

### Exchange Questionnaire for University of South Australia – EN

My program of study is Bachelor of Commerce Honours Co-Op with a specialization in International Management. I am taking a full semester load at the University of South Australia with 4 courses. It is important to note that as an exchange student, I was only entitled to take 1 online class.

The first course I am taking is Building Evaluation for Property. It is an interesting class that focuses on the building industry in South Australia. Altogether it has one group assignment, weekly quizzes, a short reflection video and a final exam. I chose to take this class as an internal student so there is a weekly tutorial to help you understand the course content. This course can also be taken online if one so chooses.

The second course I am taking is Business Intelligence and Analytics. It is a unique course that focuses on business intelligence while building some technical competency with data visualization and mapping programs. Altogether it has 4 individual assignments, 2 group assignments and weekly program-based exercises with a test at the end, there is no exam for this course. I chose to take this class as an internal student so there is a weekly tutorial to help you understand the course content. This course can also be taken online if one so chooses.

The third course I am taking is Human Factors and Cyber Criminal Behaviour. It is an interesting class that focuses on cyber security campaigns and the human element of cyber security. Altogether it has weekly participation discussions, a case study presentation, and a final report. There is no exam. There is no tutorial associated with this class. I chose to take this class as an internal student, but I would recommend others to take this course online as the in-person seminars can be quite dry.

The fourth course I am taking is Organizational leadership. It is a unique course that focuses on business leadership theories. Altogether it has 3 individual assignments and a final exam. I chose to take this class as an internal student so there is a weekly tutorial to help you understand the course content. This course can also be taken online if one chooses.

Course Name	Number of Classes a Week	Campus	Number of class hours per course
Building Evaluation for Property (BUIL 2026)	2	City West (Business course)	1.2 hours (+1 hour for note-taking and completing quizzes)
Business Intelligence and Analytics (INFS 4018)	2	Mawson Lakes	2 hours (+1 hour for note-taking and online exercises)
Human Factors and Cyber Criminal Behaviour (INFS 4021)	1	Mawson Lakes	1.5 hours (+1 hour for readings and weekly discussions)
Organizational Leadership (BUSS 3050)	2	City West (Business course)	2 hours (+1 hour for note-taking and readings)

**A timetable of Key Dates:** It is important to note that since I took a combination of business-only and other business-related courses there are 2 schedules to follow.

	Mawson Lakes	City West
Academic Calendar	July 24 <sup>th</sup> – Nov 25 <sup>th</sup>	July 31 <sup>st</sup> – Nov 18 <sup>th</sup>
Registration Dates	Aug 11 <sup>th</sup>	
Orientation	July 17 <sup>th</sup>	July 31 <sup>st</sup>
Beginning and End of Classes	July 24 <sup>th</sup> – Nov 3 <sup>rd</sup>	Aug 7 <sup>th</sup> – Oct 27 <sup>th</sup>
Exams	Nov 11 <sup>th</sup> – 25 <sup>th</sup>	Nov 4 <sup>th</sup> – 18 <sup>th</sup>
Holidays (study break)	Sep 18 <sup>th</sup> – Sep 29 <sup>th</sup>	Sep 18 <sup>th</sup> – Sep 29 <sup>th</sup>
Number of Semesters	1 (SP 5)	

48 hours or a few days before your arrival, I would recommend signing up for the University of South Australia's exchange airport pick-up services as they drive you straight to your accommodation at no cost.

I would recommend getting your student card during orientation week as you can avoid the crowd easily and use it to get a discounted metro pass so that way you can easily explore the city. When selecting your courses, it is important to know that you are limited to enrolling at only 2 campuses. So, choose courses that make sense to where you want to live and what you are interested in. It is also important to have a list of backup courses as when you first start classes you may want to switch around your schedule in case one of your classes gets cancelled which happened to me or you genuinely dislike the class. The student services centre is very helpful in terms of setting you up with alternative options and enrolling online is straightforward.

Once you arrive in Australia, I would recommend setting up a student bank account so that way you can easily receive funds from home or yourself. This can be done online before your departure flight, but I chose to set mine up in person after I arrived in Adelaide. Make sure to have all your documentation accessible for you so that you can set up an account seamlessly. I would also recommend getting an Australian SIM card for convenience. I got an e-sim so that I could keep my original Canadian number which came in handy for me.

The University of South Australia's International Exchange Office is accessible via email and by phone to answer any student inquiries and helps students get integrated into the university with several programs. These programs include career services, counselling services for mental health and academic support and weekend/day trips with G'Day Mates. I would recommend students try these services out on arrival and keep an eye out on Unisa's international student event calendar as there are fun and food-related events throughout the semester. Orientation week is also a great time to explore the city and meet new people.

### Budget

Airplane ticket (Toronto to Adelaide)	\$1600 CAD one-way ticket (if you were to book a round trip it would cost approximately \$3000)
Housing	\$1196 AUS a month

Vacation and daily travel	\$4000 AUS (over 4 months)
Textbooks	\$0 (the host university offers all materials online)
Meals	\$500 CAD a month
Miscellaneous/Other	\$400 a month
Student Fees (university of south Australia)	\$168 AUS (one-time fee)
Health insurance	\$460 CAD (one-time fee)
Tuition (University of Ottawa)	\$2000 (I received 2 scholarships)
Housing bond	\$500 CAD (one-time fee)
Total Monthly	Approximately \$2000 CAD
Total One-Time Fees	Approximately \$8200 CAD
Transportation to Mawson Lakes	\$50 a month
Grand Total For 6 months	\$18000 CAD

I decided to book a one-way ticket as I will be travelling after Australia and returning later to Toronto. If you can I would recommend setting aside a travelling budget for excursions as Australia is a wonderful country to explore.

Before your arrival, you must apply for a visa to enter Australia. You are only allowed to apply for the visa 3 months before your anticipated arrival in the country. I would recommend submitting the visa application as soon as the 3-month window opens in case of any application delays. I applied for the student visa class 500 as my accommodation required a confirmation of enrolment to submit with my housing application. The student visa also entitles you to work, but there is a capped hour limit so I would recommend you check the Australian government visa restriction page as the hours can shift based on government regulations. For the visa application make sure you have your passport, driver's license, family photos, COE from the University of South Australia, and bank statement for proof of funds. The visa process is very straightforward just make sure to submit all required documents.

The University of South Australia emails you with a list of courses exchange students can enrol in for the upcoming semester, I suggest you look through these courses in advance as they can also be found online. I also recommend you start looking for housing well in advance (in April) as rooms can get booked up fast. I submitted my housing application in April and booked the room a few days later. You can sign your lease in advance via email or sign it upon your arrival which is what I did.

I am residing at UniLodge City Gardens at 105 Gray Street, Adelaide, SA 5000. I really enjoy living at this accommodation because it is very close to the city and within walking distance to the city west campus, while still being a bit away from the downtown traffic and noise. It is right next to public transit so getting to the airport, city and nearby SA tourist areas is very convenient. I am living in a 6-bedroom female shared apartment and share a bathroom with just one other roommate. There is a nice common room within the apartment for all roommates to lounge in and study and the kitchen area has a stovetop, microwave, and freezer but no dishwasher or oven. The apartment does not come with much so upon arrival make sure to buy bedwear, a pillow, cooking utensils, towels, and any other basic living essentials you'll need over the next few months. The apartment does come with a sofa, TV, and tables in the common room and in my actual room there is a desk, chair, shelving units and a closet. I was able to pre-order a shower curtain from Unilodge for the washroom. Unilodge also hosts events for residents which is nice for when you need a little break. Unilodge is one of the more affordable residents for students.

Overall, I would say I am really enjoying my time at the University of South Australia and in Adelaide. My final recommendation would be to make the most of your time here as the visa allows you to remain in Australia for 6 months even though the semester ends in November. So, if you can budget some money to travel for those 2 months. Also, make sure to check on housing early on as some places may offer special lease date arrangements for a limited number of students.

I did not engage in a work term while in Australia. But you have the option to work under the 500-student visa.

If I had to summarize my experience, I would say that I've met a fantastic group of people from around the world due to the strong international exchange community residing in Adelaide. Many of these individuals I would consider great friends that I hope to visit soon and show them around Canada whenever they visit. I would also say that the University of South Australia's strong student services made my experience unforgettable. Australia has some similarities with Canada making the transition smooth and overall enjoyable. South Australia will always have a special place in my heart as I've been able to make lifelong friendships and memories (snorkelling the great barrier reef and petting kangaroos and koalas!). If you do not have the budget to travel a lot, I would at minimum advise you to use the 2-week study break to explore at least 2 other cities and or areas in Australia.

