



Top Ten Tips for New Students by Current Students

1. Text books

I really recommend waiting until the first week of class has started until you buy textbooks, if your course even requires textbooks! Your lecturers will tell you what you need, or you can look at the Course Outline to see what is needed. You will find that a lot of your courses may have 'readers' instead, which are much cheaper and can be purchased through the Online Shop in Unified. If you do need textbooks you can go through The Co-op (located in Hub Central) or you can look for cheaper copies through the Book Depository, Gumtree, and even Facebook. Look around campus notice boards for second hand books.
<http://www.coop.com.au/>

2. Do not sit on the very end of the row in the lecture theatre

Especially if you are there early. Make your way into the middle; it will force potential friends to sit next to you and you won't have people clambering over you to try and get to the only free seat when they are running late. Also make sure that you familiarise yourself with the buildings where your classes will be before the first day – you don't want to turn up late for class and have everyone, including the lecturer, stare at you as you slink in!

3. Join a club or organisation

There are hundreds of different clubs on campus, and you are sure to find something that is up your alley! Clubs are great for giving you a break from your study, and for meeting people with similar interests!
<https://www.aau.org.au/>

4. Attend your lectures, even if they are recorded

Not only are you guaranteed to get something out of the lecture, it will also help you to keep up rather than telling yourself each week that you will watch the lectures and then never end up doing it. Also the lecturer will remember your face if you are one of the select group of people that attend their lectures each week, and it is never a bad thing to be on good terms with the academics!

5. Be aware of dates and deadlines

This is seriously important. Whether it is a deadline for an assignment or knowing when the census date is, if you get muddled up there will be consequences. I recommend putting all of your assignment and critical dates in a calendar where you will see them in advance. Whether it is on your phone, computer or in a diary, being organised now will save you a headache later.
<http://www.adelaide.edu.au/student/dates/critical/>

6. Learn to reference!

This will be emphasized across all of your courses and if you can learn to reference correctly from the start, it will become a natural habit. Whatever you do, do not plagiarise. It isn't worth getting a fail grade, and potentially kicked out of University for cheating:

www.adelaide.edu.au/writingcentre/referencing_guides/

7. Your lecturers and tutors are here to help

One of the most beneficial things that you can do is talk to them in person. Make sure that you know their name and they know yours. If they know who you are, they are more likely to be able to help you out if you make a mistake, and may even have you in mind if they are approached by potential employers! You can find the Course Coordinator's name in the Course Outline available in Canvas and at

www.adelaide.edu.au/course-outlines. Office hours are often on Canvas, take advantage of them as academics have dedicated to help answer student's questions and be available to talk during this time.

8. Find what works for you

I mean this in relation to most things in regards to your study, life and work. Find study habits that work for you, try studying in a group environment, hand writing notes, typing notes, just keep trying until you find what suits you! You can apply this to your study load as well; you might decide to do 3 courses a semester and work more during the semester.

9. Don't feel trapped

By this I mean if you start your degree but realise it is not right for you, you do not need to stick with it. It is pretty simple to transfer between most degrees, and don't be afraid to try things that you might find interesting in your elective space!

10. Finally, please remember that you are not alone

If you are feeling a bit nervous or uneasy about starting, especially if you do not know anyone, remember that there will always be someone in the same boat as you. You can speak to a staff member at the Faculty of Arts Office if you have any questions or need any help. The university also offers a number of other support services such as the Writing Centre, or Counselling Services.

<https://www.facebook.com/arts.uofa> - <http://www.adelaide.edu.au/writingcentre/> -

https://www.adelaide.edu.au/counselling_centre/