Global Direct Program

Perth, Australia

*Murdoch University*

USC’s affiliate program in Australia is designed to expose students to the life and culture of the Australian people. The program is located on Australia’s west coast in the beautiful seaside city of Perth, capital of the state known as Western Australia. Western Australia covers one-third of the Australian continent and is bordered by desert to the east and by 7,813 miles of pristine coastline to the west. Students will experience a true Aussie culture in Western Australia while swimming with the dolphins of Monkey Mia, camping on Rottnest Island, and exploring the several hundred natural caves of Margaret River. Perth is also the closest Australian city to Southeast Asia, creating exciting opportunities to explore Asia while studying in Perth.

Murdoch University offers a full curriculum program where students take classes with Australian and other international students. All classes are taught in English by Australian professors. The campus is located just twenty minutes by bus from Perth’s city center, and only thirty minutes by bus from a number of sandy beaches.

Only USC undergraduate students are eligible to participate in this program. As a prerequisite, students must have attained at least junior standing prior to attending Murdoch University. A minimum 3.0 GPA is required to apply.

**Courses and Credits**
Students typically take four courses and earn 15 U.S. credit hours per semester. Listed below are a few examples of subjects offered. A full list of courses can be found at [http://handbook.murdoch.edu.au/units/](http://handbook.murdoch.edu.au/units/).

**Sample Subject Offerings**

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<th>Biology</th>
<th>Environmental Science</th>
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<tr>
<td>Chemistry</td>
<td>History</td>
<td>Psychology</td>
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<td>Communication</td>
<td>Hospitality and Tourism</td>
<td>Sociology</td>
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<td>Cultural Studies</td>
<td>Math</td>
<td>Sustainable Development</td>
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<td>English</td>
<td>Media Studies</td>
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Living Arrangements
Students can choose to live in a university residential community (student village), share an apartment with other students, or participate in a home stay. Housing costs are paid in Perth and vary based on the type of accommodation chosen. For more information about available student accommodation go to: http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/International-students/Choosing-Murdoch/Accommodation-options/.

Budgeting
Students pay tuition and fees directly to Murdoch at a tuition rate determined by the host institution. All students should budget roughly AUD$250 – 300 a week for rent, utilities, food, public transportation, and personal expenses. All costs are estimates and may fluctuate based on the exchange rate. For more information on cost of living in Perth, visit http://www.murdoch.edu.au/_document/International-students/5931-PreDeparture-S2-10_NEW.pdf.

Master Calendar
The Australian academic calendar begins in February, with the first semester running from mid-February to mid-June. The second semester commences in August and runs through the end of November. USC students can attend Murdoch University during the fall semester, spring semester or academic year. A detailed schedule can be found at http://handbook.murdoch.edu.au/dates/.

Insurance
All students must purchase the Overseas Student Health Cover through Murdoch University. The cost of this insurance is AUD$195 per semester.

Orientation
Orientation is a requirement for all new students. Orientation Week is held in the week prior to the first week of classes and is an important part of settling in to studies at Murdoch and life in Perth. You will also enroll in your courses during Orientation. For more information, visit http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/International-students/On-campus-support/Getting-started-at-Murdoch/.

Excursions
For an additional fee, the program offers an optional 10-day camping expedition in remote Western Australia. This fun-filled bus trip, to the rugged north west of Western Australia, covers close to 2,500 miles across the vast outcrop that is outback Australia. More information about the North West Outback Excursion can be found at http://www.murdoch.edu.au/Future-students/International-students/Study-abroad-and-exchange/North-West-Trip/ Students also have the opportunity for individual travel.

Extra-Curricular Activities
The Murdoch University Guild of Students offers a wide array of activities, sports, and clubs to get involved in throughout the year. For more information, visit http://www.guild.murdoch.edu.au/.

Entry Visa
All students studying in Australia are required to have a valid “Non-Award” Australian Student Visa. The current cost of this visa is approximately $540. Students are automatically granted permission to work up to 20-hours a week in Australia with this visa. For more information on the Australian Student Visa, visit http://www.immi.gov.au/students/students/chooser/575.htm.

Footnotes
For specific information for study abroad students, visit http://www.international.murdoch.edu.au/abroad.asp. For more information on Australia, please visit the Tourism Australia web site at http://www.australia.com.