Mature Age Students Information Session
Orientation Semester 2 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.
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 and what you hope to achieve through it
Agenda
Amy Cleasby; Manager, Student Engagement & Retention

- How to succeed as a mature age student
- Student Support and Engagement services
- Student Support: The Learning Centre (Grace Conti)
- The Library (Marilyn Coen)
- Student Guild; Mature Age Student Dept (Jordan Piggott)
- Q & A (followed by food and drink!)
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
- 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
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 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
- Phone: 9266 1222
Connected students thrive

Sports Clubs (Curtin Stadium)

Guild Clubs & Committees

Curtin Leadership Centre

Other students in your course

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

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!
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
- Tailored Leadership Training

Contact us:
Tel: 9266 9276
Email: leadership@curtin.edu.au
Visit: Building 303, Level 2
CURTIN LEADERS PROGRAM

Combine leadership skills modules with volunteering to learn valuable study skills, boost your employability and get involved in your community.

1. Complete five leadership skills modules
Join us in face-to-face workshops, live webcast via BlackBoard or engage online at challenge.curtin.edu.au.

2. Participate in volunteering
Complete a minimum of 10 hours volunteering and apply your leadership skills to a real-world experience.

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.”
MATURE AGE STUDENTS

- Developing strategies for returning to study
- Learning by building on strengths
- Overcoming learning blocks
- Managing challenges – juggling time commitments
- Meeting your needs to succeed.

THE LEARNING CENTRE Bld 303 Level 2.

INTENSIVE 90 MINUTE PROGRAM
5-6.30PM WEDNESDAY 3 AUGUST
10-11.30AM FRIDAY 5 AUGUST
3-4.30PM MONDAY 8 AUGUST

DEVELOPMENTAL 3 SESSION PROGRAM
BLD 303.RM 226
1-2.30PM TUESDAY
9, 16 & 23 AUGUST
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 just thought I would send you an update email on how I am progressing in my degree. I am doing really well, particularly in the writing aspects of the units. My grades are excellent, and I am achieving distinctions and high distinctions in my assignments, so overall the semester is looking very good. I have also been accepted on to the UniReady mentor program which is great and I am looking forward to working, encouraging and inspiring the students next semester and I will be encouraging them to make use of the learning centre”
  (Semester 1, 2016 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).
Welcome to the Library
Semester 2 2016
Opening Hours
During Semester the library is open 24/7

For more information see the library website:

http://library.curtin.edu.au/
Study spaces to suit your needs

Five floors including:
- large, collaborative spaces
- small, individual spaces
- a variety of table sizes for group work
- 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
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
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 HELP?

LIBRARY

Library help

Library links
- LibGuides
- Referencing
- EndNote
- Journals

Library blog
- Library Tours and Library Essentials
- Library Tours and Library Essentials workshops in Orientation Week
- Print recharge unavailable

Search the Catalogue

Search options | Recommend an item | Log in

Curtin University is a trademark of Curtin University of Technology
CRICOS Provider code  00301J
Good luck with your studies!
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