

# Key terms

## Associate Degree

An Associate Degree is a two-year, full-time (or part-time equivalent) program designed for students who would benefit from a supported entry to tertiary study. The degree course structure provides flexible pathways into tertiary education, and can be used as a guaranteed pathway into a range of Deakin degrees. For more information please visit [www.deakin.edu.au/doorstep](http://www.deakin.edu.au/doorstep).

## Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) (formerly ENTER)

The ATAR is a comparative percentile ranking for students in their final year of secondary school in Australia.

## Bachelors degree

An undergraduate award. Normally the first university qualification undertaken.

## Clearly-In ATAR

The ATAR most school-leaver applicants need to achieve to be offered a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP) in a particular course, providing they have met all extra requirements.

## Combined course

An approved combination of courses in complementary areas, undertaken simultaneously, which leads to the conferral of two awards e.g. Bachelor of Arts/Bachelor of Laws. This means you will complete two degrees in a shorter timeframe than it would take to complete the degrees separately.

## Concurrent courses

A grouping of a degree and a diploma, e.g. Bachelor of Management/Advanced Diploma of Tourism which is conducted in partnership with Box Hill Institute.

## Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP)

A university place for which the government pays a proportion of the tuition costs. CSP students can pay up-front and receive a discount or use HECS-HELP to defer payment.

## Credit for Prior Learning

Credit granted towards your Deakin course for relevant approved study, experience or work satisfactorily completed at the University or elsewhere. There are two aspects to Credit for Prior Learning:

- » credit may be transferred to your Deakin program from completed or partly completed studies you have undertaken at other accredited institutions; and
- » credit may be granted on the basis of knowledge and skills acquired through uncredentialed learning.

## Credit point

For each subject you successfully complete, you will receive the credit point value of that subject, towards your studies. You must complete a specified number of credit points before being eligible to obtain your degree. A full-time study load is where you undertake at least 6 credit points within the academic year. This means that you must take a minimum of 3 credit points in at least two trimesters to be considered full time. The number of credit points required varies for each course and is outlined at [www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/courses](http://www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/courses).

## Deakin University Law School Admission Test/Australian Law Schools Entrance Test (DULSAT/ALSET)

The DULSAT is an aptitude test developed and marked by the Australian Council for Educational Research (ACER) and is equivalent to the ALSET. The purpose of DULSAT/ALSET is to assess your ability to think critically about issues and understand the material given. The DULSAT/ALSET is compulsory for most non-Year 12 applicants applying for entry into any of Deakin University's undergraduate Law degree programs.

## Equity and diversity

Deakin University welcomes students from a diversity of backgrounds and celebrates the richness that they bring to university life. The Equity and Diversity Unit provides a range of programs to ensure all students have the opportunity to access university education and succeed in their studies and employment.

## Extra requirements

Extra requirements are requirements that you must meet, in addition to minimum tertiary entrance requirements, to qualify for a course. This information is listed in the *VTAC Guide 2012* and in Victorian Tertiary Entrance Requirements (VICTER) publications.

## Faculty

An organisational division within a university; for example, the Faculty of Arts and Education is one of the four Faculties at Deakin University. Within each Faculty are several Schools, i.e. the School of Law is within the Faculty of Business and Law.

## Gap year

A gap year is a year between finishing school and starting further study, training or gaining full-time employment. A gap year is sometimes used to work, travel or take some time off before returning to study. For more information please visit [www.deakin.edu.au/gapyear](http://www.deakin.edu.au/gapyear).

## Graduate entry

A course that requires completion of a prior undergraduate degree for entry. Deakin's Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery is a graduate-entry course.

## Higher Education Contribution Scheme-Higher Education Loan Program (HECS-HELP)

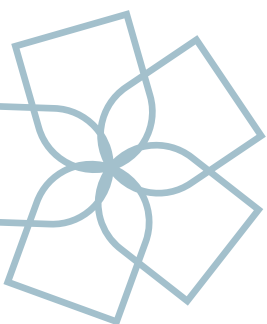
HECS-HELP is a loan scheme to help CSP students pay for tuition costs. Repayments are made through the Australian taxation system once annual income exceeds the minimum threshold for repayment.

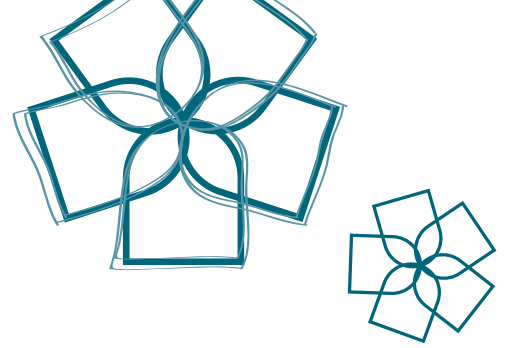
## Honours

Honours is an additional year of specialised study, usually taken after the completion of a bachelors degree, or embedded as part of a bachelors degree. Honours can provide you with a competitive edge in the job market or provide you with a pathway into a higher degree.

## Lectures

A presentation given by an academic to a large group of students on the subject area being studied.





### Level

The year level at which units are studied. Level 1 is equivalent to your first year of full-time study, level 2 is equivalent to your second year of full-time study, and so on. You can tell what level a unit is studied at by the unit code: the numbers in level 1 unit codes usually start with 1, in level 2 units the first number is a 2 and in level 3 units the first number is a 3.

### Major sequence

An approved group of at least 6 (and up to 8) credit points of related units that are normally taken in sequence at each level of a course. In some cases, you can enrol in more than one major sequence.

### Middle band

For many courses selection for up to 80 per cent of places for students completing the VCE and IB is determined by the ATAR alone. Students who do not have ATARs high enough to guarantee automatic selection, but have ATARs above that which leads to automatic rejection, are in the middle band and may be considered for the remaining places. Additional information will be considered when assessing applications from students in the middle band.

### Pathways

Pathways provide an alternative entry option for people who may have obtained a TAFE or equivalent qualification and who now wish to obtain a degree or who may not meet academic entry or English language requirements.

### Postgraduate degree

Courses of study beyond bachelors level, including graduate certificates, graduate diplomas, masters and research degrees. Eligibility for entry to a postgraduate course normally requires completion of an undergraduate degree.

### Prerequisite

The VCE subjects or other requirements that both current Year 12 and non-Year 12 applicants must complete to be eligible to be selected for a course. This information is listed in this guide, the *VTAC Guide 2012* and in VICTER publications.

### Scholarships

Deakin offers a range of scholarships for commencing students including academic scholarships for high-achieving students and Deakin access and equity scholarships for students who may not otherwise have access to higher education. For details of scholarships available, please visit [www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/scholarships](http://www.deakin.edu.au/future-students/scholarships).

### Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS)

The Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) is an umbrella program, run by VTAC, for special entry schemes conducted by participating tertiary institutions, including Deakin University, for entry to undergraduate courses. For more information please visit [www.deakin.edu.au/access-equity](http://www.deakin.edu.au/access-equity).

### Single subject non-award

Single subject non-award study provides access to a wide variety of tertiary level units. Most units offered by Deakin are available for non-award study. Some units have prerequisites or special requirements, but most are open to all. For more information visit [www.deakin.edu.au/applications-enrolments/applications/single-subject](http://www.deakin.edu.au/applications-enrolments/applications/single-subject).

### Specialism

A specialised subject stream within a degree, for example, Bachelor of Environmental Science (Marine Biology) indicates a marine biology specialism within a broader Environmental Science degree.

### Special Tertiary Admissions Test (STAT)

The STAT is sometimes used as an entry requirement for non-Year 12 students. Please refer to the VTAC web site for more information about whether you are required to sit a STAT.

### Student learning entitlement

The government limit on the length of time a student can take to complete a course through a Commonwealth Supported Place, which is seven years Equivalent Full-time Student Load (EFTSL).

### Study score

A score of 0–50 that shows how a VCE student performed in a particular subject compared with other students in the same year. It is calculated from the student's results in assessments and examinations in that subject.

### Trimester

The method of organising the teaching year. At Deakin University there are three trimesters: Trimester 1 runs from February to June, Trimester 2 from July to November and Trimester 3 spans November to February.

### Tutorial

A method of teaching for small groups of students involving discussion and participation.

### Undergraduate degree

Usually the first degree you obtain in a given discipline area. An undergraduate student is usually someone studying for their first degree in a given discipline.

### Unit

A university subject or unit is normally one trimester long and may have a value ranging from 0.125 to 4 credit points.

### Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)

VTAC is a centralised admissions centre for most undergraduate university courses in Victoria. Visit [www.vtac.edu.au](http://www.vtac.edu.au).

### VTAC Personal information (Pi) form

The VTAC Pi form provides non-Year 12 applicants with an opportunity to bring to the attention of selection officers (who will have access to your completed VTAC Pi form during selection) any relevant special factors or circumstances that cannot be included in the application itself.

**For a comprehensive list of common terms, please visit [www.deakin.edu.au/glossary](http://www.deakin.edu.au/glossary). You can also ask one of our course advisers to explain anything you do not understand about your course structure or requirements, by phoning 1300 DEGREE (1300 334 733).**