Mature Age Students

Information Session

Orientation Semester 1 2017
Acknowledgement

Curtin’s Bentley campus enjoys the privilege of being located in Whadjuk Nyungar country on the site where the Swan and Canning Rivers meet.

We go forward with honour and respect, by acknowledging the Elders of the Nyungar Nation past and present, their descendants and families, sovereign owners of Whadjuk country.
Agenda

Presenter: Amy Cleasby; Manager, Student Engagement & Retention

❖ How to succeed as a mature age student
❖ Student Support and Engagement services
❖ The Library and Learning Centre (Marilyn Coen & Grace Conti)
❖ Student Guild (Jordan Piggott)
❖ Q & A (followed by food and drink!)
You possibly don’t know anyone here today…

So…turn to the people near you, make a group of 3 and tell each other:

- Your name and your course
- *Why* you are studying your course
- What you hope to achieve through it
Why are we having this session?

BRACE YOURSELVES

THE MATURE AGE STUDENT JUST PUT HIS HAND UP
You’re not the same as school leavers

New mature-aged students sometimes feel a bit alone in beginning university.

So...let's look at a few basic statistics:

• Students aged 25 or over make up about 20% of the undergraduate population

• Students aged 25 or over are more likely to be enrolled part-time than those under 25

• The female/male ratio for over 25s is about 58/42
The biggest difference

• Recent school leavers often go to University instead of doing something else

• Mature-age students often go to University as well as doing something else
Common concerns for new mature students...

• What are you concerned about?

• What do you think other students like you are concerned about?
Success at University is not a mystery if you....

1. Have a clear and present motivation
2. Have a stable place to live and study
3. Have suitable finance
4. Attend classes/lectures/tutorials
5. Develop good relationships with others – get connected
6. Develop good study skills incl. time management
7. Understand when you need help and where to go for it
Success at University is not a mystery if you...

8. Realise full-time study is a full-time job

9. Read your Unit Outlines VERY CAREFULLY – use them for forward planning and time management

10. Ask for support from partner/family/friends

11. Set study goals, attend classes and get connected to campus life

12. Address problems in a timely manner.
Sources of help...

• Student Wellbeing Advisory Service
• Your Lecturers & Tutors plus other Faculty staff
• CurtinLife Website www.life.curtin.edu.au
• Your Student Mentor
• UniPASS
• Scholarships
• IT Blackboard OASIS
• The Learning Centre
• The Library
• Curtin Student Guild (and Student Assist)
If you don’t know where to go/who to ask, come to:

Student Wellbeing Advisory Service

Freecall: 1800 244 043
Building 103 (drop in)
studentwellbeing@curtin.edu.au
UniPASS

• FREE peer facilitated group study sessions
• Meet people, use your peers, learn from each other
• Learn more effectively – unit specific study skills
• 5 sessions or more = approx 14% increased grade! (3 year program average)
• For EVERYONE – if you are getting 80%s, you can get 90s! If you are getting 45%s, you can get 55%
• Commences week 2 - look in Blackboard for your Unit
• Mainly 1st year units, but some others

FIND OUT MORE:
Search “UniPASS” Curtin home page
Scholarships...

scholarships.curtin.edu.au
Top tips for mature aged students

OASIS AND BLACKBOARD

• OASIS – news, information, emails, OCC (official communication channel)
• You’ve just signed a contract to read emails at least once a week!
• BLACKBOARD – course specific information and news, discussion forums

HELP:
• Abacus lab staff
• http://elearn.curtin.edu.au/help/blackboard/
• Phone: 9266 1222

RISK FACTOR
WARNING: less use of Bb and OASIS shows a higher risk of attrition! Keep up to date with Bb and OASIS to enhance your success!
Connected students thrive

Sports Clubs (Curtin Stadium)

Guild Clubs & Committees

Other students in your course

Swap contacts (eg. mobile, Facebook) with at least a few students in the first week or so

Curtin Leadership Centre

Your Mentor

• Arrange a meeting (Curtin student email)
• Email him/her and stay in touch
• Pick their brains

Your teachers

• Speak to them
• Seek their advice
• Make sure they know who you are

Curtin Volunteers!

Other students in your course

Your Mentor

• Arrange a meeting (Curtin student email)
• Email him/her and stay in touch
• Pick their brains
CURTIN LEADERSHIP CENTRE

Some skills you can’t learn in class. Curtin Leadership Centre offers free leadership programs and real-world experience. Our programs are designed to help you learn valuable study skills, boost your employability and get you involved in your community.

Our programs include:
• Curtin Leaders Program
• John Curtin Leadership Academy
• Tailor Leadership Training

Contact us:
Tel: 9266 9276
Email: leadership@curtin.edu.au
Our office: Building 303/ Level 2
The Curtin Leaders Program combines leadership skills modules with volunteering to help you learn valuable study skills, boost your employability and get you involved in your community.

1. Complete five leadership skills modules
Choose from modules such as Leadership 101, Teamwork and Goal Setting. Join us in face-to-face workshops, or engage online at challenge.curtin.edu.au.

2. Participate in volunteering
Apply your leadership skills to a real-world experience by completing a minimum of 10 hours of volunteering.

3. Reflect on your experience
Reflect on what you have learnt by completing an online survey.

= Curtin Extra Certificate
STUDENT FEEDBACK

“I really enjoyed how interactive and interesting the modules were. There were also really good activities, quotes, and quality links and videos.”

“I feel as if I have become more aware and more proactive in my efforts of developing myself into a strong and confident leader.”

“Yes, it made me realise that leadership is part of everyone's job and that by being self-aware it makes you a better leader.”

“I used to think that I couldn't be a leader because I'm shy. Attending the leadership workshops gave me the chance to meet people I wouldn't otherwise have met, which gave me more confidence.”
Welcome to Curtin University from the Curtin Student Guild!

About us:

Curtin Student Guild are a not-for-profit organisation supporting and representing the Curtin student body. Not only focusing on student representation, Guild provides services, facilities and activities for students. If you have any enquiries, or concerns about anything student related, please contact us or pop by Guild Reception and book an appointment to see your Student Faculty Representative or a Student Assist Officer.
The Curtin Student Guild

We can assist you with…

• Appeals and academic issues.
• Study and exam skills.
• Grievances, harassment and discrimination issues.
• Tenancy advice.
• Career and resume assistance.
• Free legal advice and tax help.
• Pretty much any issue you’re confronted with as a student

As well as student financial assistance such as the Childcare Assistance Grant and Bookshop Grant.
Support the Student Guild!
Help support the Student Guild by:

• Becoming a Full Member (it’s FREE in 2017)
• Activate your membership at the Guild Office 106F).
• Getting involved!

The Curtin Student Guild wishes you all the best in your studies!
Welcome to the Library
Semester 1 2017
Opening Hours

During Semester the library is open 24/7

For more information see the library website:

http://library.curtin.edu.au/
Your Student Card

Contains your ID! You’ll need your Student ID card for many reasons, among them:

• to loan items from the library
• to book into workshops
• to enable you to print & photocopy
• to gain entry to library during limited service hours

you can
• add credit
• authenticate & PIN
Workshops

Include:

- Endnote
- Searching catalogue/databases
- Copyright

Register via “Workshops” link on library homepage
The Learning Centre
Include:

- Essay writing
- Critical thinking
- Time management
- Mature Age Intensive
- Mature Age series
- Numeracy.....and many more

Register via Workshops on the Learning Centre homepage
Study spaces to suit your needs

Five floors including:

- Large, collaborative spaces
- Small, individual spaces
- Various group work tables
- Quiet and silent spaces
- Computer spaces
- Bookable study rooms

And very importantly, a café!
Computers?

- Desktop PCs on all floors
- Silent computer room
- Macs
- Laptops for loan
- Graphics workstations/tablets
- Plasma/LCD screens
The Online Library
Online resources

Access resources from the library website if you are at home or use your mobile….

• Libguides
• journal articles
• ebooks
• past exam papers
• interactive tutorials
• training videos
• borrowing information
• The Learning Centre ONLINE PROGRAMS
Welcome to The Learning Centre Online Programs. Here you can improve your general academic study, writing and numeracy skills through a series of interactive tutorials. Each section has a sequence of lessons and exercises that can be done in any order that suits you. You can also complete questionnaires to provide valued feedback to our coordinators.
Referencing

Referencing guides
http://libguides.library.curtin.edu.au/referencing

ENDNOTE
http://libguides.library.curtin.edu.au/endnote

- Use at your desktop, online or on your iPad
- Create in-text references and a reference list in your chosen referencing style
- Store and organise your references
Where can I get HELP?

- Library Student Assistants – Rovers
- Enquiries desk
- Reference desk
- LibAnswers
- Help phones on each floor
- Phone
- Workshops
Where can I get study skills HELP?

The Learning Centre
Email: tlc@curtin.edu.au
Phone: +61 8 9266 3825
Location: Enquiries desk, Robertson Library, Bentley Campus

CBS Communication Skills Centre
Email: cbs-comskills@curtin.edu.au
Web: CBS Communication Skills Centre

UniPASS Study Sessions
Email: unipass@curtin.edu.au
Location: Building 103, Bentley Campus
We could end with “good luck” .... but it isn’t just luck...

Success at Uni is in your own hands...

Proudly brought to you by:
• Curtin Student Guild (who are also doing the wine and cheese!)
  • Student Wellbeing Advisory Service in START
  • Curtin Library and The Learning Centre