Welcome to the Faculty of Science
About Science at Melbourne

The Faculty of Science includes seven schools, the Office for Environmental Programs and the Bio21 Molecular Science & Biotechnology Institute, and has close links with many internal and external research and training facilities.

OUR CAMPUS
The University of Melbourne is a diverse community of around 45,000 students from over 150 countries. Our beautiful and historic main campus is located in Parkville, only minutes from the CBD. Horticulture students can spend time at the nearby Burnley campus, where gardens and green infrastructure dominate the urban environment, while forestry students can live and study amongst the trees at our Creswick campus, located on 20 stunning hectares approximately 120 kilometres from the city.

OUR STUDENTS
More than 1800 graduate students study in the Faculty of Science, in both research and coursework degrees. Our entry standards are amongst the highest in Australia, creating an environment that attracts and nurtures the very best from our student community.

OUR STAFF
With close to 500 academic research and teaching staff, the Faculty of Science attracts over $50 million annually in research income. Being amongst the top-ranked research universities in the world, the University of Melbourne boasts lecturers and professors who are the finest minds at the forefront of their respective fields.

OUR FACILITIES
Students have access to state-of-the-art resources and equipment through both the Faculty of Science and the affiliated research centres, including:
- Electron and optical microscope units
- Metabolomics infrastructure
- The Australian Synchrotron
- National eResearch Collaboration Tools and Resources
- An IBM supercomputer

OUR RESEARCH CENTRES
The Faculty of Science is committed to leadership and excellence in scientific development, and our affiliated research centres include:
- Bio21 Molecular Science & Biotechnology Institute: The flagship multidisciplinary research facility in the Parkville Biomedical Precinct with specialised platform technologies in medical, agricultural and environmental biotechnology, and nanobiotechnology.
- Melbourne Energy Institute: MEI is a critical access point for industry, government and community seeking to work with leading researchers on delivering solutions to meet the world’s future energy needs.
- ARC Centre of Excellence for Mathematical & Statistical Frontiers: ACEMS comprises a range of partners working to deliver leading research in mathematical and statistical theory and methods. Mathematicians and statisticians work closely, and the results of this approach will address challenging scientific problems in the real world.
Resources and support

There are a number of resources and services available to graduate students at both a Faculty and University level.

**ONLINE RESOURCES**

sciencede.unimelb.edu.au  
The Faculty of Science website is newly redeveloped and full of necessary links and information about Science at Melbourne.

The Handbook  
The Handbook contains information and a detailed description of all University of Melbourne programs, including subject prerequisites and expected outcomes. There is also subject coordinator information listed in the Handbook should you require further information about a particular area of study.

The Learning Management System  
The LMS provides a secure environment for online teaching and learning, with access to subject materials, schedules, lecture notes and recordings, and tutorial questions. You will also access assessment information through the LMS.

my.unimelb  
Use my.unimelb to access the University Library and the LMS, as well as to manage enrolment, view your results, check announcements and book advisor appointments.

ask.unimelb  
Get questions answered or view FAQs, complete with current trending topics. This site also provides relevant contact details if you need further assistance via phone, email or live chat.

**IT support**  
Use the IT and eLearning support service if you’re having trouble logging into or using your online resources, or to get advice about IT issues, such as buying a laptop.

Student Services Finder  
Explore other student resources using this tool, and find out about upcoming opportunities, how to access wellbeing or personal services, and activities to undertake at the University.

Facebook & Twitter  
The ‘Science Student News’ Facebook account is full of information about upcoming events, current news, and job and scholarship listings. Also visit the ‘Science at Melbourne’ Facebook and Twitter accounts to find out what’s happening in science across the University, Australia and world.

GradSci News  
You will receive a monthly newsletter highlighting opportunities such as scholarships, events and new subjects, as well as tips on becoming a great science communicator and any important University dates. Look for it in your student email account.

**ACADEMIC ASSISTANCE**

Academic Skills  
Graduate students can access academic assistance from the Academic Skills Team, who conduct workshops, arrange individual tutorials and provide resources to help you succeed in your studies. The Academic Skills Team can help students develop their essay writing skills, prepare for exams or oral presentations, or even just manage time better. There is also support available for English language development.

English Language Development Program  
Doing well at university requires excellent academic language skills, and the University offers a range of support options to assist you to develop your English language proficiency, including an English language development program for Science students. In order to identify the most appropriate support, students are strongly encouraged to take the Diagnostic English Language Assessment (DELA) when commencing studies.

What is the DELA?  
The DELA is a diagnostic tool that assesses your strengths and weaknesses in reading, writing and listening over two hours. Importantly, the DELA is not an exam and you can’t fail. The DELA is a post-entry assessment, which means that it does not affect your admission to the University, and the results do not appear on your university transcript.

Who should sit the DELA?  
All international students from non-English language speaking countries are expected to sit the DELA. Other students who may wish to utilise English support services are also encouraged to sit DELA.

What does the DELA involve?  
The DELA takes two hours to complete, and has three components for which you receive results and recommendations:

- Reading (45 minutes)
- Writing (30 minutes)
- Listening (30 minutes)

When do I take the DELA?  
The DELA is offered during Orientation: Make the Most of Melbourne and is held in one of the University’s teaching venues. Times will be available on the DELA web page.

Once you complete the DELA, you’ll receive a comprehensive report explaining your results and a recommendation as to whether you’d benefit from additional language development to ensure you have a solid basis for success in your studies. The Faculty of Science offers a tailored weekly Language Development Program, designed to fit within your course, at no cost. The Science Language Development Program is application based and has strictly limited places. However, students who sit the DELA are offered priority placement into the program. Sessions will help you develop the necessary academic skills to:

- Prepare pieces of scientific writing in a range of genres
- Review and assess scientific literature
- Get the most out of lectures
- Write journal articles or a thesis
- Prepare and deliver oral presentations.

If you would like to find out more about the DELA, or the Language Development Program, you can get in touch with Academic Skills Team or visit their web page.
Resources and support

There are a number of resources and services available to graduate students at both a Faculty and University level.

**ORIENTATION: MAKE THE MOST OF MELBOURNE**
The University offers a range of orientation activities from academic skills and library orientation to social orientation events. The website will be populated with events which you can add to a personal timetable over the orientation period 9 - 20 July 2018.

**LIBRARY SERVICES**
The University of Melbourne has 12 libraries across five campuses, including Parkville, Burnley and Creswick.

Graduate students have access to all library resources, including databases, ebooks and ejournals via the website, and can book a research consultation with a subject librarian to get assistance finding relevant resources, searching effectively and managing information data.

Subject Research Guides also provide assistance with navigating the print and electronic resources available, as well as providing some practical help with beginning research, accessing and using software such as Endnote, and much more.

Several libraries have ‘extended hours zones’ available to students, with study spaces and computers accessible from 7.00am to 1.00am for most of the year.

**CLUBS AND SOCIETIES**
Take part in a range of social activities on and off-campus, with a huge variety of opportunities available. From trips to the University’s lodge on Mt Buller with the Ski Club or taking the boat out with the Waterski and Wakeboard Team, to volunteering for the University chapter of a global non-profit or singing with the Melbourne University Choral Society, there’s something for every interest.

**UoM Student Union (UMSU)**
The Student Union has a history that extends over 150 years, and is committed to creating quality on-campus experiences for students. Students automatically have access to all Union services.

**UMSU International**
UMSU International is the official representative body for international students, provided by the Student Union. International students automatically have access to all UMSU International services.

**Melbourne University Sport**
Melbourne University Sport provides students with a gym, pool, courts and grounds. They also facilitate sporting teams and competitions. All students can access services casually, or join at discounted rates.

**Graduate Student Association (GSA)**
The GSA provides a 24-hour study space, lockers and offices, a printing and publishing centre, computer labs, workshops and social events, and a graduate bar and cafe. Graduate students automatically have access to all GSA services.

**HOUSING**
Information about temporary accommodation, tenancy advice and rental listings.

**HEALTH**
Provides free-of-charge doctors appointments and health insurance information for international students.

**CAREERS**
Information and workshops available on resume writing, proofing and interview preparation, plus job listings.

**WELLBEING**
Provides access to free, confidential counselling services, plus general wellbeing activities and advice.

**SPECIAL CONSIDERATION**
The University has policies in place to support you during any short-term circumstances that adversely affect your academic performance, or ongoing circumstances that require adjustments.

**FINANCIAL AID**
Offers interest-free loans to students and provides budgeting advice.
Leaders in Communities Award
The Leaders in Communities Award is designed to help you:
• Make the most of your volunteering activities
• Develop your professional skills
• Get your extracurricular experiences recognised on your transcript.
You can start the LiCA at any time during your degree. You can also include activities that you’ve undertaken in the 24 months prior to formally starting the award (post-secondary school).
Volunteering opportunities include assisting at Open Day, mentoring for UMSU, signing up as a Science Student Ambassador in your second year or getting involved in activities like The Science Experience or Science Festival.

Internships
In the highly competitive graduate marketplace, basic knowledge is not always enough. In the Faculty of Science, we recognise the need to equip our graduates with the skills required to excel in their careers and offer subjects for academic credit towards your degree. Placements can be undertaken in a variety of settings, including clinical, laboratory, government and community organisations, small or large companies, even in a start-up!

Internships are an opportunity to:
• Develop your communication and leadership skills
• Apply your degree related skills and knowledge in an authentic work setting
• Recognise the strengths you offer a future employer, as well as areas to further develop beyond your degree
• Understand the value of industry and professional networks and their importance to self-reliance, lifelong learning and career progression.

Job Ready: Employment and Communication Skills for STEM Students
Do you have the skills you need to get the job you want? Job Ready is a free short course that will develop your communication skills and enhance your employability, so you’ll stand out from the crowd when applying for jobs.

With the help of science communication specialists and guest speakers from a range of employment and science fields, you will learn and practise the key skills of public speaking, clear writing and successful interviews.

Not only will this help you in your studies, you will come away with the skills you need to effectively convey your achievements and talents to employers.

The course runs for 8 weeks, 1 hour/week, and is specifically designed for science, technology, engineering and maths students. There are no compulsory assignments or marked coursework, however, minimum attendance is required for successful completion. This course is best attempted in the second half of your degree.

Melbourne Global Mobility (MGM)
Having an international experience as part of your degree will set you apart from the crowd. There are a number of different programs, including exchange, short-term mobility as well as internships. It is important to plan carefully, as you may not be able to study abroad once you have started a research project. Make sure you consult with your supervisors and MGM.

Science Festival
Each year, the Faculty of Science hosts the Science Festival, as part of National Science Week. It is a celebration of scientific knowledge, innovation and progress. The week-long event includes free workshops, activities, live demonstrations, trivia, movie screenings, public lectures and a whole lot more. In 2018, it runs from Mon 13 - Fri 17 August. Students, staff and the general public are invited to get involved and enjoy the fun side of science.

Photos from the Internship Networking Event in 2017 (left) and making ice-cream with liquid nitrogen at Lunchtime Carnival (right), part of Science Festival 2017.
Key dates for 2018

Listed here are some of the important dates and events on the University and Faculty calendar.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Dates</th>
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<tr>
<td>Semester 2 (12 teaching weeks)</td>
<td>23 July - 21 October</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mid-semester break (non-teaching)</td>
<td>24 - 30 September</td>
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<td>SWOT Vac</td>
<td>22 - 26 October</td>
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<td>Examinations</td>
<td>29 October - 16 November</td>
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<td>Results release date</td>
<td>30 November</td>
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<tr>
<td>Special/supplementary exams</td>
<td>06 - 13 December</td>
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Our 2017 Science Ambassadors jumping for joy in the Melbourne sunshine.
Bioinformatics is often described as the future of biology research: it is a multidisciplinary field that combines all areas of biology (including genetics, molecular biology, biochemistry and physiology) with computer science, statistics and applied mathematics to help understand biology and biological processes. Bioinformaticians act as an effective bridge between biologists, computer scientists, statisticians and effective use of data.

This stream provides a broad education in bioinformatics, with strong foundations in computer science and statistics. You will undertake independent research in bioinformatics with the potential to progress to a PhD.

Depending on your entry pathway (biology/biomedicine, computer science or mathematics and statistics), you will take a customised set of first and second semester subjects. All students take a common third and fourth semester (second year).

**ENROLMENT VARIATION**
If you have not met the official prerequisite subjects as per the Handbook, you will need to seek permission to enrol in subjects, and submit an Enrolment Variation Form. If you do not meet the official prerequisite subject(s) you will also need permission from the Subject Coordinator.

**ORIENTATION**
Faculty of Science - Orientation and Welcome
Wednesday 18 July
9.30am-11.30am
Singapore Theatre, Melbourne School of Design
Session to welcome students to the Faculty of Science, go over Faculty expectations, hear from current students and learn of services available. This will be followed by an expo where students can speak to representatives from various University service providers about internships, volunteering, international opportunities and academic skills.

Master of Science (Bioinformatics)
Optional Orientation
Wednesday 18 July
11.30am-12.30pm
Melbourne Bioinformatics Boardroom, 187 Grattan Street
Voluntary session for students who have not yet had the opportunity to discuss their course plan with the course coordinator.

“The Master of Science (Bioinformatics) is a unique course in Australia, taking students from computer science, biology and statistics backgrounds. By taking subjects in other areas you develop a wide range of skills, applicable to many potential occupations. Being part of the Parkville precinct is also a big plus with the university having close connections to the nearby research institutes.”

Luke Zappia
Master of Science (Bioinformatics)