Southern Cross University Student Handbook

The 2006 Student Handbook provides information on courses, units, and services planned for offer in 2006. The Student Handbook has been compiled based on information available at the time of publication. The University reserves the right to amend details without notice in response to changing circumstances or for any reason.
Contents

Welcome from the Vice-Chancellor

General Information .............................................................................................................................. 1
  How to Use the 2006 Student Handbook ......................................................................................... 2
  Campus Addresses and Contact Information .................................................................................. 4
  Principal Teaching Dates for 2006 (including Summary) ................................................................. 6

Faculties of the University .................................................................................................................. 11
  Faculty of Arts .................................................................................................................................. 12
  Faculty of Business ........................................................................................................................... 13
  Faculty of Health and Applied Sciences .......................................................................................... 14

Student Services and Information .................................................................................................... 17
  Contents ............................................................................................................................................ 18
  Student Services ................................................................................................................................20
  Study Information ............................................................................................................................. 28
  General Information ........................................................................................................................ 37

Course Information ............................................................................................................................ 47
  List of Courses – alphabetical by award level .................................................................................. 48
  Areas of Study – alphabetical .......................................................................................................... 55
  Details of Courses – alphabetical by award level
    Certificates and Diplomas ............................................................................................................. 59
    Associate Degrees ......................................................................................................................... 63
    Bachelor’s Degrees ......................................................................................................................... 71
    Bachelor’s Honours Awards ........................................................................................................... 205
    Postgraduate Coursework Awards ................................................................................................. 227
    Master’s by Thesis Awards ............................................................................................................ 323
    Doctorate Awards ......................................................................................................................... 335
    Doctor of Philosophy (PhD) ............................................................................................................. 343

Description of Units .......................................................................................................................... 355
  Terminology Guide ........................................................................................................................... 356
  Alphabetical Listing of Units ............................................................................................................ 358
  Unit Descriptions by Unit Code ....................................................................................................... 380

Rules .................................................................................................................................................... 475
  Rules Relating to Awards ................................................................................................................ 476
  Appeals to Academic Board Appeals Committee ........................................................................... 506
  Rules Relating to Student Fees and Charges (including Student Sanctions) .................................. 516
  Rules Relating to Student Discipline ............................................................................................... 535

Index and Maps ................................................................................................................................... 540
It is a pleasure to be able to welcome all new students to the University, and to welcome back all those who are returning. We are delighted you have chosen to study at Southern Cross University and we will do all we can to assist you to achieve your goals.

Southern Cross University is an exciting place to be. While its three campuses at Lismore, Coffs Harbour and Tweed Gold Coast offer quite different experiences, each campus is committed to offering the same high quality courses and excellence in teaching.

Southern Cross University is at the forefront of international research in fields including cetaceans (whales and dolphins), plant genetics and acid-sulphate soil remediation.

In addition to ongoing studies of the migratory patterns and behaviour of humpback whales, the SCU Whale Research Centre is developing the world’s first non-invasive and non-lethal method of determining the age of humpback whales.

The Centre for Plant Conservation and Genetics has continued ground-breaking research into rice, discovering the gene that controls the temperature at which rice cooks. The University has also received substantial funding to implement a Laboratory Information Management System, to enable the Natural Plant Products Research Institute to more effectively manage new projects and resources.

SCU researchers have also received substantial funding to investigate the control of acid rock drainage, a major environmental problem in mine sites.

We think that bringing research knowledge into our teaching is an important way to keep our innovative and exciting courses up to date. We also know that you want the skills and knowledge you will gain at Southern Cross University to be useful and relevant. That’s why we work with leaders from the disciplines and the professions to ensure our courses meet their needs and expectations.

I am sure you will enjoy the challenge that studying at university brings. And I look forward to seeing you at the graduation ceremony that will mark your success in meeting that challenge.

Professor Paul Clark