

Careers News from Mrs Parkman – Term 4 - week 9

Volunteers needed for Christmas Community lunch

We need your help as an individual or as a family!

Please consider giving *even 30 minutes* of your time with setting up, serving or packing up for this event. Last year we had 20 wonderful Hennessy staff and students come along and set up the tables and decorations and a further 10 staff and students helped on Christmas day. It is a joyful event and you can go home knowing that you brightened someone's day.

To offer to help please email me Leanne.mcgrath@cg.catholic.edu.au and indicate numbers of helpers and the day/s you can help. If you cannot assist in person you may like to donate money which can be used to supply the Christmas lunch. If you would like to donate food, there is a set menu so please email for details.

Dates and times are listed below

Thursday 19th December

Set up tables - Meet at Room E9 from 2pm until 3.30pm

Wednesday 25th December

Serving and food preparation – Meet in E9 anytime from 11am until 2pm

Thursday 26th December

Clean up E9 and pack away furniture - 10.30am – 11.30am

School leaving age

With the holidays and the end of school year just around the corner, a few senior students are considering their options however, there are obligations that must be met. Now is a good time to familiarise yourself with the legal requirements around the school leaving age. Please see the attached article or go to <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/going-to-a-public-school/translated-documents/new-school-leaving-age>

RYPEN (Rotary Youth Program of Enrichment) camp

As you may recall, at the end of November six Year 9 students attended a 3 day RYPEN camp sponsored partly by Rotary of Young. All of the students had a wonderful time and lots of good news stories came out of the camp. It's been hard to pin them down for a written review but here are a couple of responses:

Damon

The RYPEN camp was extraordinary; we did many activities that mainly built our team working skill. Through these activities, we built our social skills which better prepares us for the future. I've made over 30 friends from all over NSW and I would definitely sign up for the camp again.

Charlotte D

RYPEN Camp was an amazing experience. I can't express in words how much I enjoyed the camp and how sad I was to leave. We got to open up and be vulnerable in front of a whole bunch of strangers. Everyone got to be themselves and we made new friendships with other students from all over NSW. While we were at camp people came in and talked to us about getting our drivers licence, getting a job, the effects of drugs and how bullying can affect the mind of someone forever. All of these speeches were very informative and provided us with knowledge that we can use in our lives not only today, but in ten years as well. I thoroughly enjoyed my experience at RYPEN and would go back in a heartbeat.

Once again – thank you to the Young Rotary Club, in particular Mrs. Roz Hill for their support of our students.

Year 10 Work Experience

Congratulations to those Year 10 students who completed work experience last week. The reports back from employers were very positive and in speaking with the students this week they were happy with how it all went.

Just a reminder for Year 12 parents and students

ATAR 2019 Release Date

Tuesday 17 December at 1pm – **the same day as HSC results.**

This is so you will have all the information you need on the day to make your future study decisions and have more time to finalise your preferences for December Round 2 .

ATAR Enquiry Centre

UAC is once again operating its ATAR Enquiry Centre for students who have queries about the calculation of their ATAR.

- Tuesday 17 December, 12pm–8pm
- Wednesday 18 December, 8.30am–4.30pm
- Thursday 19 December, 8.30am–4.30pm
- Friday 20 December, 8.30am–4.30pm

Year 12 UAC Offer Rounds and important cut off dates

The most important offer round and cut off dates for Year 12 students are listed below:

- December Round 2 – **Monday 23 December 2019**
- **Cut off date for preference changes for December Round 2 – midnight Thursday 19th December**
- January Round 1 – **Friday 10 January 2020**
- **Cut off date for preference changes for January Round 1 – midnight Sunday 5th January 2020**

Students should check their preferences and change anything **before midnight** on the cut off date – you cannot change anything **between** each cut off date and each offer round date.

University of Canberra Course Advice

If you have any questions about your course or want advice on which units to enrol into, you should speak to a course advisor from your faculty. The contact details for each faculty can be found below.

If you are studying at an interstate campus, you can contact the university by phone or email, or speak with a UC representative at your campus.

<https://www.canberra.edu.au/future-students/accept-your-offer/course-advice>

ANU Advisory Days

The ANU Advisory Days are happening in NSW and the ACT during December. At these drop-in style events, students will have one-on-one access to ANU staff and students who will be there to answer your questions, no matter how general or detailed. ANU encourages you to come along to learn more about why ANU is the right choice for you. Go to <https://www.anu.edu.au/study/events> for more details.

Australian Defence Force Info Sessions and Events

There is a Defence meeting likely to happen in a town nearest you. Go to:

<https://www.facebook.com/pg/DefenceJobsAustralia/events/>

University of Newcastle - Undergraduate Info Sessions

Thursday, 19 December. 10:00 am to 1:00 pm

Newcastle (Callaghan) | Newcastle City (NeW Space) | Central Coast (Ourimbah)

If you have questions about studying in 2020, we are here to help!

Come on campus and talk to our team about degrees, changing preferences, scholarships, accommodation, alternative entry options and more at our Info Sessions on Thursday 19 December 2019, 10am - 1pm.

These Info Sessions are held after ATARs are released and prior to the close of change of preferences for consideration in December Round 2 so it's perfect timing to get the advice you need to finalise your UAC application. Knowing your ATAR means your choices may have changed. There are a variety of entry schemes and adjustment factors available to you. Talk to our admissions team who can help you understand your adjusted ATAR and your options.

If you are yet to apply and needing face-to-face advice, be sure to attend this event.

Please note: If you're planning to attend one of our Newcastle events and are interested in studying a Business, Commerce, Innovation, Law or Creative Industries degree our Newcastle City Info Session is the best option.

If you can't make it to an Info Session on the day, you can [click here](#) to get in touch with our team

<https://www.newcastle.edu.au/events/future-students/undergraduate-info-sessions>

UOW ATAR Live Chat

18 December. 5pm Online

Is your ATAR higher or lower than you expected? Is it enough to get into your dream course? What about your other options and pathways?

Join us as we answer your questions LIVE - giving you the answers you need so you can make the right decisions.

http://mkto.uow.edu.au/20191218-ATARLiveChat_1.Registration.html

UOW Southern Highlands Campus Drop in Week

6 January 2020, 9:00 am - 10 January 2020, 5:00 pm

UOW Southern Highlands Campus

Visit the Southern Highlands campus in Moss Vale during drop in week to speak to staff about study options for 2020. Advice on admissions and assistance with lodging applications can be provided – bring your academic documents with you. Check out the facilities and find out from staff about the services available to help you success in your study with UOW.

<https://studentcrm.uow.edu.au/Ellucian.ERecruiting.Web.External/Pages/EventDetails.aspx?id=1f95abd0-4bf5-e911-8165-dbe078f68bcd>

ACU Know Your Options - Live Facebook Messenger Q&A - NSW & ACT

Wednesday 18th December 11am until 2pm

Join us via Facebook Messenger as we host a live chat session to answer any questions you have about your study options. Get the personalised advice you need by talking one-on-one with an ACU team member.

Register to chat and get notified when we are live - <https://bit.ly/2Ka0npz>

<https://www.facebook.com/events/1157142267809101/>

Scholarships for Undergraduate Rural Nursing & Midwifery

Close on 17 January 2020

Scholarships of up to \$5,000 are available for people from rural NSW who are undertaking first year studies of a Bachelor of Nursing or Bachelor of Midwifery degree in 2020.

For the purposes of these scholarships, rural NSW is defined by the following boundaries: Berry, Maitland & Lithgow.

The awarding of scholarships is a competitive process, since the number awarded is subject to funds being available. Preference will be given to applicants living in locations with the greatest workforce needs, which may change from year to year.

<https://www.health.nsw.gov.au/nursing/scholarship/Pages/rural-undergrad.aspx>

UTS Insearch webinar is providing alternative pathways to UTS.

17 December. 3:00 PM in [Canberra, Melbourne, Sydney](#)

Students and parents are invited to join this webinar featuring Art of Smart CEO and HSC expert Rowan Kunz along with UTS Insearch admissions staff and students to discuss all options for students who have just received their ATARs.

https://zoom.us/webinar/register/5715729918555/WN_E7UhlUmTa2iCqTiwDbNw

UTS Facebook Q&A: Engineering and IT

Wednesday 18 December. 12pm-3pm

With ATAR's now released and 1st preferences closing at midnight on Thursday 19 December, this is the perfect opportunity to ask any last-minute questions you may have about Engineering and Information Technology courses.

https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-engineering-and-information-technology/events/facebook-live-chat-year-12?_ga=2.6554546.1421144359.1573971553-748076804.1548904746

UTS Facebook Q&A: Communication, Education and International Studies

Monday 16 December – Thursday 19 December. 9am-5pm

With ATAR's now released and the main round of preferences closing at midnight on Thursday 19 December, this is the perfect opportunity to ask any last-minute questions you may have about Communication, Education or International Studies courses.

https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-arts-and-social-sciences/events/facebook-live-chat-year-12?_ga=2.49413414.1421144359.1573971553-748076804.1548904746

UTS Phone consultation: Communication, Education and International Studies - personal consultation

Wednesday 18 December. 2pm – 4pm

Request a phone call to chat with a current student or staff member about Communication, Education or International Studies at UTS. Ask any last-minute questions about our courses or learn about suitable pathway options. Consultations are available for both students and parents/carers.

https://www.uts.edu.au/about/faculty-arts-and-social-sciences/events/year-12-personal-consultations?_ga=2.255068936.1421144359.1573971553-748076804.1548904746

UNSW Info Day

Attend lectures, explore campus and chat to academics and current students in the Advisory Centre. See what studying at UNSW is all about.

Time: 10.00am - 3.00pm

Location: UNSW Kensington

Details and Registration: <https://www.events.unsw.edu.au/event/unsw-info-day>

Career in Games & Film, Info Evening at Academy of Interactive Entertainment (AIE)

Wednesday 23 January 2020

Considering a career in games, 3D or VFX? Discover AIE's courses in Game Art & Animation, Programming and Game Design. Learn about entry requirements and career pathways. 6pm-8pm, 33 Mountain St, Ultimo, NSW, 2007. Registration required. RSVP <https://aie.edu.au/infoevening>.

New and Current Applicants and Parents Welcome at Notre Dame's Info Day 19 December 2019 Notre Dame's Info Day on 19 December is a great opportunity to explore programs and pathways, and discuss current applications. Plus, eligible applicants will be able to enrol. Also, if you're students haven't applied yet, our prospective student advisors will guide them through the process. Parents, friends and careers advisers all welcome. Visit <http://notredame.edu.au/sydney-infoday>.

Camp America Job Fairs 2020 The Camp America Fairs are coming this January. Camp directors are coming to Australia to hire staff for their summer camp in the USA. At the biggest summer camp Job Fairs in Australia, there are hundreds of jobs up for grabs. Sydney - 12 January - 10:00am - 12:30pm Rydges World Square, 389 Pitt St, Sydney <https://www.campamerica.com.au/how-it-works/job-fairs>.

2020 loan limit changes Combined HELP loan limit – Study Assist

What is the combined HELP loan limit?

The combined HELP loan limit is a cap on what you can borrow from the Australian Government to cover the costs of your tuition fees. The HELP loan limit will replace the current FEE-HELP limit from 1 January 2020.

What loans are included in the limit?

The HELP loan limit will include HECS-HELP, FEE-HELP, VET FEE-HELP and VET Students Loans.

For 2020, the HELP loan limit is \$106,319 for most students.

The limit for students studying medicine, dentistry and veterinary science courses will be \$152,700.

Read in more detail here:

<https://www.studyassist.gov.au/help-loans/2020-loan-limit-changes>

Apprentices - Additional Identified Skills Shortage payment incentive

The Additional Identified Skills Shortage(AISS)payment is available to eligible apprentices commencing from 1 July 2019and their employers in occupations experiencing national skills shortages. The AISS payment will grow the number of apprentices and encourage more people to take up an Australian Apprenticeship.

What payments are available?

Eligible Australian Apprentices in national skills shortage areas will receive \$1,000 at the 12 month point from commencement of their apprenticeship, and an additional \$1,000 at completion of the apprenticeship. Eligible employers of Australian Apprentices will also receive \$2,000 at the 12 month point from the commencement of the apprenticeship and an additional \$2,000 at completion of the apprenticeship.

<https://austapprent.govcms.gov.au/sites/default/files/2019-06/AISS%20Final.pdf>

Trade Support Loans (TSLs)

TSLs are available to eligible apprentices to assist with everyday costs while completing your apprenticeship. You can receive up to \$21,078 over the life of the apprenticeship. The year of your apprenticeship determines the amount you may receive. There is no waiting period to claim.

<https://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/aus-apprenticeships-incentives>

Thoroughbred Industry Explorer Program Cadetship Applications for the 2020 February intake of the Explorer Program can be made via tbindustrycareers.com.au/explorer-cadetship2/. The program will be capped at 30 students and is open to young people across Australia. See an interview with Cadet Jack Cripps at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MScjLAjZLPQ&t=7s>. For further information and/or interviews please contact: Lindy Maurice – 0488 066 604.

Find out which occupations have skills shortages

The Department of Employment, Skills, Small and Family Business (formerly Department of Jobs and Small Business) carries out research to identify skill shortages in the Australian labour market. The department publishes the results of its research as individual occupational and cluster reports for groupings of similar occupations. Some occupational labour markets are assessed at the state and territory level, but for others only a national assessment is made.

This page contains skill shortage information by occupation. [Skill shortages information at the state, territory and national level](#) is also available.

See a comprehensive listing of careers facing skill shortages here:

<https://www.employment.gov.au/occupational-skill-shortages-information>

TAFE NSW InfoFest

20 to 24 January 2020

With over 1,200 courses, diplomas and degrees, InfoFest is a great opportunity to get the lowdown on your perfect career. Whether you are already working and looking to build new skills to land a promotion, a school leaver wanting to get qualified faster, or if you are thinking about an exciting career change and after some essential new skills – you can explore a multitude of options at TAFE NSW InfoFest.

TAFE NSW InfoFest allows you to hear directly from our teachers, get the course information you need, as well as any assistance you may require to finalise your enrolment for Semester 1, 2020

Register at:

<https://www.tafensw.edu.au/infifest>

Summer holiday workshops

UOW - Discover the world of Robotics!

13 to 14 January

16 to 17 January

20 to 21 January

Looking for an exciting School holiday activity? Thanks to the generosity of the University of Wollongong, the Project Bucephalus Robo Camps will return to the UOW in January 2020.

Learn the basics in "Introduction to MINDSTORMS", or design a remote-control robot to take place in a challenging team game in "Battle Ball". Visit below to find more information and register today!

<https://www.projectb.net.au/robo-camps/>

Sydney Photo Walk School Holiday Program (12 - 18yrs) Sydney

Wed., 22 January 2020. 10:00 am – 12:30 pm

Ted's World Of Imaging, 317 Pitt Street, Sydney

Proudly supported by [Nikon](#).

This is a fantastic workshop to have you feeling more confident with using your camera, but more importantly for you to see the world in a more creative way!

It's about learning to look at subjects from a different perspective by capturing the atmosphere around us and opening your imagination.

We help you to develop your skills whether you are shooting in Program, Aperture or Shutter priority modes.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/sydney-photo-walk-i-school-holiday-program-12-18yrs-i-sydney-tickets-84092869035?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

The Art Of Wildlife Photography - [by Nikon School Australia](#)

Sun 19 January 2020. 7:00 am – 9:00 am

WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo, 1-5 Wheat Road, Sydney

This hands-on, two-hour photography workshop will give you exclusive access to the unique animal kingdom that is WILD LIFE Sydney Zoo at Darling Harbour. You'll be introduced to the skills required to photograph all creatures great and small, including making what's microscopic look larger than life through the niche method of macro photography.

<https://www.eventbrite.com.au/e/the-art-of-wildlife-photography-wild-life-sydney-zoo-tickets-79074352517?aff=ebdssbdestsearch>

SAE QANTM –Summer Series Workshops

21 – 23 January. 10.00am to 4.00pm

Sydney. Byron Bay

Are you creatively inclined and thinking about studying creative media? We are offering an exclusive 3-Day workshop event in the January holidays - get behind the scenes and pursue your passion!

SAE Byron Bay Campus is opening its doors this January for the SAE Creative Workshops, a 3-Day program to expand your skills and work on inspiring creative projects in the fields of Animation, Audio, Design, Film or Games.

Don't miss out on your chance to experience life as an SAE student, and discover what it means to be a creative professional in state-of-the-art facilities with industry experts by your side!

Across the 3-day workshops, attendees will work towards building a creative piece of work to take away for use in a portfolio or showreel. Attendees will receive a certificate of participation.

Sydney see here:

<https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events/creative-workshops-sydney/?date=2020-01-21&id=990>

Byron Bay see here:

<https://sae.edu.au/news-and-events/events/creative-workshops-byron-bay/?date=2020-01-21&id=986>

NIDA – Summer Holiday Workshops

Find the right acting course for you. Identify and experience the essentials of screen acting. Build your on screen confidence as you develop skills in improvisation, character development and script work. Rehearse and present live and recorded scenes for family and friends at the end of the course.

<https://www.open.nida.edu.au/courses/How+/School+Holidays>

Sturt Summer School – Southern highlands

4 to 8 January 2020

Students must be 16 and over for all adult classes unless arranged otherwise with the individual tutor. Sturt's annual Summer School was established in 2000 and is growing in popularity over the years. You can now join our Sturt Summer and 'get creative' in the holidays. Hundreds of like-minded people enjoy our cool-climate campus and share courses across a wide range of art forms plus dedicated courses for young people.

<http://www.sturt.nsw.edu.au/education/summer-school>

JMC Academy –Information Session - Film, Animation, Games, Digital, Music, Sound Engineering

11 January 2020

On the day you can take a tour of our facilities, get your hands on some of our serious gear, grab a bit to eat and learn why JMC continues to lead the way in Creative Industries education. You'll also have a chance to chat with current students and heads of department about studying abroad and industry internships. Don't forget to listen to our student bands and stop by the studios to see and hear live film and audio productions in action!

All registered attendees will receive a copy of the open day schedule by email around 1 week prior to the event

<https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/open-days>

JMC Character Design Short Course

20 and 21 January 2020

If you're the type of person who thinks outside the box and wants to discover your creative side and unlock the possibilities of a career in one of the many growing areas in the Creative Industries, then challenge yourself to take this next step. This January School Holidays Short Courses are available for High School students going into grades 9 - 12 in 2020 or who have just completed grade 12 in 2019.

<https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/shortcourses/character-design-short-course>

JMC Recording + Mixing a Band Short Course

20 and 21 January 2020

- Recording console signal flow
- Microphone selection for specific instruments
- Setting up instruments in the recording space to achieve the best sound quality
- Setting up Pro-tools for recording a band
- Recording a band live and recording overdubs and various takes

<https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/shortcourses/recording-a-band-short-course>

JMC Script to Screen Short Course

20 to 21 January 2020

Experienced industry filmmakers and technicians guide students through a series of practical exercises to conquer the major areas of writing, directing, cinematography, and post production - using JMC's state-of-the-art post-production labs. Learn how to structure, write, break down, and rehearse a short script and to plan a shoot from beginning to end, all the while working with a collective group of like-minds and professional actors. With hands-on experience operating professional cameras and sound, by the end you

will not only understand the inside scoop on the inner workings of crew roles and the filmmaking process – but also get to finish a short film.

<https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/shortcourses/script-to-screen-short-course>

JMC Songwriting + Production Short Course

20 and 21 January 2020

JMC will be providing the opportunity for Songwriters, Producers and Instrumentalists to work together in small groups and as individuals to write, record and mix an original song. On the last day of the Short Course the completed songs will be played to a panel of industry professionals who will provide feedback on the final song.

<https://www.jmccademy.edu.au/events/shortcourses/songwriting-production-short-course>

Coder Academy School Holidays Workshops

Sustainable Web Design - 8 Jan 2020. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Sustainable 3D Game Design - 9 Jan 2020. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Coding Hardware - 10 Jan 2020. 9:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Conservation is very much a hot topic right now and is engaging young minds like never before. The question becomes, how can we use technology to help solve the problems of the world today and tomorrow? Sustainable computing is a rapidly growing research area using computer science and data analysis to find solutions for some of the world's most urgent environmental and social problems. This is the theme for the next holiday break.

<https://coderacademy.edu.au/kids-coding-courses/sydney-school-holiday-activities>

Billy Blue College of Design Open Day

Saturday, 18 January 2020. 12pm-3pm.

46-52 Mountain Street, Ultimo

Billy Blue is a dynamic hub of creative activity all year round and we want you to experience it first-hand! Dip your toe in, or immerse yourself completely by coming along to one of our exciting events designed to show you what life at a Billy Blue campus is all about. Or find a new opportunity that might help open up that door to the next chapter in your life! Bring your curiosity and your questions!

<https://www.billyblue.edu.au/news-events/upcoming-events>

Aviation Australia Cabin Crew Experience

Wednesday 18th December – [Register Now](#)

Thursday 16th January – [Register now](#)

The One-Day Cabin Crew Experience course is for people who have been dreaming of a career in the skies and are yet to decide if it's the right path for them. You will have a taster of what it's really like to be a flight attendant and, by the end of the day, you will understand what you need to do to earn your wings and see your career take off.

A cabin crew career can be exciting and satisfying. There are opportunities to travel and you will have a different view from your "office" window every day. It's also demanding and challenging, with early starts and overnight shifts. Becoming a flight attendant is a popular career choice – hundreds, if not thousands, of candidates compete for available roles. Attending a Cabin Crew Experience like this will help you learn how to stand out from the crowd.

<https://www.aviationaustralia.aero/one-day-cabin-crew-experience/>

National Invention Convention

13-17 January 2020

Questacon (ACT)

Questacon Invention Conventions are multi-day workshops for 14-18 year olds where you can work with mentors and innovators to turn your ideas into reality.

Applications for the National Invention Convention are open to students from **all over Australia**. Click the tabs below to access more information about these events.

Participants will use tools, tech and materials, work with local mentors and entrepreneurs, and forge friendships that last a lifetime!

Applications for the 2020 National *Invention Convention* have now closed. We're currently marking applications, and will contact all applicants in early November to notify them of the results of the selection process.

You are welcome to contact us at invention.convention@questacon.edu.au if you have any questions about the event.

<https://www.questacon.edu.au/outreach/programs/questacon-smart-skills-initiative/questacon-invention-convention>

Workshops in 2020

Are you interested in computers and IT?

BiG Day In @ ANU

27 March 2020

BiG Day In IT Careers Conference for students Yrs 9-12 @ Australian National University (ANU) on 27 March 2020 – Speakers include Tim Kitchen from Adobe, Defence Force Recruiting, Wisetech Global & more talking about their careers & the future of technology. Loads of cool exhibitors including Adobe, Wisetech Global, Aust Govt ICT, ACS & loads more. Tickets \$5 for students

<http://www.thebigdayin.com.au>

OR

BiG Day In @CSU

Wednesday 11 March 2020, 9:00am-2:30pm

Students from Years 9-12, can hear speakers from companies including **Defence Force Recruiting, Wisetech Global, Adobe, Department of Human Services & loads more**. **Students will also have the opportunity to speak with these presenters in the breaks. There is no charge to attend and morning tea and lunch is provided**. Learn about where a career in IT can take you - don't miss out, book your seats asap!!

<https://acsfoundation.cart.net.au/BiG-Day-In-CSU-Wagga-Wednesday-4-March-202>

Finally an interesting article about double degrees

Why choose a double degree?

If you're looking at courses, you've probably heard of double degrees and know (roughly) what they involve. But why would you choose one? The following are three of the most common reasons:

- You want a broad education — perhaps because you're not quite sure what you want to study. A broad education (perhaps combining two contrasting fields) can help you get the best of both worlds.
- You have two distinct passions and can't pick between the two fields. For example, you have your heart set on one degree (such as general humanities) but don't want to throw sciences out the window. Why not try a combined arts and science degree? Or for a more specialised focus, perhaps a combination of arts and psychology?
- You may have career goals that combine two different fields. This doesn't necessarily mean that you want to work in two different areas; you may choose a double degree because it caters to both the profession and the industry you would like to work in (a combined law and science degree, for example).

Some universities offer their own combinations; others may allow you to choose a combination of your choice. Keep in mind, too, that double degrees are not just the domain of undergraduate study. Many combinations are available at postgraduate level — even in MBA programs, such as an MBA combined with a master of professional accounting.

How long does a double degree take?

A double degree can usually be completed in a shorter time frame than two 'single degrees'. While a standard single degree usually takes around three years, you can expect a double degree to take a little longer — four years or more, depending on your study mode. It may take even longer depending on the fields you choose to combine — medicine and law, anyone? But keep in mind that you can speed up the process. Many universities offer 'fast-track' options such as trimester calendars or summer schools, which can allow you to catch up to your friends completing a single degree.

Employment outcomes for double degree graduates

Although there's no evidence that employers are more likely to hire a graduate of a double degree, the latest findings from Graduate Careers Australia (GCA) show that students who complete a combined degree are, in fact, more likely to find work. In 2010, 81 per cent of double-degree graduates found full-time employment within four months of course completion, compared to around 76 per cent of single-degree graduates. Many employers are attracted to graduates with a broad education; double-degree graduates will have knowledge and skills in multiple fields that can be applied to many facets within the workplace.

Alternatives to the double degree

If the commitment of a double degree has scared you off, rest assured that there are alternatives. Instead of completing two degrees, you could simply complete two specialisations through a double major (such as a bachelor of arts with majors in languages and history). The catch is that the two specialisations will need to be in the same field of study. Alternatively, you could complete an undergraduate degree in one field and use a postgraduate qualification to complete the second specialisation — often completing the two degrees in a similar time frame to a double degree. If you're choosing this option, be sure to check that your undergraduate degree meets the entry requirements for potential postgraduate degrees. See the [Australian Qualifications Framework](#) for an outline of qualification progression.

If talk of double degrees has got your mind ticking, consider the following:

- Are you genuinely interested in both fields?
- Are you willing to commit the extra time required to complete a double degree?
- How will a double degree improve your job prospects? Is there a combination specific to your chosen industry that will help you stand out in the graduate job market?

Taken from: <https://www.gooduniversitiesguide.com.au/education-blogs/tertiary-study/why-choose-a-double-degree>

Happy Christmas and happy holidays to all. I will be back for careers in 2020!!

Best wishes always

Mrs Leanne Parkman