

Introduction

Whether you've recently completed a Bachelor degree or it's been a while since you graduated, you may have some questions about Postgrad study.

This guide provides useful information to assist you with information about studying a postgraduate qualification. Inside, you'll find information on the following:

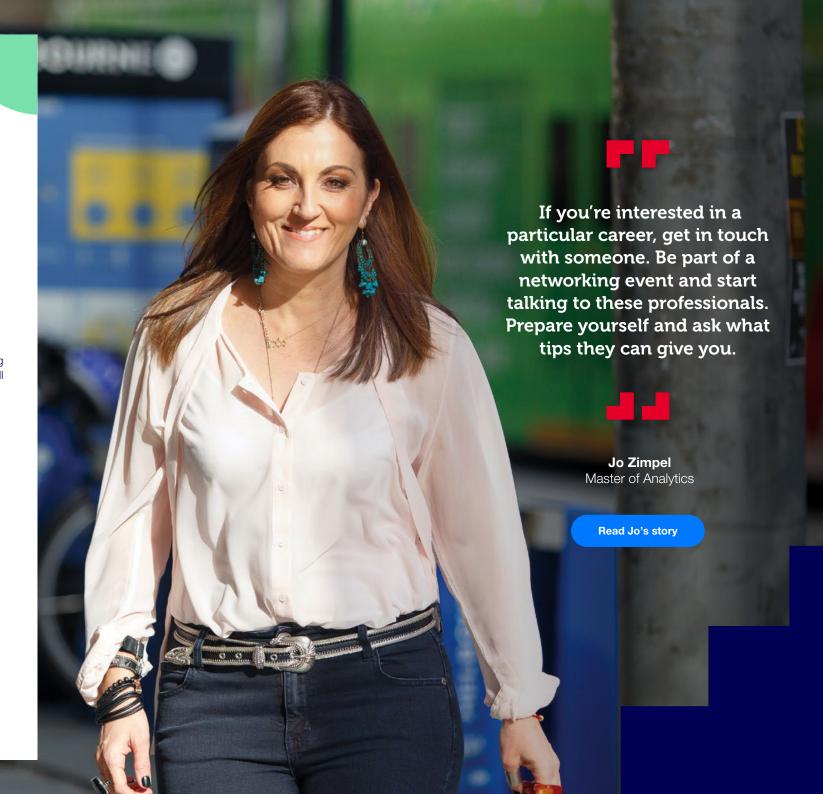
- What is Postgrad study? Plus tips on how to futureproof your career.
- Answers to frequently asked questions.
- Our top seven tips for balancing work, life and study.
- Student experiences.
- Advice on study, support and services to help you maintain your momentum while studying.

We hope you find it helpful.

Sincerely,



The RMIT team



What is Postgrad

Pursuing a postgraduate degree is often the smartest career move you can make.

Studies have shown that those **completing postgraduate study are more likely to find the 'right' job and earn more money** than those with a bachelor degree or no degree.

If you have your heart set on your 'dream' job, chances are you're not the only one. It's competitive out there, so anything that gives you an edge over the next CV is worth exploring. The Postgraduate Destinations 2015 report - based on the annual Australian Graduate Survey of new graduates from tertiary education institutions across Australia - shows that people with postgraduate qualifications are more likely to find full-time work after graduating than those with bachelor degrees. Statistics in the report show **79.1% of people** with postgraduate degrees are in full-time employment at the completion of their degree, compared to 61.6% of those with a bachelor degree.

Postgraduate qualifications bring higher salaries, with the report showing the median salary for all postgraduates in 2015 was \$80,000 – compared to \$55,900 for bachelor degree graduates.

Postgraduate study is also more focused, allowing you to specialise in the areas that most interest you. This can help you augment your existing skills or find a new career that closely aligns with your passions and career goals.

Postgrad qualifications

Graduate certificates and diplomas

A graduate certificate or diploma is completed after studying a bachelor or associate degree and can help you build on the knowledge gained during your undergraduate course. It can also give you extra vocational skills to broaden your employment options. A graduate certificate usually takes six months to one year of full-time study, and diplomas between one to two years.

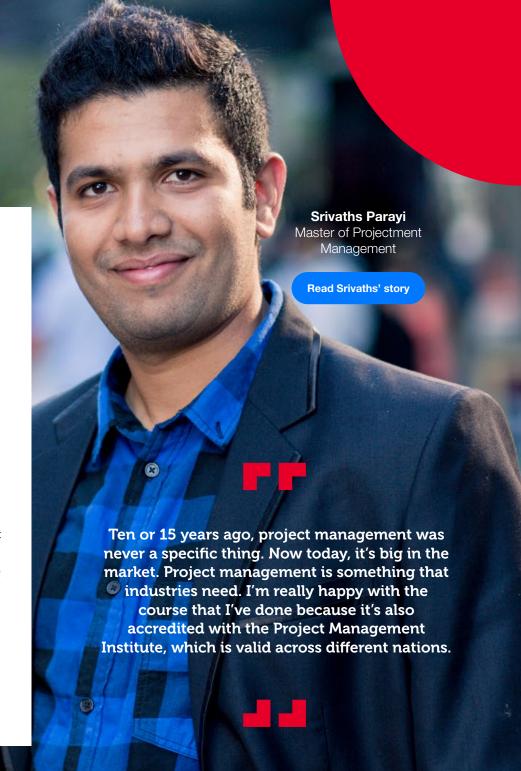
Masters by coursework

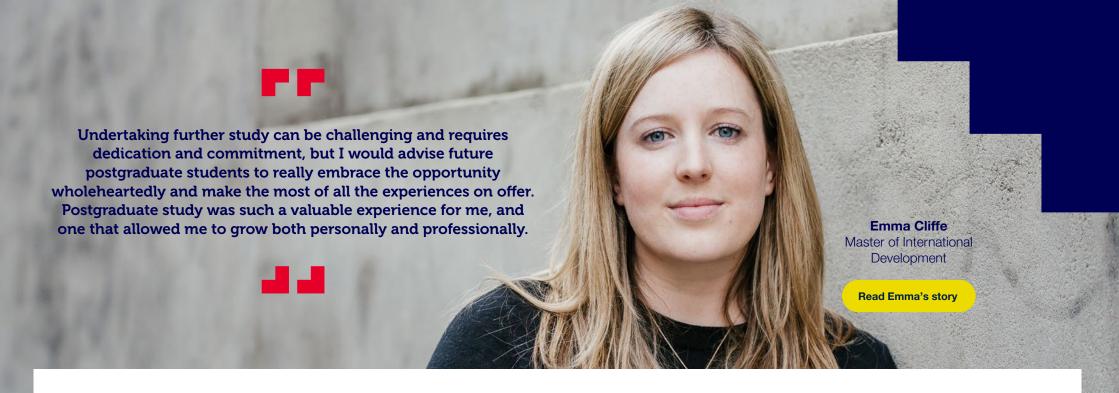
A masters by coursework extends your knowledge to an advanced level and prepares you for professional practice, career advancement or further study.

A masters degree usually takes one and a half to two years of full-time study, with the Juris Doctor usually taking three years of full-time study.

Masters by Research

A masters by research program allows you to pursue your own theories and ideas and contribute to research in your field. These programs usually take two years of full-time study to complete, and can provide a pathway to a PhD.





How to future proof your career

Technology has overwhelmingly changed our workforce, but for some it presents a serious threat to job security. More than two thirds of Australians in the early stages of their careers believe their jobs will not exist or fundamentally change in the next 15 years. Further results of the Deloitte 2016 paper The Future of Work, found one in five employees with five years or less experience think technology will replace their jobs and 47 per cent believe their job will require new skill sets.

What's more, technology is expected to render up to 40 per cent of Australian jobs redundant by 2025, according to the experts at the Committee for Economic Development of Australia.

Automation and digital disruption are sweeping through various industries to make them more efficient and cost-effective. This rapid pace of change demands an equally rapid rate of adaptability from today's workers.

Experienced or not, employed or not – future proofing your career is essential.

Know yourself

People have very different styles and strengths, and different ways of processing things. Be authentic and play to your strengths.

Self-knowledge is incredibly important and will steer you towards your area of interest.

Never stop learning

Commit to continual upskilling to keep ahead of the pack. MOOCs (Massive Open Online Course) are short courses offered by universities around the world at a generally inexpensive cost. They are flexible and often informal learning pathways.

Know what employers want

Each year LinkedIn publishes a list of the most in demand skills that is available globally or broken down by country. In 2016, cloud and distributed computing took out the top spot, followed by statistical analysis and data mining.

Be prepared to move sideways

If automation is creeping into your industry, you may need to step sideways or start something on the side. Freelancing is an option that 32 per cent of Australians have chosen. Whatever shape your transformation takes, focus on skills that can never be totally replaced by technology such as improving the consumer experience.

Be innovative

Thinking outside the square takes imagination and persistence. Feed your creative side by joining networks where ideas are inspired, fostered and realised. Find a group online or for something more social, look up your local coworking space for networking events.

Be resilient

There will be rejections, criticisms and failings, but don't get your head down. Change your mindset to focus on the positives. Identify your skillsets to help you find an organisation that aligns with your career goals.

From your business degree to the working world

10 quick facts about employability and careers in business



\$73,000 AUD

The average annual salary for people with a bachelor degree in accounting, economics or business.*i



RMIT is ranked in the top 100 universities in the world for Accounting and Finance as well as Business and Management studies.iv







RMIT is ranked 2nd in Australia

graduate employment rate.vi

and 15th in the world for





Business and Management

Graduates across all study areas

Graduates with full-time employment within four months after completion of the course.viii



\$73,000 AUD



The average **starting salary** package for graduates working in the **banking** and **financial** services sector in Australia."



14,299



The number of RMIT business graduates working in Singapore.iii



in employment



The percentage of **RMIT Logistics and Supply Chain** Management degree graduates employed within four months after graduationvii, compared with the national employment rate of 86.4% for all undergraduates.viii









RMIT's MBA is ranked 14th in the world ix

15,584

The number of RMIT business graduates working in business development.iii



^{up} 10.5%

from June 2017



The number of advertising and marketing jobs is expected to increase by 10.5% by May 2022.

bit.ly/GraduateSalaries2014 | "bit.ly/BestGraduatePay | "b bit.ly/Alumnilnsights (based on 108,909 alumni as at 4 October 2017) | 1/2 bit.ly/BusinessManagementTopUnis | 1/2 bit.ly/EmploymentProjectionsInsights | 1/2 bit.ly/GraduateEmployabilityQS | 1/2 2016 Graduate Destination Survey (of those available for full-time work, and who responded to the survey) bit.ly/RMITFactsandFigures | viii bit.ly/GraduateOutcomesSurvey | ix bit.ly/CEOmagMBArankings *Aged less than 25 in their first full-time job.

Figures accurate as at 4 October 2017

7 Tips for balancing work, life and study

While university study is proven to have long-term payoffs in terms of career progression and earning potential, it's usually not the only thing going on in your life.

With that in mind, we've put together seven tips for ensuring you take the time to focus on your studies, without sacrificing other areas of your life:

Read online

3. Plan your time

'The first thing to recognise is that some things are going to have to give way to fit your study ... If you're working full time, consider working part time. If this is not possible then enrol on a part-time basis.

'Plan for your study like you would any new endeavour. If it is one year, two years, three years – you need to make it become part of your everyday life,' says Professor Charlesworth.

6. Be realistic with your expectations

'Be reasonable about what is doable in the time you have. Make sure you build in some down time ... life events have a habit of getting in the way of study, and that's OK,' Sara explains.

It's also important to keep communicating with your lecturers and teachers. They are aware of the challenges their students face and can give advice or assistance if you're struggling.

1. Communicate the benefits to those invested

Extra study is likely to benefit more than just you, suggests Professor Sara Charlesworth from RMIT's School of Management and Centre for People, Organisations and Work, and it's important to communicate what it means for everyone to make it easier.

'Sit down with your family or your manager. Tell them why returning to study is important to you and the difference it will make not only for you but also for them. You are going to need them on side during your studies as there will be ups and downs along the way,' she says.

2. Research institutions and courses

Consider the following questions when you start your research:

- Are you after flexible learning?
 Check whether your course offers distance or part-time.
- Where is the campus located and how will you get there? Think about where you want to study.
- Do you need childcare services?
- Is the cultural environment important to you? Check out the local cafes, restaurants and cultural offerings.

Have a question you can't easily find an answer to on an institution's website? Most universities and TAFEs have student advisors available who can help, like RMIT Connect.

More information

4. Take advantage of online textbooks

Technology has brought about the end of the days when carrying around weighty text books in your bag is a necessity. Electronic readers allow you to have all your textbooks with you at all times, allowing you to dip in whenever you have a spare moment.

5. Get out of the house

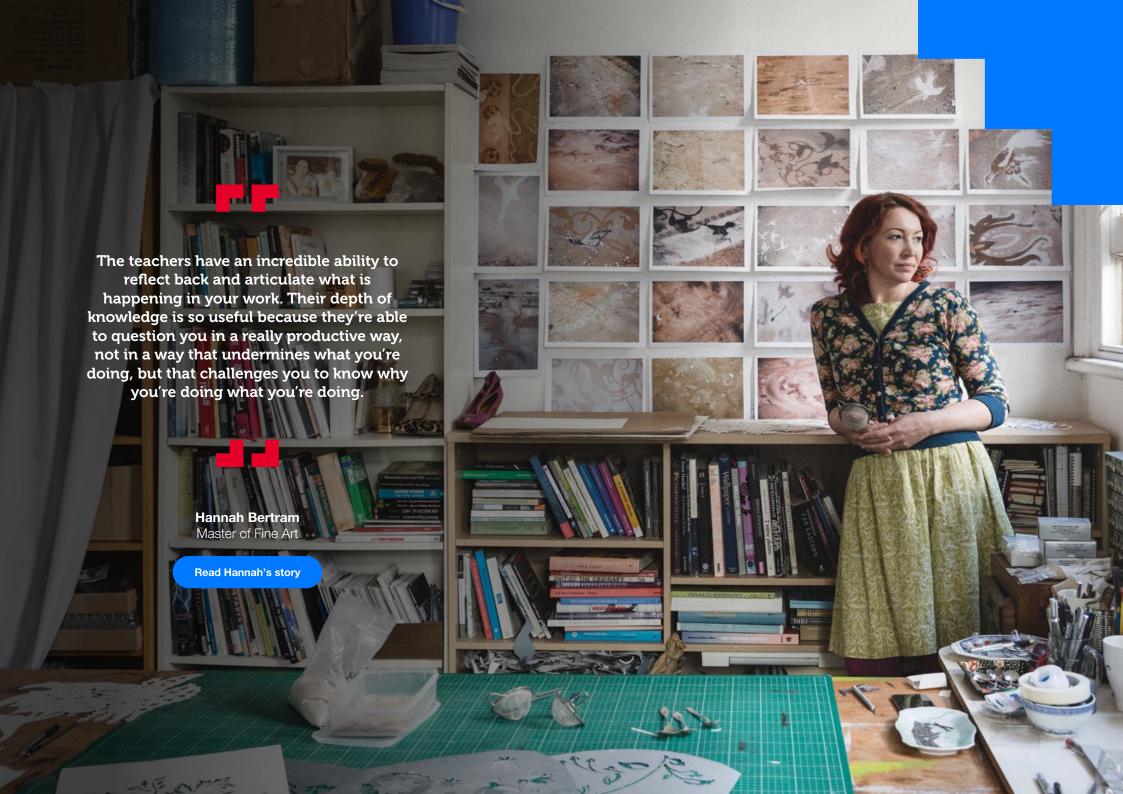
It can be far too tempting to get distracted by all the chores that need to be done around the house when it's essay time. So leaving the house to find a place where you can focus can often help. Try the silent section of the library or if you don't mind a bit of background noise, try a café.

7. Don't sacrifice too much for your study

While you will have to make some sacrifices to fit study into your life, it's important not to sacrifice too much. Otherwise you'll resent your studies, which will start to affect other parts of your life.

So before you ask yourself how to make it happen, ask how much you want the end goal.

If your reason for studying is not compelling enough, then your ability to find balance will seem like a struggle. But if you have a compelling enough 'why', managing your priorities will still be a juggling act but ultimately you'll make it work.





How I returned to study after having kids and made it work

Returning to uni after 20 years and finding a balance between study and parenting had its challenges, but Karen Seligman is confident her family benefited in the long run. Here are her four tips for balancing study and motherhood:

1. Be (very) organised

Read your course information, including assignment instructions, as soon as they are available. Use calendars or planners to work out how closely spaced assignments or exams will be, which is especially important if you are doing multiple assignment-based courses. Deadlines may be close together or even clash!

2. Make the most of your support mechanisms

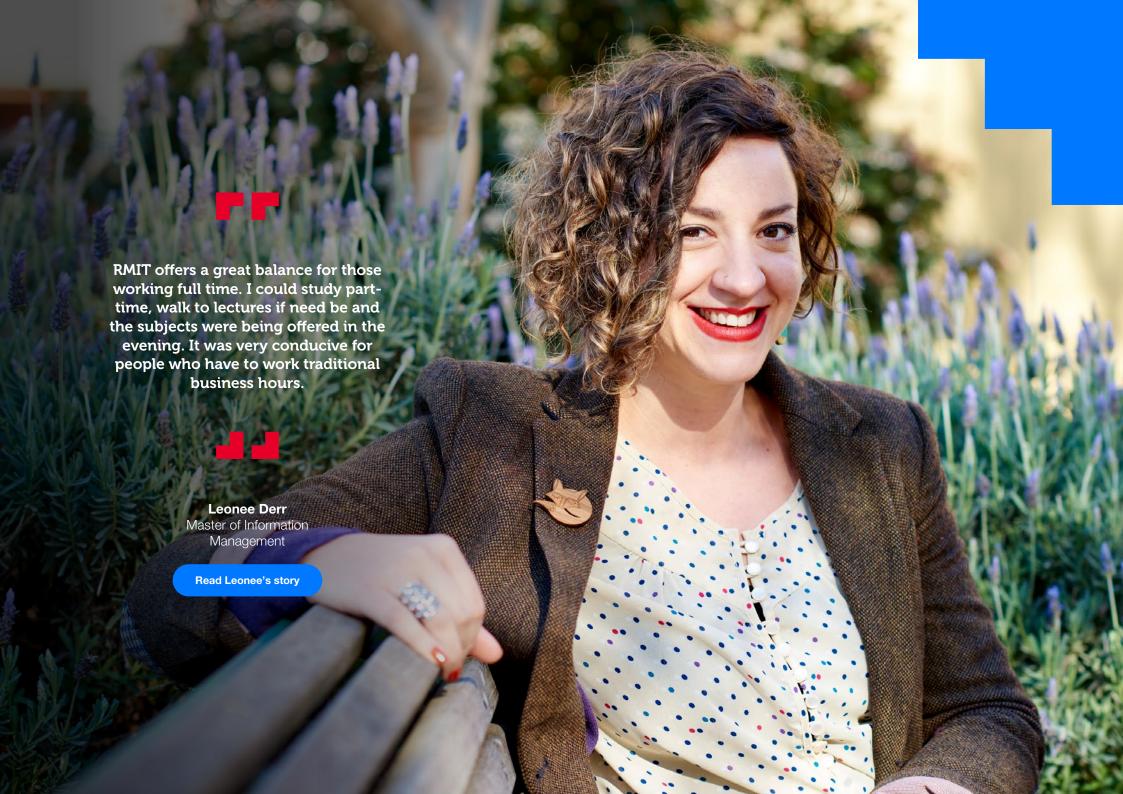
This is not just about childcare or housework arrangements; RMIT offers support services through its Study and Learning Centre, and through its libraries. Brush up on study skills such as research, citation, academic writing or time management, especially if you haven't studied for a while.

3. Ask your lecturers, tutors and fellow students for support

Attend some face-to-face courses to get to know these people – it will make your studies more enjoyable as well as more productive! My lecturers and tutors at RMIT were great; they were very understanding about the demands of juggling family, work and study. They really helped me do my best work, by helping me clarify assignment topics, and even by granting me an extension when I had to care for sick children while completing my assignment.

4. Take advantage of any flexibility in your program structure

Don't overload yourself, complete your program more slowly if home or work-life becomes too busy. If you don't feel rushed, you will learn more deeply and also enjoy the learning process more.



Thinking of studying engineering?

Engineering at RMIT: The options and rewards

RMIT engineering students can specialise in:

- aerospace engineering and aviation
- biomedical engineering
- chemical engineering
- civil engineering
- computer engineering
- electrical and electronic engineering
- engineering management
- environmental and sustainable engineering
- mechanical and automotive engineering
- mechatronics and manufacturing systems
- surveying and geospatial sciences
- telecommunications engineering

Ranging from Certificates, Diplomas, Bachelor through to Masters and PhD Research

Future employment trend

3,500

The number of new jobs in civil engineering construction expected by May 2022 i



up 4.6% from May 2017

Australian average salary



of an engineer ii



industries ii





AU\$
60,000

for an engineering graduate iii



AU\$ **130.325**

for an engineering manager iv

Graduate outcome



Undergraduates with full-time employment



employment months after completing their studies.



all graduates

World university rankings

RMIT rankings are ...



Top 100

Civil and Structural Engineering, Electrical and Electronic vi



Top 150

Chemical, Mechanical, Aeronautical and Manufacturing vi

Sources:

¹ Employment Projections – bit.ly/employment-projections | ¹ bit.ly/australias-salary-review | ¹ bit.ly/ graduate-salaries-report | ¹/₂ bit.ly/management-salary-benchmarking | ²/₂ QLT 2017 Graduate Outcomes Survey – bit.ly/graduate-outcomes-survey | ²/₂ QS World University Rankings – bit.ly/qs-uni-rankings

Our postgrad students at a glance

With over 90 postgraduate degrees to choose from, RMIT has helped hundreds of thousands of students to think forward, gain an edge and take control of their future. This is what we look like:

Sources:

- ¹ 2018–19 QS World University Rankings
- ² 2018 QS Graduate Employability Rankings
- 3 2018 QS World University Rankings by Subject
- 4 2019 QS Top 50 Under 50 index
- ⁵ CEO Magazine



Fields of Study (postgraduate)

- International and Community Services
- Building, Construction and Planning



Attendance Mode

Full-time 68%

Age group

0.06%

Aged (20-24)

41.9%

13

Top 100

Universities in the world for:

Business & Management Studies

Communication & Media Studies

Accounting & Finance

Computer Science

& Information Systems

Engineering (Civil & Structural)

Engineering (Electrical & Electronic)

Development Studies

Education

Young people (15-19)

Part-time 32%



Gender

Female Male Other

51.7% 48.2% 0.11%



Residence

Domestic 43.54%

International Students Studying in Australia

43.3%

International Students Studying outside of Australia

2.11%

Online and Distance

11.05%



Universities in the world for:

- Engineering (Chemical)
- and Manufacturing)



5-Star QS ranking for excellence in higher education



Rankings

No.21

in the world and #5 in Australia for universities less than 50 years old4

15th

highest ranked university in Australia and 250th in the world1

40th

in the world for the international profile of academic staff1

No. 2

in Australia, #15 in the world and #6 Asia-Pacific region for graduate employment rate³

No. 1

in Australia for Art and Design and #11 in the world³

No. 4 in Australia for

Architecture and #26 in the world³

No. 2

in Australia and #20 in the world for Library and Information Management³

No. 19

in the world in the Business of Fashion's 2017 Global Fashion School Rankings and 9th in the BoF's Top 10 Global Graduate **Fashion Business** Courses

No. 97

in the world and #13 in the Asia-Pacific region in the 2018 QS Global **Executive MBA** rankings, and ranked in the world's top 151-200 in the 2018 **QS Full-Time MBA**

No. 33

in the Global **Executive MBA** Rankings and 19th globally for the Executive MBA program in the 2018 Global MBA Rankings⁵



Top 5

- Education and Teaching
- Business
- Art, Design and Architecture



Mature Age (25-44)

51.41%

Mature Age (45+)

6.61%

Top 150

- Engineering (Mechanical, Aeronautical
- Geography
- Social Sciences & Management 3



Ready for life and work

RMIT is serious about getting you ready for what comes after you complete your postgrad study.

To help you get prepared each step of the way, a number of programs have been developed.

Job Shop

RMIT's Job Shop is your drop-in service centre for all things career-related. You can visit the Job Shop for help with your career search, to attend career workshops and networking events, and to explore casual, part-time and volunteer work opportunities that could help you land your dream job.

For more information, visit Job Shop.

Career Health Check

Our friendly career advisors will meet you face-to-face and can provide you advice to help improve your job-specific resume, cover letter writing skills, key selection criteria responses, interview performance, job searching tactics and more.

For more information, visit <u>Career</u> Health Check.

Industry Mentoring

Network and learn from a professional already working in your chosen field, the experience can help you with strategies and tips to get your career successfully underway.

For more information, visit Industry Mentoring.

RMIT Creds

RMIT Creds is a suite of digital credentials co-designed with industry to help you develop the skills and experiences you

need in future work and life. You can choose your learning path to create your own portfolio of professional and personal skills and capabilities, and earn digital badges which can be shared on social media.

For more information, visit **RMIT Creds**.

Global Study and Work

A transformative global experience can be part of your RMIT journey. You could enjoy a two week study tour to Germany, three months volunteering in Indonesia or a semester at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago.

For more information, visit <u>Global Study</u> and Work.

RMIT Activator

With over 50 different experiences for you to choose from, RMIT Activator is a unique platform designed to connect you with everything you need to think, create and innovate like an entrepreneur.

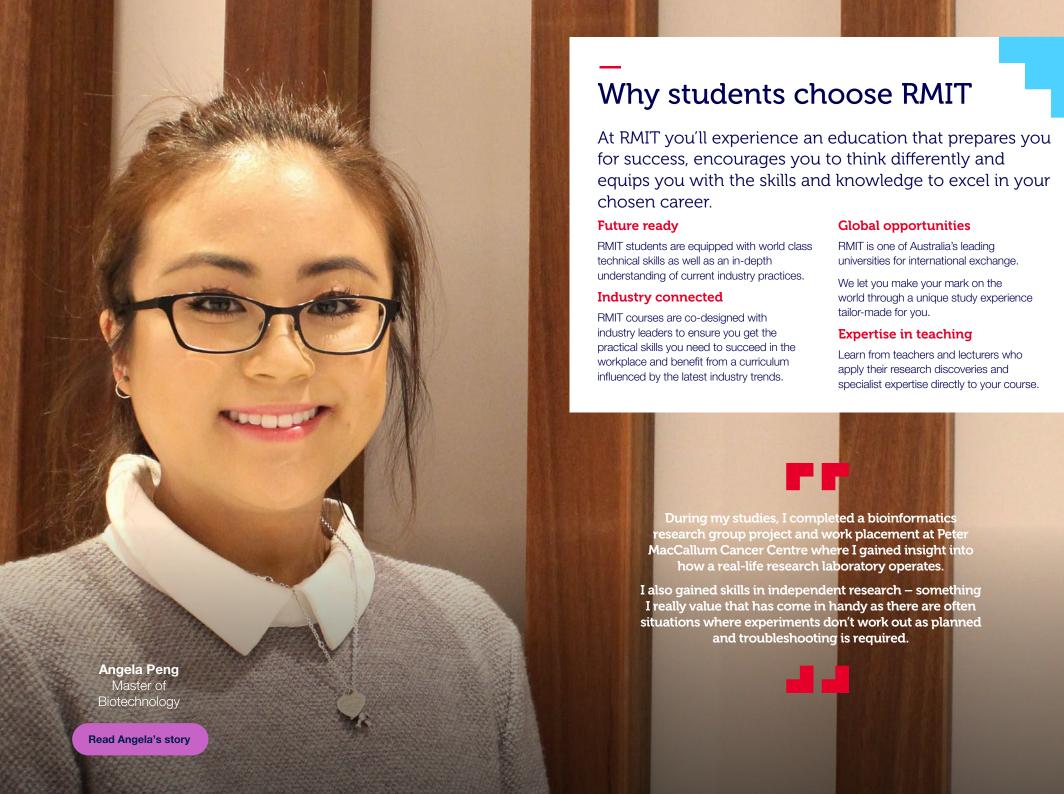
For more information, visit **RMIT Activator**.

RMIT Enterprise and Business Creation Centre

Learn from innovative world leaders in your chosen field and gain connections and skills to help you find the right job when you graduate.

For more information, visit <u>RMIT Enterprise</u> and Business Creation Centre.





Frequently asked questions

What are programs and courses?

At RMIT, we refer to a program as the qualification. For example, MC197 Master of Marketing.

Courses are subjects in a program. For example, MKTG1100 Marketing Management is a course in the Master of Marketing program.

How to apply?

Most of the time you apply through RMIT's Admission System. Sometimes you might apply through VTAC for certain programs. You can take a look at the "How to apply" page on the RMIT website for detailed information.

More information

When do you apply?

RMIT has closing dates for applications but it is well worth looking at anytime to see if places are still available. Generally there are two intakes per year. Semester 1 starts in late February or early March and Semester 2 starts in July. If you go to the program page of the RMIT website and click "apply", that will tell you if there are places still available.

More information

What are the entrance requirements?

Check the program page of the RMIT website as all programs differ.

The program pages will also outline any additional requirements you might need for your application and the due dates.

Can I study online?

Many of our postgraduate programs are offered online via RMIT Online and Open University (OUA). Application dates for online study are different as intake dates/semesters are not the same as on campus study. You will need to apply via RMIT Online or OUA.

RMIT online

RMIT via OUA

Can I get credit for prior study?

If you have completed previous learning or have work experience, you may be eligible to apply for credit. If successful, it will shorten the length of study time and amount you will pay for your program. Application for credit is currently only available to RMIT students. Applications for credit can be made once you have accepted your offer and enrolled in courses.

More information

What is the difference between full-time and part-time study?

Full-time and part-time study refers to how many courses you will complete in a semester. For a postgraduate program, you will tend to do four (or sometimes three) courses per semester. Part-time refers to two or less courses per semester.

Full-time study for University is generally three to four days per week, and may include 12-16 hours of classes weekly (four courses per semester). Part-time is roughly half this time.

Can I view timetables?

To help you plan your schedule and see if you can fit everything in, you may view class timetables online.

You can search for class timetables by course code.

Finding course codes: Go to program page > click on Program details > click on View plan (under program plans)

Are scholarships available?

You may be eligible to apply for scholarships to help fund your study. RMIT Scholarships lists scholarships by interest area, eligibility criteria or program.

FEE-HELP is a loan for eligible full-fee

paying students which covers up to 100%

Australian citizens can defer their payment

through FEE-HELP. Permanent humanitarian

visa holders and some New Zealand citizens

are also eligible. This is subject to change.

More information

It is advised that you get in contact with our Scholarships team directly.

Tel: +61 3 9925 2811



access it?

of tuition fees.

Email



Website

What fees do I pay?

The majority of postgrad places are full fee, known as AFP (Australian Fee Paying). Some programs have limited CSP (Commonwealth Supported Places) intakes and you can find this on each program page. Each program page will also provide an indicative annual tuition fee. Note that CSP's are generally given out based on academic merit and are highly competitive.

You might find this infographic, which explains the difference between AFP and CSP, helpful.

More information

What student support services are available to me?

We will support you during every step of your RMIT journey. Some of our support services include:

- Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander student support
- Careers advice
- Chaplaincy
- Counselling
- Disability support
- Legal advice
- Study help

More information



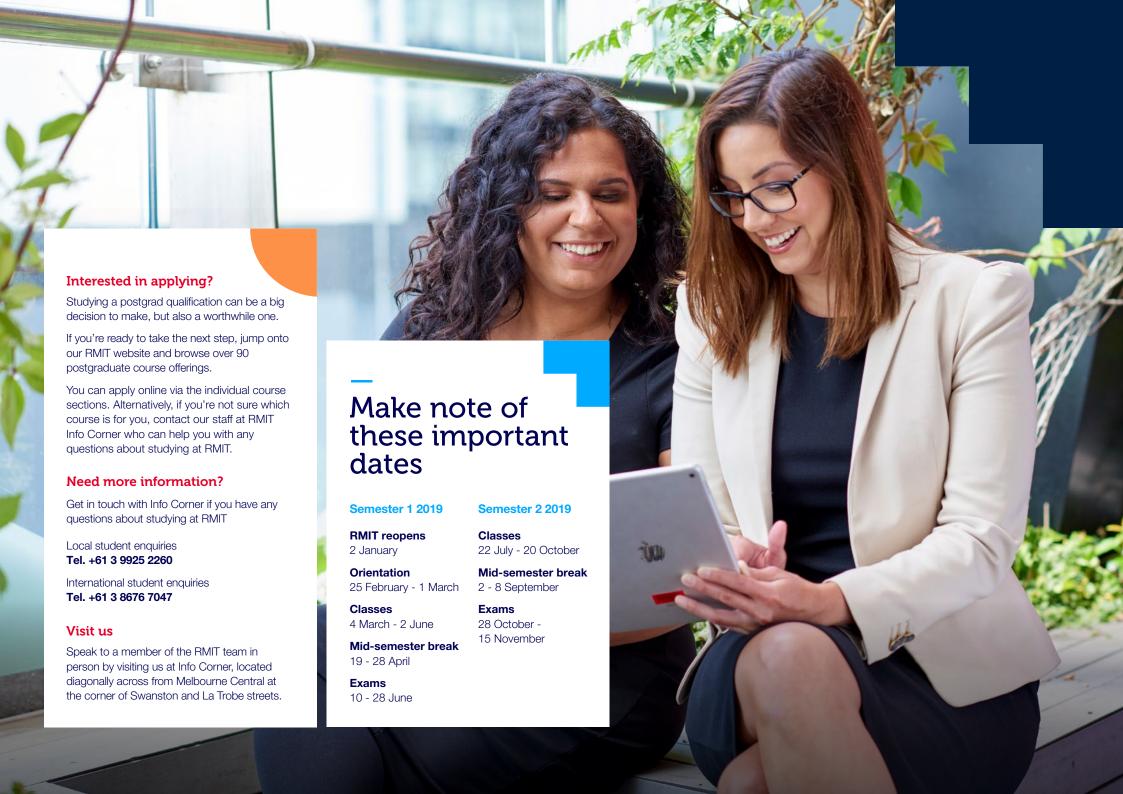












Taking the next steps

RMIT is serious about getting you ready for what comes after university. To do that, a number of programs have been developed to help you maintain your momentum while studying.

There's more to life than lectures

As an RMIT student you'll find there are so many ways to make the most of your uni days. Whether it's joining a sporting team or social club, starting a band or taking a ski trip, there really is something for everyone.

Arts and culture



You don't have to be an arts student to take part in RMIT's writing, dance, design, film, and visual and performing arts programs.

Clubs and societies



If you're after a chance to meet new people and gain new skills, join one of the 135 student-run clubs and societies.

Sports and fitness



What's life with all study and no play? Whether it's sporting, personal training or a cheeky game of badminton - check out the vast array of sport and fitness options at RMIT.

Be supported while you study

Resources for Postgraduate students



Don't fear if you need to sharpen up your writing and research skills! RMIT offers free resources for postgraduate students to point you in the right direction.

Global study and work >



You can study, work or travel overseas as part of your RMIT course. RMIT has global work, exchange and study experiences to suit you at every stage of study and life.

Study and Learning Centre >



Receive free study and learning advice whilst studying at RMIT. Build your academic skills in a friendly environment and improve your general academic, writing, maths, statistics, physics and chemistry skills with experienced learning advisors.

Child Care 5



RMIT City Campus Children's Centre provides long day care to support you and your little ones during your studies.

Equitable Learning Services (ELS)



RMIT provides support and equal opportunities for students with a disability, long-term illness and/ or mental health condition as well as primary carers of individuals with a disability.

Computer access



Take advantage of our student computer labs some of which are open 24/7. Or if you'd prefer to use your own laptop, tablet or smartphone, you can connect to our wireless network on any RMIT Campus.

Student support >



Make the most of RMIT with our free student services. Achieve your study goals, stay happy and healthy, and know there is support and assistance when you need it.



This information is designed for Australian and New Zealand citizens and permanent residents of Australia.

Disclaimer: Every effort has been made to ensure the information contained in this publication is accurate and current at the date of printing.

For the most up-to-date information, please refer to the RMIT University website before lodging your application. Visit www.rmit.edu.au.

RMIT University CRICOS

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