

Career News

Issue 4, 2016



A new approach to design teaching at the University of Melbourne

The University of Melbourne has announced the introduction of a new undergraduate degree. With the first intake in Semester 1, 2017, the Bachelor of Design will provide an undergraduate education that responds to the needs and challenges facing the built environment in contemporary society. The Bachelor of Design will create new pathways for students who are passionate about the use of design and creative approaches across a wide range of disciplines and professions and provide students with contemporary opportunities for their graduate study and career prospects.

Eleven majors will be available:

- Architecture
- Construction
- Computing
- Civil Systems
- Digital Media
- Landscape Architecture
- Mechanical Systems
- Property
- Spatial Systems
- Urban Planning
- Visual and Performance Design

The new degree also aligns strongly with professionally accredited graduate programmes and will provide students with great flexibility, in the form of new majors, double majors, minors and unique specialisations. Students will study the application of design to a wide range of contexts, from the macro level of the metropolis to the construction of buildings, bridges and landscapes, even down to the small scale of systems and micro structures.

In light of these developments, the University is now considering how best to reposition their environmental curriculum. Accordingly, the University will not take new students into the Bachelor of Environments in 2017.

The new Design degree will encompass a number of the pathways to Masters programmes currently available within the Bachelor of Environments and students interested in environmental science and sustainability will continue to be able to access an exciting range of majors through the Bachelor of Arts and the Bachelor of Science. Current Environments students will be unaffected by these changes. For more information visit:

www.bdes.unimelb.edu.au.

Focus on Melbourne

Focus on Melbourne offers students and their parents the chance to take a closer look at courses they may like to study at Melbourne. This seminar series is hosted on campus and includes individual sessions for every undergraduate course at the University of Melbourne. You will hear from current students and find out more about:

- Specific courses, majors and degree structures
- Pathways to further study

- Employment prospects after graduation and graduate outcomes
- Entry requirements and how to apply
- The unique Melbourne experience

Events run from 17th May to 15th June, 2016. View the complete schedule of Focus on Melbourne and register for the events you're interested in at: www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/focus2016.

How do commencing students at the University of Melbourne get help with their course selection and other enrolment issues?

On 4th January the university opened Stop 1, which is now the home of student services online, on the phone and in person.

Stop 1 services include:

- Administrative and information services: Student cards, fees, transcripts and graduations
- Enrolment services: course planning, enrolment assistance, special consideration and student equity
- Skills and development services: Careers, academic skills, Student Connect, study abroad and exchange
- Support services: Disability, Housing, Financial Aid, Elite Athletes and the Safer Community Programme

Stop 1 (Parkville) is on the corner of Swanston and Grattan Streets and is conveniently co located with the Co-op Bookshop. It includes a café which nestles alongside the historic 1888 building and gardens.

Getting started in Science at the University of Melbourne

The university's Bachelor of Science (BSc) provides an excellent foundation across a broad range of science and technology study areas and equips students with career ready knowledge and skills. The course provides flexible pathways to employment, research higher degrees and many professional postgraduate programmes.

To graduate with a BSc, students must complete a major. To assist students to decide their major the university has developed a set of first year videos to assist students in their course planning. The videos are less than two minutes each, easy to watch and very informative. As you are thinking about your tertiary study options, use these videos to assist with your course research: <http://science.unimelb.edu.au/students/course-planning-and-advice/first-year-packages>.

News from La Trobe University

Offers of places

La Trobe offered places to over 8,000 applicants this year. Apart from the large campus at Bundoora, La Trobe is the largest University in regional Victoria with a total of 1,595 main round offers at its regional campuses. This is 46% of all Victorian regional university main round offers.

'ASPIRE' Early Admissions Programme (EAP)

This programme has been well received by students, with 587 community minded applicants receiving an Aspire offer; an increase of 23.6% on the inaugural year. The university is planning to expand this programme (more information as it becomes available). La Trobe has restructured their admissions practices to promote greater ethical engagement among aspiring students and to reduce pressure on academic achievement. For information about the programme visit: www.latrobe.edu.au/aspire.

STEM: an area of strength at La Trobe

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics) is an area the government is wishing to promote. La Trobe University plans to introduce important initiatives in relation to these course and career areas.

The Federal Government committed an extra \$12 million in the 2015-2016 budget to restore the focus on STEM in schools and increase student uptake of science technology, engineering and mathematics subjects in primary and secondary schools. This built on the \$5 million allocated in the 2014-15 Budget. Restoring the focus on STEM subjects is about ensuring Australia's young adults are equipped with necessary skills for the economy of the future.

STEM is everywhere: our homes, transport, food, health, jobs and leisure, for example, are all profoundly shaped by technological innovation.

Four key elements of the programme are:

- providing innovative mathematics curriculum resources
- supporting the introduction of computer coding in schools
- an innovative approach to education based on the US 'Pathways in Technology Early College High School (P-TECH) model
- summer schools for STEM students to increase the number of girls and disadvantaged students attending.

The belief is that students need to be encouraged to study STEM subjects to help secure the nation's future. Starting this interest at the school level will hopefully help increase the number of students taking up STEM subjects in higher education and in their careers, and help keep Australia competitive internationally in these important fields.

VU discipline in profile: ARTS

VU offers a broad range of arts subjects to spark interest in students and to allow them to take their careers further, whether they are aiming to be artists, psychologists, thinkers or writers. The stimulating, hands on courses cover areas such as communication, community development, creative arts, legal studies, digital media, music, professional writing, graphic design, social work and more. Students will undertake real world projects to put theory into practice and gain valuable workplace experience through placements.

Possible career outcomes include:

- writer
- web designer
- music performer
- sound technician
- visual artist
- artistic director
- psychologist
- community worker
- social worker

By undertaking real world projects students put theory into practice. Internships and work placements provide opportunities to learn within workplace contexts and community settings and assist in commencing the forging of a network of industry contacts. Arts students collaborate with a breadth of organisations, events and venues, including Melbourne Writers Festival, the Emerging Writers Festival, SBS Television, Footscray Community Arts Centre, Malthouse Theatre, Netball Victoria, the Western Bulldogs, Maribyrnong City Council and the Magistrates' Court of Victoria. Find out more at vu.edu.au/work-ready.

VU STEM week 2016

Create, explore and learn at the Footscray Park Campus for Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) week 2016. Students will perform fun, hands on experiments and challenges involving principles of science, engineering and technology. Interactive events and activities include 'Be a chemist for a day', the Science and Engineering Challenge and the VU Science Spectacular Family Night.

Family science night

Thursday 2nd June 2016

The VU Science Spectacular Family Night showcases the Professor Science Troupe and their repertoire of big bangs, chemical reactions and fire tricks. The free show will be followed by hands on science activities for parents and young people.

Troupe co-coordinator Nick Athanasiou says the event is designed to inspire and generate a love of science: "The way we engage young people in science is through big bangs and raw science where it's all about hands on discovery. It's much more appealing than traditional high brow science events and the usual reaction after our first experiment says it all!"

The troupe is made up of VU students studying for a degree in science and the show provides them with invaluable teaching and presentation experience. It has been travelling to schools around Victoria and interstate for the past seven years, promoting science through a range of exciting demonstrations.

You can register now to receive more information as it becomes available at: <https://www.vu.edu.au/news-events/events/2016-stem-week-expression-of-interest>.

Find out more about VU STEM week at vu.edu.au/stem-week.

Youth Central website

Explore the Youth Central website where you will find a multitude of resources related to career planning and job seeking:

<http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-careers/planning-your-career/career-planning-resources>

<http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-careers/planning-your-career/find-out-more-about-that-job>

<http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/studying-training/tertiary-study/choosing-a-course>

<http://www.youthcentral.vic.gov.au/jobs-careers/how-to-find-a-job>

Top reasons to study STEM

(from the Good Universities Guide)

STEM (science, technology, engineering and maths) is everywhere. It's in your home, your classroom, the businesses you visit and the roads you drive on. Products and services you use every day are shaped by science and technological innovations, from your smartphone to your fridge, ATMs and medicines. It has been predicted that 75 per cent of all jobs will require STEM skills over the next decade.

If you study STEM, you will:

... find a course to suit all interests

Do you think STEM is just for aspiring scientists, engineers and mathematicians? There are actually hundreds of specialisations, suiting any student who likes asking questions or being challenged. Expect institutions to offer everything from agriculture, astrophysics and ecology to game development, pharmacology and veterinary studies. You will find a great range of options within each field too. Considering engineering? Know that aerospace, audio, chemical, civil, electrical, marine, mining and product design are just a selection of the specialisations available.

If you're not sure what you'd like to study or want more time to see where STEM can take you, a generalist course such as certificate, diploma or degree in science or engineering is a good option. For example, in a Bachelor of Science you can start by exploring the basics before selecting a major in your second year. Double degrees are also worth considering — why not combine science or mathematics with teaching or journalism to boost your career prospects?

If you're heading into postgraduate study, coursework and research are equally inspiring. Interested in both? You might opt for a coursework degree with a minor thesis.

... be immersed in the latest technological innovations

Studying and working in STEM means learning about the world around you, finding innovative solutions to real-world challenges and playing a role in some of the country's major discoveries and developments. Are you interested in working with robots, driverless car technology or curing disease? You will have these opportunities and more in STEM. In addition, you will be taught by professionals who are passionate about their field. They may be researchers, seasoned industry experts or currently making their mark in the workforce.

... learn transferable skills

You'll learn a range of transferable skills that can be used in just about any occupation or industry, meaning you'll emerge from your studies as an all rounder with an impressive résumé. If you are good with numbers and data, or have strong technical skills, you will be suitable for a range of roles. You will also boast high level communication, interpersonal, critical thinking, problem solving and adaptability skills — attributes that are increasingly important to employers in today's competitive job market. These are known as 'soft skills' or 'employability skills'.

Although the overall graduate employment rate has slipped in recent years, the transferable skills gained in a STEM course mean that you will enjoy strong job prospects into the future. Also keep in mind that some of the strongest employment rates and salaries come from STEM disciplines. The \$52,840 average graduate salary — for undergraduates aged under 25 in their first full-time job — compares to \$62,102 in engineering and technology, \$58,520 in mathematics and \$54,382 in computing and information technology. When it comes to securing full time employment, the fields with the best prospects tend to be those requiring STEM skills.

... have access to a range of professional development and mentoring opportunities

The federal and state governments are working hard to increase the STEM workforce, which means that students and graduates are supported by a great range of mentoring, professional development and assistance schemes. Many programmes target women entering STEM, with men outnumbering women in most professions — see Engineers Australia's Women in Engineering division, as well as the more general Industry Mentoring Network in STEM programme for PhD students, CSIRO's Student Science Bootcamp for secondary students and the Australian Computer Society's Student Hub for tertiary students.

In addition, there are various scholarships targeting students entering these fields. They may be awarded for academic merit or equity, or for particular student groups (women entering non traditional fields or those who have experienced educational disadvantage, for example). There are also specialised degrees that combine study with paid work placements, such as Swinburne University's Bachelor of Information Technology — where students benefit from a \$40,000 industry funded, tax free scholarship and two 20 week work placements with industry partners.

Other useful links:

Fields of study: <http://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/Fields-of-Study#.VvNflfI96Uk>

Jobs of the future: examining workforce trends: http://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/Latest-news/Education-news/Jobs-of-the-future-examining-workforce-trends#.VvNfP_I96Uk

How to survive your first year of uni

(from the Good Universities Guide)

Starting university can be a challenge, especially for those who've just left school. On the upside, your uni years can be some of the best you'll have — and they'll probably go very quickly.

- 1. Get to know your campus:** If you're studying on a big campus, it might take a while to get oriented. Start with the main buildings where you will have classes, the library, computer labs and your favourite café. Download a map from the website to get started!
- 2. Use your free time wisely:** Depending on your course, you might only spend around 12 hours a week on campus. Although this gives you time for work, seeing friends and the odd sleep in, you will need to set aside study time (even outside peak assessment periods) and make sure you are also taking time out to relax. If you have a break between classes, try using the time to catch up on assignments.
- 3. Ask for help when you need it:** Needing help isn't something to be embarrassed about. You might need a crash course on academic referencing, another tour of the library, assistance with changing a subject or a quick explanation of a new assignment. Reach out to your classmates, lecturers, tutors and other support staff. The institution website is another great resource. Your campus should have a student support office, where you can access services like counselling, financial advice and academic assistance.
- 4. Keep to a budget:** You are probably spending more time socialising and might have additional expenses, such as rent and a car. This makes budgeting really important. Bringing your own lunch from home is a great start, even if it's just every second day. If you're worried about how budgeting will affect your social life, see which activities you can swap for cheaper alternatives (coffee instead of lunch or a BYO picnic in place of catching up at a bar). Don't forget to use your student card — accepted at cinemas, sporting games and some clothing stores.
- 5. Take advantage of freebies:** Discounts and happy hour will help you budget, but have you considered what you're entitled to for free? Think entry to museums and galleries (check your local venue to be sure), local music and food festivals and deals such as a complimentary drink with your meal at local eateries.
- 6. Stay healthy:** If you're going out more often, working irregular hours and sleeping in, you might find it hard to keep up your regular healthy eating and fitness regime. Try to eat well. If maintaining your exercise schedule is becoming difficult, why not join the campus gym or swap café catch-ups for walks around the local park? Your campus might even offer free exercise classes through the student union.
- 7. Make an effort to befriend your classmates:** If you're heading into one of the popular courses at your local campus, you'll probably see a few familiar faces. But whether you're surrounded by friends or fending for yourself, making new friends is one of the best parts of starting uni. Don't be afraid to strike up conversation in class or make plans to catch up after a lecture.
- 8. Join clubs and attend campus events:** Getting involved on campus is a great way to settle in, make friends and even add to your résumé. Look for activities aligned with your course, like writing for the student magazine if you're an aspiring journalist or helping out at the campus gym if you're studying sport science.
- 9. Balance your studies, social life and work commitments:** If you are combining study, work and a social life, you might find that you start to feel 'burnt out'. The most important thing is to prioritise your studies — ensure you're allocating sufficient time to completing your readings, attending classes and writing up assignments. Try not to undertake paid work of more than 20 hours per week (keep in mind that you may be able to up your shifts in holiday periods) and don't let your social life get in the way.
- 10. Use apps to stay on track:** If you have your phone or tablet with you at all times, use that to your advantage. Start by downloading apps to help you study and stay organised (ExamTime and Timetable are good examples), as well as handy ones that can scan your notes, record lectures, save and share files and allow you to edit documents.

Don't be too hard on yourself. Tertiary study can be a learning curve and it might take you a while to get settled. Don't expect to get perfect grades straight away and try to enjoy your time at uni while it lasts.

JMC Academy and the Creative Industries

When considering what to study, some people don't always take the creative industries seriously. JMC answers some frequently asked questions:

How much work is there in the creative industries?

Creativity is big business. In 2011, Australia had more than 600,000 people working in the creative industries and over 120,000 creative businesses. According to a recent report by consultancy group SGS Economics and Planning, the Creative Industries alone was estimated to have added more than \$45 billion to Australia's GDP in 2011-12, while generating more than \$3.2 billion in annual exports. In addition, ABS figures released in 2014 showed that the 2008-09 national accounts had a combined Cultural and Creative Industries contributing over \$86 billion to our economy.

Can you guarantee a job at the end of the studies?

Any tertiary institution would be incapable of guaranteeing graduate employment beyond their studies. A student's drive is one of the highest contributing factors here. If the student has the passion to work in their field, then they will apply themselves to finding the right job after graduation. Students in the creative industries have passion and drive. What JMC Academy can guarantee is that you will receive the highest level of tuition during your studies. You will be immersed in a creative and vibrant environment with like minded students. The connections that students create while studying often transfer into their professional lives. JMC has such a wide range of courses, with a lot of integration throughout the creative courses, after graduation, students often use each other throughout their career and exchange useful contacts. Notwithstanding, in the JMC 2014 survey (of over 500 recent graduate respondents), 68% found employment in a directly relevant field within 15 weeks of graduation.

During their working life, graduates will undoubtedly find themselves working across a variety of industries. JMC accepts that their goal is to produce talented graduates who can remain productive throughout their careers. This is achieved not only through the specialised skills taught within the courses, but through the development of soft skills such as collaboration, analysis and effective communication.

This same survey revealed that by studying at JMC:

89% of graduates improved their skills in communicating with people.

94% developed their skills to work as an effective member of a team.

90% felt they had the capacity to manage change effectively.

95% of graduates agreed that their course provided them with the appropriate level of confidence in using relevant technology.

Do you help students find jobs after graduation?

Many jobs in the creative industries are found via direct recommendations or referrals. At JMC Academy, many of these recommendations are made while students are completing their studies and via organisations that approach JMC for graduates. This is why JMC stresses the importance of networking through their industry connected lecturers and taking advantage of the many work experience and internship opportunities that arise.

Throughout their studies, students are progressively adding to their portfolio of work, networking with lecturers and students and learning how to run their own businesses. All of this directly contributes to their ability to generate an income in a field they are passionate about and enjoy.

Careers in Sports Medicine

The careers in sports medicine evening aims to build awareness of the health professional involved in caring for athletes, whether they compete for Australia or exercise for fitness. It will be held on Wednesday 18th May; 7:15pm Registration, 7:30pm – 9:00pm Talks. To register visit: <https://www.trybooking.com/Embed.aspx?eid=124441>. RSVP by Tuesday 17th May. The event will take place at AAMI Park Stadium, 60 Olympic Blvd, Entrance F, Gate 4, Corporate Entrance, Olympic Room 2. There is parking at the Eastern Plaza Carpark access via Entrance D and a right turn at the roundabout (off Olympic Blvd). Parking fees apply. The cost of the evening is \$25 per student (Parent / Guardian no charge).

Introduction to Forensic Medicine and Crime Scene Investigation Certificate

To be held at Victoria University, 300 Flinders Street, Melbourne over 2 weekends, 16th and 17th July and 23rd and 24th July.

Gain a basic knowledge of the main medical, scientific and legal concepts and methodology in a forensic setting and an understanding of the basic organisational structures in the practice of forensic medicine and science. Lectures cover Forensic Biology, Forensic investigation at the crime scene, Death investigation, Forensic Science, Autopsy,, Death, Post Mortem changes, Sudden Death, Injury types and wounds, Forensic Odontology, DNA, Toxicology, Myths and mistakes in death investigation and forensics and much more. Must enrol prior to 17th June, 2016. Limited places. Cost: \$885 or \$785 if register and pay in full prior to 6th May, 2016. Students 20 years of age or under must be accompanied by an adult; the accompanying adult attends at no fee. For further information telephone: 02 6766 1377 or 1300 787 616 (www.medicalregister.com.au).

ACU Bachelor of Arts Scholars Programme

This programme provides Bachelor of Arts students with exciting opportunities, including one on one mentoring from an academic expert in their chosen major discipline. Students will be exposed to research opportunities whilst an undergraduate so that they are prepared to undertake significant research at a post graduate level. For more information visit: www.acu.edu.au/arts.

Study Mechatronics or Mechanical Engineering at the University of Melbourne

Is your ambition to design cutting edge robots and smart products, to work in the aerospace or automotive industries or to develop devices that will change lives? Why not consider mechanical engineering or mechatronics?

The University of Melbourne's graduate courses in mechanical engineering and mechatronics are the first in Australia to be accredited by both Engineers Australia and EUR-ACE®. Graduates can work as chartered engineers in the world's leading economies.

Melbourne offers three internationally accredited courses:

- Master of Engineering (Mechanical)
- Master of Engineering (Mechanical with Business)
- Master of Engineering (Mechatronics)

You will be taught by world leaders in areas such as robotics, biomechanics, fluid mechanics and thermodynamics, automotive research, energy and more.

Find out more about studying Mechanical Engineering and Mechatronics at the University of Melbourne at: https://www.eng.unimelb.edu.au/spotlights/mechanical?utm_source=invitation_mse&utm_medium=email&utm_campaign=mse_201603_spotlight_mecheng_mechatronics&utm_content=prosp_pg_make_an_enquiry

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