Mature Age Students Information Session
Orientation Semester 1 2016
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

- How to succeed as a mature age student
- Student Support: The Learning Centre
- Student Support: Curtin Leadership Centre
- The Library
- Curtin Student Guild – Mature Age Student Department
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
- Your Student Mentor
- UniPASS
- The Learning Centre
- Scholarships
- The Library
- IT Blackboard OASIS
- Guild Student Assist & Mature Age Student Department
Sources of help

- CurtinLife – Student Support Services - This will link you to any of the support services you may need: life.curtin.edu.au
- Student Guild: guild.curtin.edu.au

If you don’t know where to go/who to ask, come to:

Student Wellbeing Advisory Service

1800 244 043
Building 103 (drop in)
studentwellbeing@curtin.edu.au
Mentors

- EVERY new UG student gets a mentor – a senior student in your course.
- Meet them at Orientation
- Check your student email – they will contact you
- ASK THEM QUESTIONS, use them to help you – they love it!
- PG students – Guild PG Mentor Program

FIND OUT MORE: Mentoring.curtin.edu.au Guild.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 = 6% increased grade!
- 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 and 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
Connected students thrive

- **Sports Clubs (Curtin Stadium)**
- **Curtin Leadership Centre**
- **Curtin Volunteers!**
- **Guild Clubs & Committees**
- **Other students in your course**
  - Swap contacts (e.g., mobile, Facebook) with at least a few students in the first week or so
  - Arrange a meeting (Curtin student email)
  - Email him/her and stay in touch
  - Pick their brains
- **Your Mentor**
  - Speak to them
  - Seek their advice
  - Make sure they know who you are
- **Your teachers**

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INTENSIVE 2 HOUR PROGRAM
5-7 WEDNESDAY 2 MARCH
10-12 FRIDAY 4 MARCH
5-7 THURSDAY 10 MARCH

DEVELOPMENTAL 6 HOUR PROGRAM
BLD 303.RM 226
10-12 TUESDAY 8, 15, 22 MARCH
5-7 WEDNESDAY 16, 23, 30 MARCH
- life.curtin.edu.au/learning_support/learning_centre.htm
- Developing strategies for returning to study
- Managing challenges – juggling time commitments
- Learning by building on strengths
- Overcoming learning blocks and meeting your need to succeed.
What Mature Age students have to say about The Learning Centre mature age programs

- I wasn’t sure what to expect from the workshop. It confirmed to me that I was on the right path and it helped me to relax and enjoy the start of uni. It was good to meet other mature age students and to realise we all were feeling the same”
  (Semester 1, 2015 1st year pre uni).

- “I felt better equipped to start my studies having a better understanding on how the system worked… and learning writing skills. It was a great place to voice my concerns and get answers”
  (Semester 1, 2015 1st year undergrad).

- “I have kept in contact with 2 people from the workshop and we often keep in touch as to our progress. This is also great as we are not from the same faculty and we can compare without being competitive”
  (Semester 2, 2014 1st year post grad).
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 the Library
Semester 1 - 2016
Where is the Library?

Semester Opening Hours

**MON - FRI** 24/7
Full service (8.00 am – 8.00 pm)
Limited service (8.00 pm - 8.00 am)

**SAT – SUN** 24/7
Full service (8.00 am – 5.00 pm)
Limited service (5.00 pm – 8 am)
Your Student Card

Is also:

- Your library card
- Your printing & photocopying card
- Your Exam authentication card
- Your swipe card to access the library and abacus labs after hours
- Your Guild membership card
- Your discount card
Library facts & figures

• Over ½ million books
• 260,000 ebooks
• Over 200,000 eJournals
• 600 databases
• Access to past exam papers, theses, study guides, new books, human librarian help, etc.
• 300 Computers available to use
• Laptop, full wi-fi access and recharge facilities
• Tech help from Abacus Lab staff 9am to 9pm Monday to Friday
Study spaces to suit your needs…
I need a computer!

On every floor in the Library

Blue Zone

Curtin University
L5 Teaching Resources Collection
Online Resources
There is more than Google!
All accessible from home or your mobile!
LibGuides
e-books
Discovery catalogue
QR Codes
Workshops
Interactive
Full-text journal articles
ENDNOTE

Use at your desktop, online or on your iPad

Creates in-text references and a reference list in your chosen referencing style

Store and organise your references
Where can I get HELP?
There is always somebody available to help, contact us!

library.curtin.edu.au

Phone us
9266 7166

Visit us at the Reference Desk, B105

Email us via the website
Welcome to Curtin University from the Curtin Student Guild!

“to be an independent organisation which is highly valued by all of the University community, especially our members, through the active provision of services and benefits, encompassing all aspects of student life.”
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.

As well as student financial assistance such as the Childcare Assistance Grant and Bookshop Grant.
The Mature Age Department

Our job is to…

• Provide representation on Mature Age issues.
• Support student rights.
• Assist Mature Age students with any issues they face.
• Organise social events.
• Answer any and all of your questions, or refer you to other services.

You can find us…

• Building 106F, in the Equity Space
• Online: http://www.guild.curtin.edu.au/
• Email: mature@guild.curtin.edu.au
Support the Student Guild!

Help support the Student Guild by:

• Becoming a Full Member (it’s FREE in 2016)
• Activate your membership at the Guild Office 106F).
• Getting involved!

The Curtin Student Guild wishes you all the best in your studies!
We used to end with “Good Luck” …. but it isn’t just good luck…

Your success at Uni is in your own hands…

▪ with a little help!

Proudly brought to you by
Curtin Student Guild’s Mature Age Students & Student Assist departments
and Curtin Life’s Student Wellbeing Advisory Service