Preparing for Graduation & Returning Home

Student Development International
Graduations Office
Alumni & Engagement
Completing Student Seminar Series

Student Development International

Wednesday 3 October
12-1pm Finding Work Internationally
CLB2

Wednesday 3 October
1-2pm Finding Work in Australia
CLB2

Friday 5 & 19 October
11.30am - 1pm Post Study Visa Options
CLB1

RSVP using the SDI Online Booking System
Preparing for Graduation

Presented by George Showell
Graduations Office
Personal Details

Check your personal details on myUNSW

- Spelling and order of your name
- Home address & mailing address
- Telephone numbers
- Email addresses – UNSW and other
- Emergency contact in home country

Your name needs to be updated by the middle of March 2019 at the latest.

That is when documents for May ceremonies will be printed

You cannot change the UNSW record of your Formal Name, Date of Birth, Gender, or Residency Status via myUNSW.

To change any of these, complete the ‘Correction of Personal Details’ form available from Student Central or https://student.unsw.edu.au/forms
Graduation Terms

Graduation Status – You can see this via the Graduation Details link in myUNSW

Potential – Graduation Status that means it’s possible you will complete your degree this semester

Confirmed – Graduation Status that means your school or faculty has confirmed that you will finish your degree this semester – if you pass all your classes

Awarded – Results have been released, and you have passed everything you needed to. Congratulations! You have finished your degree, and it will be conferred in the next conferral

Conferred/Conferral – This is an administrative process that happens once a month and makes your degree official. The date your degree is conferred will be the date of your graduation on all documents.

Graduation Ceremony – The event to celebrate your degree. Will be in May 2019 if your degree is conferred by March 2019
Results & Graduation Status

Results are released on the 5th December. An email to your student email at 9am, and on myUNSW by 6pm. If:

1. All of your results have been entered
2. AND You have passed all required classes
3. AND Your program office has confirmed that you have met all requirements for your program

Your Graduation Status will change from Potential to Awarded

Once your graduation status is Awarded, your degree will be Conferred.

Conferrals happen on the 3rd Wednesday of every month:
16 January, 20 February, 20 March
Your Graduation Ceremony

• If your award is conferred in January, February, or March, you will be invited to a ceremony in between the 6th and the 17th of May 2019.
• Once you have been allocated to a ceremony, you’ll be able to see the ceremony details in myUNSW
• If your award is conferred in April or later, you will be invited to a ceremony in August
• An indication of ceremony dates will be on the Graduations website https://student.unsw.edu.au/graduation
• RSVP Instructions will be emailed to the email addresses you have listed on myUNSW, so it’s important to make sure your alternate email is up to date.
Attending Your Graduation Ceremony

- Log into myUNSW, go to your Graduation Details page, and select Attending
- Log out and log back in and make sure your RSVP status still shows Attending
- Pay the Graduation Fee. This fee covers tickets, hire of academic dress, a stage photo, live stream of your ceremony, and refreshments after the ceremony for you and your guests
- You will automatically receive 3 guest tickets. You can apply for more if you need to
- Tickets will be emailed out three weeks prior to ceremonies

DO NOT book any travel until you have RSVPed to your graduation ceremony in myUNSW
Not Attending Graduation Ceremony

• Log into myUNSW, go to your Graduation Details page, and select Not Attending - Mail
• Log out and log back in and make sure your RSVP status still shows Not Attending - Mail
• Your documents (testamur, transcript, AHEGS) will be sent to your mailing address via TNT courier once your ceremony has taken place
• There is no cost for sending documents overseas
• Your address cannot be a post office box – someone needs to sign for your documents
• A telephone number is required – update your contact number on myUNSW
• You’re welcome to come back to a ceremony later on – just email graduations@unsw.edu.au
Fees & Debts

• Ensure all your fees and debts (including library fines) have been cleared before you graduate.

• These include Semester 1 2019 fees (if you have enrolled into another program).

• If you have any outstanding debt to the University, including library fines, you will be prevented from accessing your Academic Transcript / Award Statement and may be prevented from graduating.
Award Statements

• A document that confirms that you have completed your studies at UNSW
• After your conferral, it will also include details of your graduation ceremony
• Can only be issued once your graduation status has been updated to ‘Awarded’.
• Award statements with graduation details will be available from Thursday 6 December provided you have been confirmed.
• If you are applying for Residency/Skilled Migration you will also need to apply for an Enrolment Statement. The same request form is used to apply for BOTH Statements.

To apply simply log onto myUNSW

➢ My Student Profile > My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Statements.
➢ You will then have the option to request an Award and Enrolment Statement
➢ Award Statements for S2, 2018 take up to 3 working days to process.
Academic Transcripts

• Certified record of your full enrolment history at UNSW.
• Includes: all courses attempted, results received, and awards conferred.
• You can apply for one at any time, but your Degree and Graduation date will only appear once you have been put into a conferral.
• Transcripts with graduation details will be available from **Thursday 6 December** provided you have been confirmed.

You MUST check that all your course results are visible on myUNSW and your graduation status is ‘Awarded’ BEFORE submitting your request.

To order an academic transcript online log into myUNSW

➢ My Student Profile tab > My Student Services channel > Online Services > Academic Transcripts.
➢ Collect, regular post/airmail (can’t be emailed)
➢ Both Fast and Standard Service are available.
➢ A copy of your ID has to be provided with your application!
➢ Standard service transcripts can take 5-7 days to process in peak periods after the release of results.
➢ Costs $35 for two copies; $12 for each additional copy ordered at the same time (for standard service requests only).
Available from 6 December
Graduation status (Awarded)
Graduation 6-17 May 2019
Contact Information

STUDENT CENTRAL
Lower Ground Floor Chancellery Building

T: 9385 8500
F: 9385 1252
E: studentcentral@unsw.edu.au
W: www.studentcentral.unsw.edu.au

Office hours:
Mon, Tues, Thur: 8:30am – 5:30pm
Wednesday: 10:00am – 5:30pm
Friday: 8:30am – 5:00pm

GRADUATIONS OFFICE
Lower Ground Floor Chancellery Building

T: 9385 3092
E: graduations@unsw.edu.au
W: https://student.unsw.edu.au/graduation
UNSW Alumni Community

Presented by Jess Theakstone & Estelle Liu
Alumni & Engagement
UNSW Alumni Community

Who are we?

UNSW’s alumni community is an influential network of 300,000+ alumni across 152 countries.

Our alumni are world leaders – made up of global CEOs, world changer in research, sports heroes, internationally renowned designers and art and fashion icons.
UNSW Alumni Community

Benefits and services

- Mentoring Opportunities: Participate in peer to peer or alumni to student mentoring online or in person
- Join a Global Network: Attend events overseas, or join an international committee or social group
- Exclusive Alumni Events: Follow the UNSW Alumni Facebook page and e-newsletter for upcoming event information
- Free Access to E-Journals: Complimentary use of nine online databases that you may access anywhere in the world
- Complimentary Access to UNSW Library: Visit the Library to print and borrow books and use the computers in the library
- Discount to University Courses: Receive 15% discount off AGSM @ UNSW Business School Short Courses
- UNSW Alumni Lifelong Email Address: Activate your lifelong alumni email service to stay connected with

To find out more, visit: alumni.unsw.edu.au
UNSW Alumni Community

How to stay in touch:

Update your details to receive our latest alumni news: alumni.unsw.edu.au/updateyourdetails

Like our Facebook page: facebook.com/unswalumni

Join our exclusive alumni LinkedIn group: UNSW Alumni
Graduation and Beyond!
The graduation experience from an International Student perspective
Making the Transition

Presented by Semra Tastan
Student Development International
Reflecting on your transition experience

Do you remember your first week in Sydney?

• How did you feel?
• What were the challenges?
• How did you cope?

When I return home…

• I’m looking forward to…
• My goals are…
Reverse Culture Shock

![Graph showing the phases of reverse culture shock: Honeymoon, Irritability and hostility, Gradual adjustment, Adaptation.](image-url)
Common Experiences

Not knowing what’s next is scary!

No one wants to hear about what I have done.

I always thought that returning back to my home country after my studies would have been a breeze for me….but it isn’t.

I didn’t quite know how to apply my knowledge and skills to my job.

I really got used to having a lot of privacy and independence… Suddenly upon my return it was gone… I would never have thought that this would affect me… I had to get used to having everything organised for me and I didn’t like it… but I’m slowly adjusting to the life back home.

Back home, nobody is ever on time, people don't queue up and everything takes SO LONG TO ORGANISE!

When I got back I really had problems at work. Nobody wanted to accept the ideas I had learned. I also experienced a lot of jealousy from people around me. It was hard to deal with!

I have sometimes been misunderstood, guess I have adopted some Aussie elements that people can’t quite relate to.
What challenges do you think you will face?
Common Problems

- Physically & emotionally tired
- Cultural norms in your home country may seem foreign
- Leaving your student identity & life behind
- Depression / Anxiety
- Pressure to conform
- Stress from wanting to give back
- Self esteem may fluctuate
- Family and friends have changed too!
- The way you interact, think, speak may have changed
- Feeling critical towards your home country
- Loneliness and grief
How to prepare yourself

1. Be aware of the changes in yourself
2. Understand the new situation (how has your family/city/country/work changed)
3. Knowing others who can help (alumni in the country, UNSW friends, family/friends, other support networks)
4. Looking after yourself
5. Leaving the past behind for the time being
6. Looking for the gains and the benefits
7. You have done it before (transfer skills & knowledge)
The experience changed me for the better

- Discovered new aspects of myself & even new personality traits
- I pulled through!!!! I’m stronger then I thought I was!
- Have made wonderful new friends (= you are a great friend and will have no problems making more new connections! !)
- Can think more creatively and originally
- Independent, self-reliant & self confident
- Able to work/think independently
- I adapt well to change!
- Ever since my return from Australia, I feel more confident and able to move within various communities with ease
- Research and Inquiry Skill
- Use different modes of communication
- Flexible
UNSW aspires to develop graduates who are rigorous scholars, capable of leadership and professional practice in a global community (B2B, p.7). The university has, thus, articulated the following Graduate Attributes as desired learning outcomes for ALL UNSW students.

**Global Citizens who are:**
- capable of applying their discipline in local, national and international contexts
- culturally aware and capable of respecting diversity and acting in socially just/responsible ways
- capable of environmental responsibility

**Scholars who are:**
- understanding of their discipline in its interdisciplinary context
- capable of independent and collaborative enquiry
- rigorous in their analysis, critique, and reflection
- able to apply their knowledge and skills to solving problems
- ethical practitioners
- capable of effective communication
- information literate
- digitally literate

**Leaders who are:**
- enterprising, innovative and creative
- capable of initiating as well as embracing change
- collaborative team workers

**Professionals who are:**
- capable of independent, self-directed practice
- capable of lifelong learning
- capable of operating within an agreed Code of Practice

https://my.unsw.edu.au/student/atoz/GraduateAttributes.html
Returning Home Checklist
ARC Legal Service
Counselling Service
Career & Employment

https://student.unsw.edu.au/support
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