



UNIVERSITY SENIOR COLLEGE

at Adelaide University Inc.



**Your future
starts here»**



THE UNIVERSITY
of ADELAIDE

FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Established in 2002, University Senior College (USC) is an academic, co-educational, independent school offering senior secondary education for students in Years 11 and 12.

We are dedicated to providing you with a head start, by giving you a senior school education that thoroughly prepares you for success at University – and beyond.

You will achieve this by building on your abilities as a confident, independent learner who values personal integrity, mutual respect and cultural diversity.

We recognise that, as young adults, your needs are special. You will learn in an environment where you are respected. You will be given encouragement and guidance in your final years at school.

In partnership with the University of Adelaide, USC offers you a unique opportunity to take charge of your own learning, as you manage the transition to tertiary study.

Highly professional and caring subject specialist teachers will mentor you and support your growth in a vibrant, stimulating learning environment embedded within the University of Adelaide campus.

We look forward to sharing your unique and exciting educational journey with you.



Bob Holloway



ON UNIVERSITY GROUNDS

The College campus is located in the University of Adelaide, North Terrace precinct.

A Joint Venture Agreement with the University provides USC students with access to a number of campus facilities. These include the Barr Smith Library, lecture theatres, tutorial rooms, The Little Theatre, Hub Central (the Learning Hub), University Sports Association and dedicated laboratories in the Jordan Building. You will also use the University's learning management system, MyUni.

The main College campus is located in a spacious, two-storey building behind the Nexus 10 (corner North Terrace and Pulteney Streets). It has well-equipped classrooms, student study areas, staff and administrative offices, dedicated computer suites and wireless access. USC's Charles Street campus also provides learning spaces, computer suites, the Careers centre and the Drama and Art studios.

The Jordan Laboratories, situated in the University grounds, provide an exciting home for the Sciences.

The North Terrace Campus is adjacent to numerous other research-oriented organisations, including the SA Museum, Adelaide Zoo, the Botanic Gardens, Art Gallery, Migration Museum and the Adelaide Magistrates Court, encouraging collaborative learning.

YOUR PATHWAY TO UNIVERSITY

The USC Partner's Pathway is an opportunity to secure a guaranteed place at the University of Adelaide. Places are awarded on the basis of academic achievement within the College and the demonstration of behaviours and attitudes that will support your success in tertiary studies.

Students who follow the Partner's Pathway are expected to complete the SACE (South Australian Certificate of Education) and secure an ATAR (Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank), but a guaranteed course of study at the University of Adelaide is based upon a recommendation from the College Principal to the Vice Chancellor.

The recommendation is made on the basis of a number of factors, including:

- strong academic progress in a program of study, leading to the SACE
- the study of five Stage 2 subjects, not including the Research Project
- an appropriate choice of subjects for a given tertiary pathway
- a positive attitude to learning
- the development of the qualities required of an independent learner
- punctuality, organisation and participation

Neither University Senior College nor the University of Adelaide expects 'perfection'. We do expect you to prioritise your studies.

We want to see your capacity to make positive changes, to manage your learning.

The assessment process is conducted during the first semester of Year 12 and a final recommendation is made after the College's midyear exams, in July. On the basis of the College recommendation, the University of Adelaide provides USC students with a guaranteed place for the following year. All courses offered by the University of Adelaide are available – except those that require an audition, interview or the UMAT (Undergraduate Medical Admissions Test).



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SPECIALIST TEACHERS

University Senior College has an experienced teaching staff who specialise in preparing students for university entry. They are dedicated to the wellbeing and academic success of every student.

Fewer extra-curricular duties give teachers more time to provide individual tuition and support for the students in their care. We call this 'availability time'.

Teachers and students relate on first-name terms, fostering friendliness and mutual respect. In this supportive climate, students are encouraged to work closely with teachers.

We are always willing to discuss issues relating to students' academic and personal welfare and we welcome contact with parents.

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DEAN OF STUDIES

A Dean of Studies has been appointed to take overall responsibility for students at each year level.

In addition, an International Dean has been appointed to support the specific needs of international students. The Deans' duties include:

- co-coordinating the academic and pastoral program
- liaising with staff and mentors about each student's progress and attendance
- meeting with the Principal and Counsellor to assess and monitor every student's academic and personal development

STUDENT SERVICES

Our Administration staff will assist you through the enrolment process. Local students are provided with a range of support services through the main reception area. The special needs of international students are met through the support of the International Registrar, the Homestay/ Student Services Coordinator and the International Dean.

All students are introduced to College procedures, and the campus layout, through a formal orientation program.

BEGINNING YOUR PROGRAM

Studying at USC begins in Year 11 by introducing you to the people, places and routines that will become central in your life for the next two years.

The progression to a tertiary style of learning is carefully managed so that our students, who come from a wide variety of educational settings, have time to adapt to this new environment.

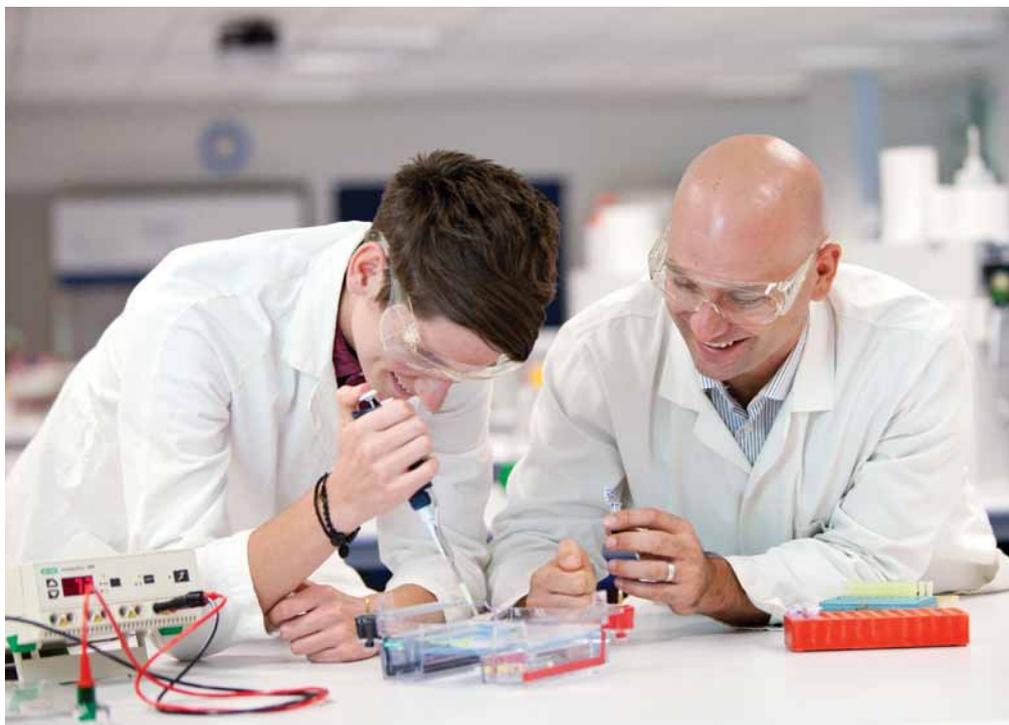
Each Year 11 subject is taught for two, 2-hour classes per week. These longer classes allow teachers to present challenging lessons through a variety of methods, including individual and group work – and when appropriate, university-style lecturing.

With two lessons a week, students also become accustomed to the demands of independent study, personal organisation and time management.

Students may choose to spend this independent study time on USC campus facilities, including the comfortable surroundings of the University's Barr Smith Library – where all students have borrowing access.

“At USC I was privy to the facilities of the Adelaide University which made my transition into university study seamless”

MATTHEW (CLASS OF 2004)



YEAR 12

The Year 12 program continues the development of the skills and strategies required to achieve a competitive ATAR and to undertake successful tertiary study. Year 12 students have two, 1-hour lectures for most subjects per week, delivered in lecture theatres on the University campus.

Our specialist teachers present innovative, interactive lectures. They combine stimulating multimedia, with the very best established learning and teaching practices.

In addition to their lectures, students have one, 2-hour tutorial per week for each subject with a small group in a classroom or laboratory. Tutorials promote learning through practical activities, discussion and debate. Attendance at lectures and tutorials is essential for success in our learning pathway and is monitored closely.

The lecture/tutorial mode provides for learning that is focused, interactive, motivating and enjoyable.

The combination of lectures and small group collaborative learning ensures that student performance is closely supervised and personal assistance is available.

This unique senior secondary program prepares students for a successful transition to tertiary studies by developing valuable, personalised relationships between students and teachers. We aim to nurture each student's self-reliance and capacity for autonomy as a learner.

MENTORING

A key feature of the learning program at USC is the availability of our expert teaching staff for academic support between lessons. Students' overall wellbeing is monitored through a fortnightly Mentoring program which covers academic progress, career research and personal development.

Each student is assigned a Mentor from the teaching staff, who guides the student's progress and provides a supportive relationship at school. Through regular meetings, students are well-placed to develop sound study skills, take on the workload and demands of Year 12 and prepare for tertiary education.

Mentors are also responsible for helping students to review academic progress and provide career guidance.

Mentors work closely with our Deans of Studies and provide an important link between the College and caregivers. Specialist guidance is also available from the Counsellor and Careers Advisor.

THE COLLEGE COUNSELLOR

The College Counsellor promotes the wellbeing of members of our community: working collaboratively to create a safe, supportive, work environment and to assist individuals and groups with learning pathways.

Support is provided face-to-face, over the phone and via email for school-related matters as well as personal issues. The USC Counsellor has a leadership role in a number of areas including: teaching and learning, behaviour management, career guidance and issues pertaining to wellbeing and safety.



FEEDBACK TO STUDENTS

University Senior College provides students and parents with regular feedback about academic progress in two ways:

- Detailed printed reports are issued with information about performance, attitude, effort and attendance. These are presented either each term or, in the case of Year 12 students, to coincide with the Mid-Year Examinations.

- Interviews between parents and academic staff are offered in second and third term. These meetings provide opportunities for discussion of students' academic progress, wellbeing and their organisational skills.

In addition, parents are encouraged to contact the Principal, Deputy Principal, Counsellor, Deans of Studies, Mentor or any member of the academic staff if they have any concerns relating to their son or daughter.

GOVERNANCE

University Senior College operates under a formal Joint Venture Agreement with the University of Adelaide as a co-educational, independent and not-for-profit organisation. USC is a member of the Association of Independent Schools of South Australia (AISSA). USC is governed by a School Council consisting of six experienced professionals.



*"We were taught
at this school
how to reach our
full potential and
push beyond
what we thought
was possible"*

CHARLOTTE (CLASS OF 2011)





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