UNSW SYDNEY | Academic Skills

UNSW Prep Program 17-19 2025

Science Stream Details

You should seek advice as to the appropriateness of courses to your intended area of study in a degree program. When selecting non-core courses for UNSW Prep, you are advised to consult the Online Handbook (handbook.unsw.edu.au) to see whether HSC mathematics is assumed knowledge for any area of interest and any matching majors. If you have not completed HSC Mathematics (2 unit) or equivalent and wish to pursue a major withMaths requirements, you should enrol in Mathematics Skills.

Students will gain credit for all non-Enabling courses at UNSW provided they successfully complete all Enabling courses. Admission to the Bachelor of Science degree at UNSW is based on successful completion of all 6 courses.

Eligibility

- **ACCESS Eligible**
  Assessed as eligible for UNSW's ACCESS Scheme via UAC's Educational Access Schemes (EAS) process
- Study at a Gateway School.
- **Age**
  17-19 years on 1 March 2025.
- **Citizenship/Residency**
  An Australian citizen, New Zealand citizen or hold a current Australian Permanent Resident visa.
- **Post-school study**
  You cannot study UNSW Prep at the same time as another course.
- **UAC**
  Include at least one UNSW Preparation Program preference in your UAC application. UAC codes are: Arts, Design and Architecture - 430100; Business 430110; Engineering - 430120; Science - 430130.
- **ATAR**
  Have an ATAR of 50.00 or above, or be an Indigenous applicant applying via UNSW's Nura Gili Indigenous Admission Scheme.
- **Additional Criteria**
  Provide a personal statement (using the template on the website) via UAC's 'Check and Change' facility. You may also be asked to attend a short interview in January.

How to apply

Applications must be made online via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC), **www.uac.edu.au**. The Personal Statement is a compulsory part of the UNSW Prep application. It is your chance to share what interests you about the program, and also what makes you a suitable candidate.

Time Commitment

- Study involves 3 x 10-week terms (February - April, June - August and September - November)
- Time commitments are based on the subjects undertaken within each term (see Course Components).
- At least 6-8 hours of independent study per week is recommended for each course, as well as some time each week for online learning.

Cost

UNSW Prep is fully funded by the Australian Government so for the first few subjects of your degree you pay **no course fees**.

Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF)
unsw.edu.au/student/managing-your-studies/fees/ssaf

You pay the cost of any materials you need for your course.

Still curious?

Academic Skills

UNSW Sydney

Sydney NSW 2052 Australia

Contact us: unswprep@unsw.edu.au

enquiry.unsw.edu.au

UNSW Prep Course Components

Term 1

Academic Skills 1 (REGZ9075)

For ALL UNSW Prep Program students (compulsory)

Available Term 1

Prior Knowledge Must be proficient in written and spoken English

Academic Skills 1 develops the fundamental skills of studying at university. This course will be based around the topic of technology.

Other Topics
- orientation to the academic system
- critical analysis skills
- note taking from lectures and written material
- time management skills
- essay writing
- preparing seminar presentations
- an introduction to online learning
- examination tecniques

Mathematics Skills 1 (REGZ9070)

For ALL UNSW Prep Science stream students (compulsory)

Available Term 1

Prior Knowledge Year 10 Advanced Level Mathematics is assumed (Confident with algebra, such as simplification of expressions, solving equations & in-equations, factorisation including quadratic equations and using a scientific calculator including the fraction, power and exponential keys)

UPP Mathematics Skills 1 is for students who have not achieved an appropriate level of mathematics at high school or equivalent and wish to apply to UNSW degree programs with assumed knowledge in mathematics.

Topics
- basic arithmetic and algebra (2.5 weeks)
- further arithmetic and algebra (2.5 weeks)
- coordinate geometry (2 weeks)
- functions and graphs (2 weeks)

NB: If you already have completed Year 12 Mathematics at the standard expected of 1st Year, you are able to substitute Maths Skills courses with Science faculty courses listed in the table below. These courses must be approved by the program co-ordinator. Please contact the program co-ordinator in Orientation Week to discuss alternative options

Term 2

Academic Skills 2 (REGZ9076)

For ALL UNSW Prep Science stream students (compulsory)

Available Term 2

Prior Knowledge Must be proficient in written and spoken English

Academic Skills 2 develops the fundamental skills of studying at university. It builds on skills already learned in Academic Skills 1, but introduces students to study strategies used in social science topics. The course is taught in an interactive method, so that students are able to learn through participation.

Topics
Written and spoken assignments including annotated bibliography, critical review and research reports which allow students to further deepen their reading, writing, thinking, researching and spoken skills. Similar to Term 1, this course will be based around the topic of technology.

Mathematics Skills 2 (REGZ9072)

For ALL UNSW Prep Science stream students (compulsory)

Available Term 2

Prior Knowledge Must be proficient in written and spoken English

Mathematics Skills 2 is designed to provide a level of competency in mathematics for students who have not studied HSC Mathematics (or equivalent) at high school and who wish to apply to UNSW programs with assumed knowledge in Mathematics, and follows on from REGZ9070.

Topics
- differential calculus (3 weeks)
- integral calculus (1.5 weeks)
- trigonometry and trigonometric functions (2.5 weeks)
- exponential and logarithmic functions (2 weeks)

Term 3

Mathematics Skills 3 (REGZ9073)

For ALL UNSW Prep Science stream students (compulsory)

Available Term 3

Pre-requisite Successful completion of REGZ9072

Mathematics Skills 3 is for students who have not achieved an appropriate level of mathematics at high school or equivalent and wish to apply to UNSW degree programs with assumed knowledge in mathematics.

REGZ9073 follows on from REGZ9072 and takes students to the level of 2 Unit Yr 12 Mathematics.

Topics
- applications of calculus (2 weeks)
- sequences and series (2 weeks)
- introductory probability (2 weeks)
- introductory statistics (3 weeks)

AND One Science elective course from the table below (in sequence if multiple courses taken from a single Area).

Area	Code	Course
Bioscience	BABS1201	Molecules, Cells and Genes
	BIOS1101	Evolutionary and Functional Biology
	BIOS1301	Ecology, sustainability and environmental science
Chemistry	CHEM1001	Introductory Chemistry
	CHEM1011	Chemistry A: Atoms, Molecules and Energy
	CHEM1021	Chemistry B: Elements, Compounds and Life
Mathematics	MATH1011	Fundamentals of Mathematics B
	MATH1031	Mathematics for Life Sciences
	MATH1041	Statistics for Life and Social Sciences
	MATH1131	Mathematics 1A
	MATH1231	Mathematics 1B
Physics	PHYS1111	Fundamentals of Physics
	PHYS1121	Physics 1A
	PHYS1221	Physics 1B
Psychology	PSYC1001	Psychology 1A
	PSYC1011	Psychology 1B

Admission to University

How to apply	All applications for admission to Bachelor programs at UNSW are via the Universities Admissions Centre (UAC).