambassadors provide a point of contact for new students, having experienced the same challenges of living and studying in a new country. Ambassadors mentor students, organise and participate in events and coordinate volunteering.



"Southern Cross has been amazing. Living on campus gave me the opportunity to meet a lot of friends. It's definitely a plus to be able to walk to my classes, walk to the gym, walk to the plaza to get some food, everything's close by. I really like the location of the (Lismore) campus, it's really open and I just like the environment."

Colin

St Cloud State University,
Minnesota



The Southern Cross Model

At Southern Cross University, we're always looking for a better way to do things. That's why all our courses are taught in a unique academic model that's designed to set you up for success at university and beyond.

The Southern Cross Model divides the academic year into six-week terms. You'll study two units (subjects) each Term, for four Terms a year, enabling you to focus deeply on what you are learning.

Content is highly interactive, with engaging face-to-face and active learning formats that have real-world applications. A shorter unit structure gives you a greater sense of momentum and motivation as you achieve milestones quickly.

Use the QR code below to learn more about the Southern Cross Model – a better way to learn.

Six-week Terms

Terms are six-weeks long with a break between each one. You'll typically study across four Terms a year.

Increased success

Since the Southern Cross Model was implemented, our students have achieved higher grades than ever before.

Immersive learning

Focus on just two units each Term for an immersive study experience. Learn more, quickly, in workshops and tutorials.

Greater completion

More students complete their units successfully in the Southern Cross Model. It's a better, and more enjoyable way to learn.

You're in control

The Southern Cross Model works with you in juggling all your other commitments – family, work, sport, friends. It's university for the 21st century.

"You get to focus really hard, then after that you can relax. That's the reward at the end of each subject – a two-week break before the next term starts. You can clear your mind and come back with new energy."

Davi Martins Algranti,
Bachelor of Business and Enterprise student.





Cost of living

Southern Cross University students may benefit from the reduced cost of living compared to Australian capital cities. Use the QR code for a general weekly guide in Australian dollars for a single student living near the Gold Coast or Lismore campuses.

Find out more about
the cost of living



Gold Coast Program

Live, surf and study on the Gold Coast

Semester program:

Term 1 and Term 2	March – June
Term 4 and Term 5	September – December
Term 5 and Summer Term	October – February

Summer program:

Term 3	July - August
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Course Code	Units	Cost*
9209103	3 units (12 US credits)	\$15,770 AUD (Approx. \$11,299 USD)
9209104	4 units (16 US credits)	\$18,125 AUD (Approx. \$12,986 USD)

Includes, tuition, accommodation, weekly surf lessons, and overnight trip.

Course Code	Units	Cost*
9209010	2 units (Summer) (8 US credits)	\$9,110 AUD (Approx. \$6,527 USD)

Includes, tuition, accommodation, weekly surf lessons, and overnight trip.

Subject areas

Business

Accounting
Business and Data Analytics
Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Finance
International Business
Marketing
Tourism and Event Management

Arts and Education

Cultural Studies
Education
History
Sociology
Writing

Health

Biomedical Science
Counselling
Sport and Exercise Science
Lifestyle Medicine
Mental Health
Medical Laboratory Science
Naturopathic Medicine
Nursing
Occupational Therapy
Osteopathy
Psychology
Social Work and Community Welfare

Engineering

Civil
Mechanical

Information Technology

Big Data Technologies
Digital Interaction and the User Experience
Networks and Cybersecurity
Software Development

**Cost and conversion to USD is indicative only and subject to change.*





Learn to surf
Weekly surf lessons
and an overnight
trip included

Lismore program

Study amongst nature in the Northern Rivers

Semester program:

Term 1 and Term 2	March – June
Term 3 and Term 4	July – October

Course Code	Units	Cost*
9209103	3 units (12 US credits)	\$13,950 AUD (Approx. \$9,923 USD)
9209104	4 units (16 US credits)	\$16,306 AUD (Approx. \$11,683 USD)

Includes, tuition, accommodation, weekly surf lessons, and surf camp

Summer program:

Term 3	July – August
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Course Code	Units	Cost*
9209010	2 units (Summer) (8 US credits)	\$8,868AUD (Approx. \$6,354 USD)

Includes, tuition, accommodation, weekly surf lessons, and surf camp

Subject areas

STEM

Applied Chemistry
Biology
Earth and Environmental Science
Marine Science
Regenerative Agriculture

Health

Biomedical Science
Counselling
Community Welfare
Exercise Science
Lifestyle Medicine
Naturopathic Medicine

Nursing
Physiotherapy
Psychology
Social Work

Indigenous studies

Indigenous Knowledge
Indigenous Worldviews

**Cost and conversion to USD is indicative only and subject to change.*





Surf camp
included

Friends of the Koala

Gain hands-on experience alongside your study by volunteering at the Koala Hospital on campus.

Friends of the Koala is the lead koala conservation group in Australia, and the only organisation in the world that focuses on all aspects of koala conservation. With over 550 members, 239 active volunteers and 9 staff members, they rescue, treat, rehabilitate and release koalas, protect and enhance habitat, initiate and execute koala health research projects, engage and educate the community and advocate on behalf of koalas at a local, state and national level.

Coffs Harbour Program

Study alongside one of Australia's most connected marine environments

Semester program:

Term 1 and Term 2	March – June
Term 3 and Term 4	July - October
Cost*	\$13,950 AUD (approx. \$9,923 USD)
Units	3 units (12 US credits)
Includes	Tuition, accommodation, surf camp and explore the east coast trips

Subject area

Marine Sciences

Delve into the mysteries of the ocean and study Marine Science at Southern Cross University. Learn about marine life, ecosystems, and conservation.

**Cost and conversion to USD is indicative only and subject to change.*





How to apply

Admission Requirements

Successfully completed a year of study at a Higher Education Institution with GPA of 2.5 out of 4, or 60%, or equivalent; and English language comparable to Academic IELTS 6.0 with no bands less than 5.5.

Scan the code to apply



Step 1. Start your application

Complete the International Application for Admission with all supporting documents:

- Original or Certified Copy of academic transcripts, with grading system
- Have selected Units (classes) you wish to study at SCU.
- English language test results (e.g., IELTS, TOEFL)
- Colour copy of your valid passport

Step 2. Assessment

Successful applications receive an International Offer Package (Offer) including:

- Offer
- Information for Accepting Your Offer
- Offer Acceptance Agreement.

Step 3. Review

1. Review the Offer to make sure all information is correct and submit extra documents if requested. Once conditions are met, send the signed Offer Acceptance Agreement before the Offer Lapse Date.
2. Pay the 'fee payable on acceptance' amount on the Offer once Genuine Temporary Entrant (GTE) conditions.
3. Once all documents are received and conditions are met, Southern Cross University will issue an electronic Confirmation of Enrolment (eCOE) so you can apply for an Australian visa.



Scan the code to choose your program





Arriving in Australia

Getting to Australia

Make sure you know how to get to the campus before you leave as public transport in regional areas is limited.

scu.edu.au/international/arrive

Accommodation

Review short-term and long-term accommodation options before you leave.

scu.edu.au/accommodation

Orientation

Orientation week is compulsory and full of essential information. Bring your passport as identification.

scu.edu.au/orientation





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2027 Key Dates

Summer Term

Orientation: 4 - 8 Jan
Teaching starts: 11 Jan
Teaching ends: 19 Feb
Assessment and grading week:
22 - 26 April
Grade publication: 3 March

Term 1

Orientation: 1 - 5 March
Teaching starts: 8 March
Teaching ends: 16 April
Assessment and grading week:
19 - 23 April
Grade publication: 29 April

Term 2

Teaching starts: 3 May
(4 May in Gold Coast)
Teaching ends: 11 June
Assessment and grading week:
14 - 18 June
Grade publication: 23 June

Term 3

Orientation: 28 June - 2 July
Teaching starts: 5 July
Teaching ends: 13 August
Assessment and grading week:
16 - 20 August
Grade publication: 25 August

Term 4

Orientation: 23 - 27 August
Teaching starts: 30 August
Teaching ends: 8 October
Assessment and grading week:
11 - 15 October
Grade publication: 20 October