Whether you’re finishing high school and want to explore your options, or you’re already in the workforce and want to advance your career with additional qualifications, the Diploma in General Studies (DiGS) could be a great option for you.

A PATHWAY TO MELBOURNE DEGREES

DiGS gives you the opportunity to explore a range of fields, and can be used as your pathway to one of the following University of Melbourne bachelors degrees:

- Bachelor of Agriculture
- Bachelor of Biomedicine
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Design
- Bachelor of Science.

You can build the skills to achieve at university while living in a close-knit and supportive community at our Dookie campus near Shepparton.

The diploma allows you to:

- Explore your study options before committing to a bachelors degree
- Get guaranteed entry into a University of Melbourne bachelors degree (see page 7)
- Study prerequisite subjects you may have missed in high school, including science, mathematics, business and environments
- Earn credit towards an undergraduate degree
- Access a range of scholarships to help you fund your living expenses
- Explore your independence and life away from home in a close community experience
- Build extra skills while you study by completing practical Certificate III courses.

unimelb.edu.au/study/digs
“The DiGS program helped me get into a bachelors degree that I would not have been able to go straight into from high school. I really liked the atmosphere that Dookie provides; it allowed me to form good relationships with my lecturers to help me with my studies, and great friendships with the other students living on campus.”

Claire Jensen
Diploma in General Studies
Bachelor of Agriculture

1 The published minimums and guaranteed scores are those approved for 2020 and should be considered indicative for 2021. The 2021 minimums and guaranteed scores will be available on the University’s website once confirmed.
YOUR STUDENT EXPERIENCE

Experience a unique student lifestyle in a cohesive community of peers, with supportive and inspiring teachers on hand to provide guidance. During your DiGS journey, you’ll enjoy the experience of independent living among friends and classmates, with the convenience of on-campus accommodation, close to your classrooms, study facilities, and all the leisure amenities the University of Melbourne’s Dookie campus has to offer.

Living and studying at Dookie campus will help you form friendships and skills that will last a lifetime. Situated on 2440 hectares between Shepparton and Benalla in Victoria, Dookie has been home to a tight-knit community of students, researchers and teaching staff since 1886.

Be sure to take advantage of Dookie’s many recreational facilities, including a swimming pool, gym, tennis and basketball courts, cricket nets, sports grounds, squash courts, and even horse club facilities if you would like to house your equine friend on campus.

Discover the campus research farm – including a winery, grazing and cropping areas, orchard, robotic dairy and seed bank. Chat with on-site researchers who are exploring critical issues such as food security, biodiversity and water efficiency. Experience hands-on learning in the farm facilities and develop your practical skills in a range of subjects.

fvas.unimelb.edu.au/dookie

STUDENT CLUBS AND SOCIETIES

Joining a club or society is a great way to continue some of the extracurricular activities you already love, find a new interest or meet like-minded friends from within or outside of your course. Join the Melbourne University Agricultural and Food Sciences Society (AFSS), one of our many wildlife appreciation groups, the Pre Ag Club if you’re pursuing a career in agriculture, or, if you’re seeking a career in veterinary science, join our Pre Vet Club. The University has over 200 clubs and societies, so, join up and get involved.

STAYING AT DOOKIE

Dookie campus is located in the Goulburn Valley, two and a half hours drive from Melbourne’s CBD. You’ll stay in recently upgraded dormitories, with access to all the modern conveniences you need, including internet, communal kitchen and car parking, as well as dining hall facilities.

For bookings and enquiries, contact: dookie-residential@unimelb.edu.au

SAMPLE COURSE PLAN – DIPLOMA IN GENERAL STUDIES

The subjects listed on this page are samples only. Availability varies according to semester and may change from year to year. You will be advised of subject offerings prior to subject selection and enrolment.

A fee of $25 per week will be charged by the Faculty of Veterinary and Agricultural Sciences for each private horse kept on the Dookie campus to cover administration costs, space in a fenced paddock, a space for horse tack and to park a horse float.

If you’re aiming to progress to a Bachelor of Biomedicine, Commerce or Science, but did not achieve a score of 25 or above in VCE Mathematical Methods 3 and 4, the Fundamentals of Mathematics (MAST10017) subject will meet prerequisite requirements. You’ll need to undertake other subjects, for example, Calculus and Probability Online or Unilearn Senior Mathematics, to meet entry requirements. Depending on the degree you aim to progress towards, your DGS subjects will affect the credit you’re able to carry forward to your bachelor’s degree. If you undertake Systems Biology (BIOL10006) to meet entry requirements for the Bachelor of Science, you won’t be able to use as credit towards your degree. If you undertake Foundation Studies in Chemistry (SCHEM10004) to meet entry requirements for the Bachelor of Biomedicine, you won’t be able to use as credit towards your degree. See: study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/undergraduate/diploma-in-general-studies/where-will-this-take-me

YOUR DiGS EXPERIENCE

The Diploma in General Studies (DiGS) is a great way to take a step forward in your career by building your skills and developing your focus for further study.

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COURSE STRUCTURE

You’ll complete four subjects per semester as a full-time student or two per semester if you’re studying part time. Each subject is worth 12.5 credit points and the course is a total of 100 credit points.

PREPARE YOURSELF FOR ACADEMIC SUCCESS

DiGS has one compulsory subject: Academic Writing and Communication. This subject is designed to prepare you for academic success and build your confidence in studying, writing and presenting at a university level.

MEET UNIVERSITY PREREQUISITES YOU MISSED IN SCHOOL

Mathematics, biology and chemistry aren’t just interesting areas to explore – they can be key to understanding a range of fields. If you didn’t study these subjects in school, DiGS can help you meet prerequisites via the following subjects:

- Fundamentals of Mathematics (meets VCE Further Mathematics prerequisite in University of Melbourne degrees)
- Systems Biology
- Foundation Studies in Chemistry

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- Fundamentals of Mathematics (meets VCE Further Mathematics prerequisite in University of Melbourne degrees)
- Systems Biology
- Foundation Studies in Chemistry
EXPAND YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND WORK-READINESS

DiGS offers a range of subjects in science, business, agriculture and the environments so you can find the right path for your future. Explore how businesses make decisions, what makes animals and plants grow and thrive, how a good manager works, ways we can make our lives more sustainable, and more through the following subjects:

- Agricultural Genetics
- Animal Systems
- Climate Change and Impacts
- Introduction to Accounting
- Introductory Economics
- Land Resources and Management
- Landscape Information Systems
- Organisation and Management
- Plant Systems.

WHERE WILL IT TAKE YOU?

DiGS gives you the chance to explore your options. If you’ve never studied maths, science or other prerequisites before, this is your opportunity to undertake these subjects in a supportive environment to give you the foundations you need to pursue the career you want.

You can study course prerequisites, up-skill with a Certificate III, or gain credit towards a University of Melbourne degree.

If eligible, you could get guaranteed entry to one of the following:

- Bachelor of Agriculture
- Bachelor of Biomedicine
- Bachelor of Commerce
- Bachelor of Design
- Bachelor of Science.

Guaranteed scores apply only for those eligible for Access Melbourne at the time of application to the Diploma in General Studies. For further information see: unimelb.edu.au/study/digs
ADMISSIONS

HOW TO APPLY
Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) applications are accepted.

Mature-age applicants are welcome. Indigenous students and students from disadvantaged backgrounds are encouraged to apply.

Application information, including the direct entry application form and special entry form (if applicable), are available at:

unimelb.edu.au/study/digs

FEES
All DiGS students receive a Commonwealth Supported Place (CSP). You will pay a contribution amount that is determined each year by the Australian Government according to the subjects in which you enrol.

Your payment of the student contribution amount can be made at enrolment (upfront) or deferred through HECS-HELP for eligible students. See the Study Assist website for more details:

studyassist.gov.au

Or visit:

study.unimelb.edu.au/how-to-apply/fees

SCHOLARSHIPS
The DiGS program comes with a range of scholarship opportunities, designed to contribute towards the costs associated with beginning university, such as Student Services and Amenities Fees, books, discipline-specific equipment and technological devices.

There are a number of scholarship opportunities available:

- General Studies scholarships worth up to $5000
- 15 Destination Australia scholarships valued at $15,000 each were awarded in 2020.

fvas.unimelb.edu.au/study/scholarships

ACCESS MELBOURNE
The University of Melbourne’s equity program for domestic undergraduate students, Access Melbourne, can help you gain a place in our degrees even if your academic results are below the selection rank normally required for an offer.

Access Melbourne takes into consideration the unique and personal circumstances that may have impacted your final secondary school results as part of your undergraduate course application – such as financial hardship, a medical condition, or even your location.

Applications are made by submitting a Special Entry Access Scheme (SEAS) application through the VTAC website:

vtac.edu.au

For more information and how to apply visit:

access.unimelb.edu.au

“DiGS gives me the opportunity to go into almost any degree I want. It’s extremely helpful if you’re not sure what to study as it opens up lots of pathways. If I hadn’t received the Destination Australia Scholarship I wouldn’t be studying this year. It means I haven’t had to take a gap year and save up for university. It was a head start that I couldn’t refuse and has given me a huge advantage starting my career pathway.”

Alexander Lovel
Diploma in General Studies
A guide to lowest selection rank ATARs and subject prerequisites. The 2021 minimums are subject to Academic Board approval and will be available on the University’s website once confirmed.

### Qualification
- **Australian Year 12**
  - Domestic students: Indicative 2020 minimum ATAR: 50.00
  - Domestic students: 2020 selection lowest ATAR: 50.20
  - VCE (Units 3 and 4) prerequisite subjects: A study score of at least 20 in English/English Language/Literature or at least 25 in EAL
  - International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma
    - Domestic students: Indicative 2020 minimum notional ATAR: 50.00
    - IB prerequisite subjects: At least Grade 4 in English or English B (SL or HL)

### GUARANTEED ENTRY INTO MELBOURNE DEGREES
After completing the Diploma in General Studies, you could be eligible for guaranteed entry into the following University of Melbourne degrees:
- Bachelor of Agriculture: Requires a pass in all eight subjects
- Bachelor of Biomedicine: Requires graded average score of 90%
- Bachelor of Commerce: Requires graded average score of 85%
- Bachelor of Design: Requires graded average score of 75%
- Bachelor of Science: Requires graded average score of 75%

### FURTHER STUDY
On completion of DiGS, you could also be eligible for credit towards your Melbourne degree, depending on the subjects you have taken. This means you can study a lighter course load or even finish your degree early. If you progress to the Bachelor of Agriculture, you could receive credit for most of your first-year subjects.

### VET APPLICATIONS
We accept applications from VET Certificate IV graduates. To be considered, you’ll be required to have at least a 50 per cent average in one of the following qualifications:
- Certificate IV in Accounting
- Certificate IV in Agriculture
- Certificate IV in Conservation and Land Management
- Certificate IV in Frontline Management

### DIRECT APPLICATIONS
We also accept direct applications for the Diploma in General Studies. Applications close 14 days before the semester start date (February or July intakes). The application includes details of your previous education, employment, two references and a written statement.


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Applications who achieve the minimum ATAR for a course will be eligible for a place, provided prerequisite studies and any other specific course requirements are met. The lowest selection rank to which an offer was made may be higher, depending on demand for the course and the number of places available. Only applicants eligible for special entry schemes will be admitted below the minimum ATAR.

If you’re aiming to progress to a Bachelor of Biomedicine, Commerce or Science, but did not achieve a score of 25 or above in VCE Mathematical Methods 3 and 4, the Fundamentals of Mathematics (MAST10017) subject will not meet prerequisite requirements. You’ll need to undertake other subjects, for example, Calculus and Probability Online or Unilearn Senior Mathematics, to meet entry requirements. Depending on the degree you aim to progress towards, your DiGS subjects will affect the credit you’re able to carry forward to your bachelor’s degree. If you undertake Systems Biology (BIOG10001) to meet entry requirements for the Bachelor of Science, you won’t be able to use as credit towards your degree. If you undertake Foundation Studies in Chemistry (CHEM10008) to meet entry requirements for the Bachelor of Biomedicine, you won’t be able to use as credit towards your degree. See: [study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/undergraduate/diploma-in-general-studies/where-will-this-take-me](http://study.unimelb.edu.au/find/courses/undergraduate/diploma-in-general-studies/where-will-this-take-me)
If you’re considering studies at the University of Melbourne, we’d love to hear from you online or meet you on campus.

Sign up and submit enquiries online at: study.unimelb.edu.au/connect-with-us

For information on our courses and entry requirements contact Stop 1

Call 13 MELB (13 6352)
+ 61 3 9035 5511

Visit us at Stop 1 (Parkville):
757 Swanston Street
The University of Melbourne
Victoria 3010 Australia