I used to feel so alone in the city. All those gazillions of people and then me, on the outside. Because how do you meet a new person? I was very stunned by this for many years. And then I realised you just say, “Hi.” They may ignore you. Or you may marry them. And that possibility is worth that one word.

Augusten Burroughs
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WELCOME TO RMIT YOU SEXY THING!

WHETHER YOU’VE JUST ESCAPED FROM HIGH SCHOOL, TAKEN A LITTLE TIME OFF, FRESH FROM OVERSEAS OR HERE TO DO IT ALL AGAIN: CONGRATULATIONS. YOU’VE MADE IT.

BUT BEFORE YOU SHARPEN YOUR PENCILS AND PUT ON YOUR SHINY SHOES THERE’S STILL ONE MORE HURDLE TO OVERCOME. AND THAT’S ORIENTATION.

OVER THE NEXT WEEK YOU’LL MAKE FRIENDS, PROBABLY DRINK TOO MUCH, DEFINITELY DRINK SOME MORE AND GET EXCITED ABOUT ALL THE CASH YOU’LL BE ROLLING IN ONCE YOU GRADUATE AND BECOME CEO OF THAT COMPANY THAT HASN’T BEEN INVENTED YET.

BUT ORIENTATION ISN’T ALL FUN AND GAMES—IT CAN ALSO BE STRESSFUL. DON’T WORRY, THOUGH. THIS LITTLE PUBLICATION WILL MAKE THE NEXT FEW WEEKS A LITTLE EASIER. FLICK THROUGH ITS PAGES AND LEARN SOME PRETTY NIFTY RMIT SURVIVAL SKILLS. YOU’LL ALSO DISCOVER HOW NOT TO HAVE SEX IN STUDENT ACCOMMODATION.

SO RELAX, HAVE FUN, AND DON’T FORGET TO WASH BEHIND YOUR EARS.

ALL THE BEST,

BROEDE CARMODY, BRITTANY STEWART AND ALIA MADKHUL
2013 O-BOOK EDITORS
ESSENTIALS
The lifestyle has its perks: mi goreng at any hour of the day, endless opportunities to skip lectures—not to mention a crazy nightlife packed with goon in plastic cups. However difficulties can arise in certain situations.

Your apartment may seem like the perfect place to share a romantic and spontaneous moment with someone. But crappy insulation and a lack of privacy can not only expose your sexual prowess (or lack thereof) to your roommate or neighbour, but everyone else in the hallway. And let’s not even think about the innocent bystanders who just happen to walk past your window at exactly the right (or wrong!) moment. After all, it’s not the most enjoyable experience hearing your neighbour and their lover hot and heated when you’re studying for your final exams, sitting parallel to their bed through a paper-thin wall.

Student accommodation is usually furnished with single beds and these provide limited room for activities. So make sure you like to snuggle before having a sleepover—or else you’re in for a real treat squished up against the wall or falling off the edge of the bed. It’s also unfortunate when you walk into your shared room to see not just your roommate but someone else sleeping in their bed. Naked. With no covers.
Make sure you warn your roommate when you need to use the bathroom, or else you could be waiting 15, 30, or even 45 minutes while they’re occupying the shower with their significant other (we all know they’re not washing each other’s hair). On the other hand, some students think it’s incredibly romantic to canoodle with the windows open. Here the fresh air can blow in and the moonlight can set the scene. However your glistening, naked bodies won’t be appreciated by your neighbours (unless they’re of the creepy kind, in which case keep the curtains drawn at all times).

Remember that when you’re having a one night stand with someone who resides in the same building, you’ll definitely end up seeing their face again. Especially when you bring home your new girlfriend/boyfriend or when your parents come to visit. Also, don’t leave your belongings behind after a quickie. If you leave your favourite heels in their room then you’ll have to knock on their door the next day in barefoot shame.

‘FOR THOSE WHO LIKE TO HAVE VARIETY IN THE SETTING OF THEIR SEXUAL EXPERIENCES, STUDENT ACCOMMODATION MAY NOT BE FOR YOU.’

So when deciding to get it on in a car, just make sure no-one is around before the vehicle starts to shake like an earthquake tremor.

Code words with your roommates can also help prevent embarrassing encounters. So when ‘fruitcake!’ is screamed from behind a closed door, turn around and go for a walk in the park. A long, long walk.
PICK UP YOUR STUDENT CARD AND DIARY
Skip over to the Hub for your student ID card and diary. Photos for your student card are taken right then and there, so make sure you put on some spunky clothes. You’ll also need your student number and some photo ID. We suggest getting to the Hub early in the morning to avoid the queues.

GET A CONCESSION MYKI
Myki is now the only ticket you can use on Melbourne’s trams, trains and buses. Full-time, local students are entitled to a Victorian Public Transport Concession card, which allows you to use a concession myki. This means half-price fares. Sweet!

For more information visit:
www.ptv.vic.gov.au/fares-tickets/concessions/students

SORT OUT YOUR PERSONAL DETAILS
If you are moving to Melbourne for the first time and want to eat kebabs at 3am, it’s probably best to open a bank account that you can access down here. Also, remember to notify organisations of your change of address.

Sorting out Centrelink, a Health Care and Medicare card can be a pain. But knock it out of the way sooner rather than later—it’s not worth the stress.
Enrolment can be a stressful time — but it doesn’t have to be! Careful preparation, organisation, punctuality and one of those squishy stress balls that come in funny shapes can make the experience much more pleasant.

Unfortunately, you’ll have to prepare to battle the enrolment nasties a few more times.

At the start of each new year, you will be asked to re-enrol to ensure you keep your place in your course. Make sure you do it by the deadline if you want to avoid the risk of losing your place, or having to part with an extra $175 in late enrolment fees after begging for your place back.

For Higher Education students, all you have to do is log in to myRMIT and select the enrolment online option. Under ‘my current program’, click the ‘enrol’ button for the program/classes you wish to re-enrol yourself in. Avoid unnecessary hair loss and wrinkles by enrolling in both Semester 1 and 2 in one go. Draft timetables should also be available for you to view and refer to online.

TAFE students need only to refer to a letter RMIT will send you. Easy! Program codes can be obtained by contacting your school prior to enrolling.

All the information you will need to Survive the Enrolment experience is detailed in the handy enrolment pack you are mailed when you are offered a place at RMIT. The pack clearly tells you whether you are required to enrol using the online-based system (suprisingly called ‘enrolment online’) or the paper-based method, in which case you’ll do so at an enrolment information session.

If it becomes too much to handle by yourself, try attending a recommended enrolment information session. Visit the Hub or call 03 9925 8980 during business hours. Phew!

Hit up www.rmit.edu.au/students/enrolment
1. Register with RMIT International
You will not actually be able to enrol unless you attend International Registration first. So this step is pretty important. It’s best to attend the registration at least one day before your official enrolment date to allow time for your eligibility to be activated, and so you can receive important course information that you’ll need for enrolment. Best be organised with this one, as late registration/enrolment may not be allowed.

2. Attend an information session organised by your School
This is basically a chance for you to learn more about the course you are undertaking from the people who teach it. You’ll be told about your program structure and enrollment, and be given a chance to get all your burning questions answered.

3. Enrol online
Now comes your chance to experience the wonderful system that is enrolment online. It’s pretty much the same process as for domestic students, but you’ll also be given more details about this step at the information session.

Once this is completed, you’re in! Welcome to the RMIT crew, friend.
MYRMIT

MYRMIT IS RMIT’S ONLINE STUDENT PORTAL. NO, YOU CAN’T TRAVEL THROUGH SPACE OR TIME USING MYRMIT—BUT YOU CAN DO SOME OTHER COOL THINGS, LIKE:

- ENROL
- CHECK YOUR RESULTS
- ORGANISE YOUR TIMETABLE
- RENEW LIBRARY BOOKS
- SEARCH FOR HOUSING

TO LOG IN TO MYRMIT VISIT:
WWW.MY.RMIT.EDU.AU
BUT AS VOLTAIRE ONCE SAID, WITH GREAT POWER COMES GREAT RESPONSIBILITY. LOTS OF IMPORTANT (AND LESS IMPORTANT) STUFF GETS SENT TO YOUR STUDENT EMAIL, INCLUDING INVOICES, LIBRARY RENEWAL NOTICES, MESSAGES FROM YOUR COURSE COORDINATOR AS WELL AS OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS INTERNSHIPS. WITH THIS IN MIND, IT’S RECOMMENDED THAT YOU CHECK YOUR EMAIL AT LEAST WEEKLY, BUT FROM EXPERIENCE EVERY FEW DAYS IS EVEN BETTER.

THE EMAIL ADDRESS IS
[YOUR STUDENT NUMBER]@STUDENT.RMIT.EDU.AU

YOUR INITIAL PASSWORD IS PYYYYMMDD! (YOUR DATE OF BIRTH). YOU WILL BE ASKED TO CHANGE THIS REGULARLY.

THE QUICKEST WAY TO ACCESS YOUR EMAIL ACCOUNT IS THROUGH THE STUDENT PORTAL, MYRMIT. SHOULD THAT BE UNAVAILABLE, YOU CAN EASILY ACCESS YOUR EMAIL THROUGH THE GMAIL LOGIN PAGE.

STUDENT EMAILS
WHEN YOUR ENROLMENT HAS BEEN COMPLETED, RMIT GIVES YOU YOUR VERY OWN STUDENT EMAIL ACCOUNT.
Make sure you keep up to date by using your student diary and checking your student emails regularly. The last thing you want to do is miss an assignment or rock up to uni when it’s actually mid-semester break.

Important dates for higher education and TAFE students can be found in your student diary or online. Here’s a few right now:

**SEMESTER 1**
- 11 February – Semester 1 classes begin for TAFE students
- 11-15 February – Orientation for TAFE students
- 25 February to 1 March – Orientation
- 4 March – Semester 1 classes begin for HE students
- 28 March to 3 April – Mid-semester break
- 31 March – Census date for HE students
- 4 April – Classes resume
- 10-28 June – Semester 1 exam period

**SEMESTER 2**
- 8 July – Semester 2 classes begin for TAFE students
- 8-12 July – Midyear orientation for TAFE students
- 22 July – Semester 2 classes begin for HE students
- 22-26 July – Midyear orientation
- 30 August – Census date for HE students
- 2-8 September – Mid-semester break
- 28 October to 15 November – Semester 2 exam period
No, they’re not unbreakable codes from World War II. They’re actually the location of that first class you’re already running late to. Let’s break it down.

**HANDY TIP**

You can wander around campus for hours searching for the MCCC (Melbourne City Conference Centre). Or we could just save you the panic and tears and tell you it’s the lecture theatre next to Melbourne Central, on the corner of Swanston and Little Lonsdale. You will thank us later.
9 HANDY APPS FOR STUDENTS

MYRMIT
An even easier way to access all your important uni stuff, including announcements, emails, maps, timetables and the library service from your portable device.

LOST ON CAMPUS
This app will likely be your closest friend in the first few weeks at uni. Lost on Campus was created with the help of over 200 uni students. The result is a comprehensive map of every nook and cranny at uni—from the lecture hall to bathrooms to on-campus secret locations.

4 INGREDIENTS BY KIM MCCOSKER
So you’ve moved out of the family home, and although the freedom is great you now have to cook for yourself. The 4 Ingredients app features hundreds of recipes from the bestselling cookbook series. Ranging from vegetarian meals to desserts, each recipe requires only four ingredients—making them simple but delicious. You can also enter an ingredient, such as chicken, and it will give you a range of recipes built around that one product. (Handy when the only thing in your fridge is a lonely block of cheese!)

PUBLIC TRANSPORT VICTORIA
Whether you use trams, buses or trains, the Public Transport Victoria app gives you real-time updates to keep you aware of any pesky delays and service changes, timetables and network maps.
**EVERNOTE**

Evernote is an indispensable app for students who are keen to stay organised and productive beyond new-semester resolutions. It has an easy-to-use interface and allows you to take notes, photos, record voice reminders and create to-do lists as well as sort and label them for easy access. Available to download on any Apple device, you can also sync these notes across multiple devices—making them accessible anywhere.

**TRAM TRACKER**

Hunt down those trams and save yourself a long, awkward wait at the tram stop. With Tram Tracker you’ll know exactly when the tram you want is arriving (so you can decide if it would really just be quicker to walk).

**URBANSPoon**

If you don’t fancy cooking, Urbanspoon is your best friend. It knows all the trendy and delicious places to eat in Melbourne. Search and choose by location, price range or cuisine. Use your GPS to find the closest place to eat or shake the app for a suggestion from the Urbanspoon slot machine. With ratings, reviews and menus easily accessible, there’ll be no excuse for a bad meal again.

**TIMEOUT MELBOURNE**

You’ll never be bored or stuck for something to do with the Timeout Melbourne app. A collection of all the good stuff from the website and monthly mag, find out what’s happening tonight—from comedy to theatre, club nights and festivals to movies and dinner. Find things by popularity, category, your current location or get the app to pick ten random things for you to do. Also features price ranges and reviews—so it will have you covered for whatever mood you’re in.

**STOFFERS**

Whether you’re feeling the pinch and only have $10 to last you the week, or just keen on making the most of your student discount, then Stoffers might be for you. Stoffers is chockers with the best student offers and news—showing you discounts and deals on offer based on your location.
FREE WI-FI

You can access free wi-fi on any RMIT campus. The first time you access the wireless network you’ll need to log in using your student number and password. From there you can tweet, Facebook and watch as many ‘educational’ videos as you like.
Melbourne is often called the fashion capital of Australia. With an abundance of designer labels and independent boutiques on every street corner, you’re certain to find something that caters to your individual taste.

Whether you’re dressing in order to fit in or stand out in a crowd, the most important thing to do is make sure your clothes are appropriate for the weather. Make sure you always carry a jacket or coat around with you in the colder months. An umbrella can’t hurt, either.
BACK UP YOUR WORK
YOU CAN REST ASSURED YOUR COMPUTER WILL CRASH THE DAY BEFORE YOU ARE DUE TO HAND IN AN ASSIGNMENT. IT HAPPENS TO THE BEST OF US. BACK UP IMPORTANT FILES SO YOU DON’T HAVE TO SPEND A SLEEPELESS NIGHT THRASHING OUT 2000 WORDS.

KEEP AN EYE ON YOUR STUFF
YOUR VALUABLES ARE JUST THAT—VALUABLE. TRY NOT TO LEAVE LAPTOPS AND PHONES UNATTENDED IN THE LIBRARY OR IN A WORKSPACE WHILE YOU DUCK OFF TO USE THE BATHROOM. IT’S NICE TO BE TRUSTWORTHY, BUT IT’S NOT SO NICE TO COME BACK TO FIND YOUR NEW IPHONE MISSING.
Although it’s possible to live off instant noodles and the occasional piece of FRUIT, it’s great to be able to buy nice things every now and then. Having some extra cash in your pocket will also benefit your social life tenfold. It’s easy enough to find part-time work if you know where to look. Some good places to start are:

- www.seek.com.au
- www.ejobs.rmit.edu.au
- Friends or family
- Newspapers

It also doesn’t hurt to volunteer your butt off. Unpaid work can be tough, but it can also give you invaluable skills and show you are committed to your future industry. It’s best to start looking for internships as soon as possible—don’t wait until just before you graduate. Everyone has to start somewhere.
YEP, THAT’S RIGHT. YOU’VE DONE THE HARD YARDS, GOT THE GRADES, DRUNK YOURSELF TO OBLIVION. BELLS DON’T RULE YOUR EXISTENCE FROM MONDAY TO FRIDAY—AND NOW YOU’RE GOING TO LEARN THAT UNI’S A RELATIVE BREEZE.

But school doesn’t prepare you for everything. If you’re not careful, uni can be a never-ending cavalcade of status anxiety, work and debt (both financial and emotional) that will turn the most ardent, well-travelled mature-age student into a self-loathing 20-something.

I was 17 when I started uni. If you’re underage like I was then things are going to be a little shit for the first few months. I’m not gonna lie. You can’t go to pubs for lunch, thanks to pesky uni-attire flagging the fact that wait staff actually need to bother with IDs around midday on a Tuesday. And by that stage you’ve already walked there with a bunch of promising acquaintances. You might as well cart off to the library with your fucking juice box.
On the other hand, spare a thought for those mature-age kids. These people probably graduated from high school before you received your pen licence. They might even own a house in some far-off suburb where they have to catch the V/Line into the city every day. And here you are complaining that your train takes 15 minutes.

Regardless of age, Melbourne students are a strange species. As an RMIT student, prepare yourself for incessant comparisons with your Melbourne and Monash counterparts. Phrases such as ‘Group of Eight’ and ‘Australia’s highest ranked university’ will get thrown in your face a lot. So the next time a drunk student majoring in gender studies talks about their university’s ranking, ask them the last time their uni was bestowed with royal patronage.

And no matter how many times people say ‘Oh, I’m just aiming for a pass’ don’t act surprised when they wave their HD in your face.

In all, life at RMIT is pretty sweet. A word of warning though: while the thought of getting into your crush’s pants at your respective school ball may seem like a good idea, rest assured that it will probably end in tears. Most likely your own.
The RMIT University Student Union (RUSU) was established in 1945 by Mr John Storey. It exists to represent students and enhance campus life. The union is an independent body and is run for students by students. After all, there’s more to university life than just lectures and assignments. The union can help you with student rights and welfare issues—or you could get involved behind the scenes or join one of their many clubs and societies.

Check out their website for more information: www.su.rmit.edu.au
RUSU MEMBERSHIP

BECOME A MEMBER OF THE UNION TO ENSURE IT CONTINUES TO REPRESENT YOUR NEEDS ON CAMPUS AND IN THE WIDER COMMUNITY. RUSU IS ALSO A NOT-FOR-PROFIT ORGANISATION, SO YOU CAN BE ASSURED THAT EVERY CENT OF YOUR HARD-EARNED CASH GOES TOWARDS IMPROVING STUDENT CULTURE.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP COSTS $10 AND YOU GET A WHOLE RANGE OF BENEFITS, INCLUDING:

- A TICKET TO RE-ORIENTATION NIGHT, THE BIGGEST NIGHT ON THE RMIT SOCIAL CALENDER
- ACCESS TO MEMBERS-ONLY EXCLUSIVE EVENTS
- STACKS OF MEMBERS-ONLY GIVEAWAYS
Orientation is an exciting part of the university experience. It’s the very first week of the next few years of your life, as you’re launched into a new environment, a whirlwind of free drinks, endless new faces, high expectations, a couple of inevitable bad decisions and a few nerves. But that’s the fun of it.

Its purpose is to introduce you to all parts of university life.

Orientation is being done a little differently at RMIT this year. This is to ensure both new and returning students have a great time as well as getting all the info they need. The official RMIT orientation week will take place across the three campuses.

**ORIENTATION**

There’ll be a range of campus tours, information sessions, stalls, music and free food, BBQs and booze on offer. Make sure you head over to the RUSU marquee and sign up for membership (and pick up some bonus goodies with a membership pack!) Watch out for the O’Nite as well.

**BRUNSWICK**
**TUESDAY 26TH FEBRUARY**

**BUNDOORA**
**WEDNESDAY 27TH FEBRUARY**

**CITY**
**THURSDAY 28TH FEBRUARY**
**WEEK 1**

**CLUBS WEEK**

Clubs Week will be held in the first official week of university (when classes have started). As well as free grub on offer, now is your chance to sign up to as many clubs, collectives and departments as you can before your biro ink runs up. Most of the clubs from RMIT Link and RUSU will have a table and attempt to convince you to join their club. They’ll bribe you with discounts and free goodies. Take them all! Just kidding. But joining clubs is a great way to meet new people and a chance to keep on at a sport/interest you’ve played for ages, or pick up a new one.

**WEEK 6**

**RE-ORIENTATION WEEK**

Now comes the good stuff. By now you’re well settled in, know how to work myRMIT, made some friends and realised that you do actually have to some work at uni (bummer, I know!). So it’s time for Re-Orientation! Brought to you entirely by RUSU, this is where shit gets really good. Think lots of good music, free booze, food and entertainment, as well as a wild party to top it all off.

**BRUNSWICK**
- Tuesday 5th March
- Wednesdays 6th March
- Thursday 7th March

**BUNDOORA**
- Tuesday 10th April
- Wednesday 11th April

**CITY**
- City & Party!
CLUBS

HAVE YOU ALWAYS WANTED TO JOIN A CULT? WELL DON’T JOIN A CLUB INSTEAD.

RMIT HAS A VARIETY OF ACADEMIC, CULTURAL AND SPIRITUAL CLUBS. BUT IF YOU CAN’T FIND SOMETHING THAT FITS YOUR INTERESTS, WHY NOT START YOUR OWN?

HERE’S JUST A TASTER OF WHAT’S ALREADY ON OFFER.

ACADEMIC
CESA (CIVIL ENGINEERING STUDENT ASSOCIATION)
Rachel Bassetto
s3285342@student.rmit.edu.au

SPORTS CHIRO ASSOCIATION (BUNDOORA)
Samuel Parker
rmit.sca@gmail.com

RMIT MUSIC INDUSTRY CLUB
Olivia Baddeus
MICRMIT@gmail.com

CULTURAL
BANGLADESHI STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
Khandakar Entenam Unayes Ahmed
s3278694@student.rmit.edu.au

RMIT ITALIAN CLUB
Anthony D’Angelo
s3378599@student.rmit.edu.au

RMIT INDONESIAN STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
Ken Hendarto
ken.hendarto@ppia-rmit.edu.au

RMIT SINGAPORE STUDENTS ASSOCIATION
Jerold Tan
rmitssa.president@gmail.com

SPECIAL INTEREST
RMIT CHINESE DEBATING GROUP
Eric Tan
s3383621@student.edu.au

RMIT SCIENCE FICTION AND GAMES ASSOCIATION
Adam Bakogianis
s3285882@student.rmit.edu.au

RMIT SECULAR SOCIETY
Callum Tyler
rmitsecularsociety@gmail.com

RMIT ENGINEERS WITHOUT BORDERS
Deakin Fawley
deaakin.ewb@gmail.com

SPIRITUAL
RMIT CHRISTIAN UNION
Josh Hermann
president@rmit.cu.org.au

RMIT BUDDHIST SOCIETY
Cindy Tay
cindytay89@hotmail.com

POLITICAL
There are a wide range of political clubs at RMIT. Whether you’re left, right, or somewhere in between you’re sure to find something that caters to your views and beliefs.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON ALL THE CLUBS ON OFFER AT RMIT THIS YEAR, KEEP AN EYE OUT FOR STALLS DURING ORIENTATION AND CLUBS WEEK IN WEEK ONE.
The RUSU Education Department’s job is to make sure you are informed about issues and policies that affect the university education you pay so much money for.

If you want to have your say, join the Campaigns Collective. This is a collaboration between the Welfare and Education Departments that focuses on issues relating to the education and welfare of RMIT students—including the new Special Consideration Policy, student poverty and housing. It’s a great way to create some positive changes within the university as well as involving yourself in the RMIT community.

Your school’s SSCC (Student Staff Consultative Committee) is another way to ensure your views about your course are heard by those who teach it. Staff and volunteer student representatives meet twice a semester to voice the concerns of their peers. This ensures you’re getting the most out of your course.

For more information or to get involved drop by your RUSU information counter or email the Education Officer, Ahlam Tariq, at rusu.education@rmit.edu.au.

As you can probably guess from their name, student welfare is the primary concern of the RUSU Welfare Department. Whether it’s personal issues such as financial hardship and healthcare or broader government policies about higher education and student welfare, the Welfare Department has your back. They make sure you’re informed and educated about changes that will affect you.

The RUSU Welfare Department offers a range of other services designed to make student life easier, including Compass and regular events and free services throughout the year.

To suggest some services you’d like to see or to get involved contact the Welfare Officer, Marcus Lim, on rusu.welfare@rmit.edu.au.
THE WOMYN’S DEPARTMENT REPRESENTS WOMEN ON CAMPUS AND HELPS EDUCATE PEOPLE ABOUT WOMEN’S RIGHTS, HEALTH AND ISSUES. THE WOMYN’S DEPARTMENT ALSO MAINTAINS SEVERAL WOMEN-ONLY SPACES ACROSS RMIT’S CAMPUSES AND RUNS VARIOUS ACTIVITIES AND CAMPAIGNS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

WOMYN’S ROOMS

CITY
BUILDING 8, LEVEL 3

CARLTON
BUILDING 57, LEVEL 4

BUNDOORA WEST
BUILDING 204, LEVEL 2

‘When I went for the position of Womyn’s Officer in 2011-12 (and lost) I was called a stripper by the opposition. I’m not, but it wouldn’t matter if I was. Why? Because it would be my choice and I shouldn’t be condemned for it. If I want to be a doctor, a hairdresser, a stay at home mum or a professional footy player, no-one should tell me otherwise. No-one should tell you otherwise. You should never undergo prejudice in any way—whether it’s due to your clothes or makeup, or just for being female.’

—Yasmine Lintvelt, Womyn’s Officer.
The International Student Department represents the welfare and opinions of international students. It’s also a place where both national and international students can come together, make friends and learn about other cultures. The International Student Department also runs a variety of events throughout the year, including international food days and free English workshops.

Are you an international student who needs help with health, accommodation or other issues? The International Student Care Service can help.

International Student Care Service
19-21 Argyle Place South
Carlton VIC 3053

1800 056 449
info@iscs.vic.gov.au
The Queer Department represents students who identify as gay, lesbian, bisexual, asexual, transgender, intersex, queer or who are uncertain about their sexuality. They believe in challenging discrimination, fighting homophobia and throwing cupcakes at heteronormativity. They also run safe spaces called Queer Lounges, where queer and queer-friendly students can relax, study and meet people without being judged.

For more information visit:
www.su.rmit.edu.au/departments/queer
Hi, I'm Michael, one of the three Queer Officers this year.

The Queer Lounge is a safe space for all queer and queer-friendly people.

Not only is the Queer Lounge a safe space, but it's a fun place, with regular events (activities) occurring weekly so that you can meet and make new friends.

Sorry, it's Kircy's turn! So pop in, cause you also get FREE coffee and tea.

Located at Building 8, Level 3, Room 6 (down the hall from the Compass office). It's not that hard to find! Also, we have a Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr accounts, so you can keep up to date with events!

For any new student, RMIT can be a pretty scary place...

However, there is a safe space!

Actually, it looks more like......

Just for you to-

Actually, it looks more like......

This.

It's called the Queer Lounge.

and overly eager teachers...

Finally, a bar that speaks of human suffering.

You'll fit in perfectly.

Hi, I'm Michael, one of the three Queer Officers this year.

Zeezame Michael, I'm Hamnin!

Zeezame Michael, I'm Hamnin!

Not only is the Queer Lounge a safe space, but it's a fun place, with regular events (activities) occurring weekly so that you can meet and make new friends.

Sorry, it's Kircy's turn! So pop in, cause you also get FREE coffee and tea.

Located at Building 8, Level 3, Room 6 (down the hall from the Compass office). It's not that hard to find! Also, we have a Facebook, Twitter and Tumblr accounts, so you can keep up to date with events!
I'm James and I'm studying my third year of engineering. I like fast cars, 90s music and lasagne. I'm also your President for 2013, so if you see me around campus make sure you say hi. As President I am responsible for you, the students of RMIT. I'm here not just to coordinate RUSU's information and activities but to ensure your voice is heard across all levels at every campus and in the wider community.

RUSU is about students. It’s run by students, for students. We’re here for you when times get tough in both life and study, offering support services and advice to students in need. We’re also here to make sure your university experience is the best it can be—with exciting events, parties, campaigns, workshops, clubs and more. This year we’ll be enhancing campus culture across RMIT, making sure your time at university is enjoyable and memorable. We’ll make sure these are the best years of your life.

RUSU is the difference between just studying at university and enjoying university, so get involved. With collectives, clubs, societies and more, there is quite literally something for everyone. Visit our website su.rmit.edu.au or visit our offices on your campus. Becoming a member costs just $10.

James Michelmore
RUSU President
BEC FARY
STUDYING JOURNALISM AT RMIT CITY CAMPUS
‘I like how close the city campus is to everything. I suggest hanging out at Pearson and Murphy’s and University Lawn. While I spend a lot of time in the city, I highly recommend exploring Errol Street in North Melbourne and the cafes in Fitzroy.’

ISABEL FUGLSANG
STUDYING FASHION AND TEXTILES AT RMIT BRUNSWICK CAMPUS
‘I love the whole vibe of Brunswick. Everyone is so relaxed and trendy. Definitely check out Greens cafe—they have the best food and their prices are ridiculously cheap.’

TEGHAN BUTLER
STUDYING APPLIED SCIENCE AT RMIT BUNDOORA CAMPUS
‘I love the Bundoora campus because I don’t have to catch a tram into the city. It’s quiet and everything is in the one area. I suggest hanging out at Uni Hill or at Cold Rock in the warmer months.’
RUSU not only cares about your wellbeing, but also that of the environment around you. The groovy kids in the Environment Department make it their mission to make RMIT as environmentally friendly as possible. They do so in a number of ways—including encouraging students to reduce their waste, manage their water usage, eat organic and hop on a bike.

**BIKES**

YEP, THAT’S RIGHT—BIKES ARE COOL AGAIN. SO WHETHER YOU’RE SPEEDING ALONG ON SOME HIGH-TECH MOUNTAIN BIKE OR CRUISING ALONG ON A VINTAGE ONE, YOU’RE DOING YOUR BIT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT AS WELL AS KEEPING FIT. FOR MORE INFORMATION CHECK OUT RUSU BIKES 4 U AND THE RUSU BIKE GRANT PROJECT AT WWW.SU.RMIT.EDU.AU/DEPARTMENTS/ENVIRONMENT/BIKES

**BETTER FOOD CHOICES**

YOU’LL BE SURPRISED AT WHAT A DIFFERENCE A FEW MINOR LIFESTYLE CHANGES CAN MAKE—STARTING OFF WITH THE FOOD WE CONSUME. DID YOU KNOW AUSTRALIA’S FOOD SUPPLY GENERATES THE SECOND-HIGHEST LEVEL OF CARBON EMISSIONS? FOOD THAT’S PRODUCED LOCALLY USING ENVIRONMENT-FRIENDLY METHODS DOESN’T HAVE TO BE EXPENSIVE. IT’S ALSO DELICIOUS AND VERY GOOD FOR YOU.

THE RUSU ENVIRO DEPARTMENT HAVE MADE IT EVEN EASIER BY JOINING FORCES WITH THE ORGANIC EMPIRE TO OFFER RMIT STUDENTS FRESH, YUMMY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY AFFORDABLE ORGANIC PRODUCE DELIVERED TO YOUR DOOR FOR JUST $28. YOU WON’T EVEN HAVE TO BATTLE THE CROWDS AT COLES TO GET IT. SWEET.

JOIN THE ENVIRONMENT DEPARTMENT OR HAVE A LOOK AT THE RUSU BETTER FOOD CHOICES CAMPAIGN AT WWW.SU.RMIT.EDU.AU/DEPARTMENTS/ENVIRONMENT
FREE FURNITURE
(YES YOU DID JUST READ CORRECTLY)

THE FURNITURE CAGE HAS BEEN COLLECTING DISCARDED RMIT UNIVERSITY FURNITURE AND GIVING IT TO STUDENTS AND STAFF FOR FREE SINCE 2008. RECYCLING THE FURNITURE HELPS BY GIVING STUDENTS ITEMS OF FURNITURE THEY MAY OTHERWISE BE UNABLE TO AFFORD AND STOPPING PERFECTLY GOOD FURNITURE FROM ENDING UP IN THE LANDFILL. SO WHETHER YOU’RE IN A FURNITURE-FREE APARTMENT AND BEGINNING TO DESPAIR, OR JUST IN NEED OF A NEW DESK, DROP BY AND CHECK OUT WHAT THEY HAVE IN STOCK.

A NEW ADDITION TO THIS SERVICE IS ELECTRICAL EQUIPMENT. IF IT’S STILL IN GOOD WORKING ORDER, IT’S MADE AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS AT GREATLY REDUCED COSTS.

FURNITURE CAGE
BUILDING 8, LEVEL 3 CAR PARK (BEHIND THE GYM)
OPEN WEDNESDAYS 3.30PM TO 6PM THROUGH SEMESTER

RUSU REALFOODS

YOU’RE ABSOLUTELY SPOILT WHEN IT COMES TO CHOOSING WHERE TO EAT IN THE CITY. BUT SOMETIMES YOU CAN’T FACE ANOTHER SUSHI ROLL BUT STILL WANT SOMETHING THAT IS HEALTHY, TASTY AND WON’T BREAK THE BANK. THAT’S WHERE RUSU REALFOODS COMES IN, NESTLED IN THE CITY CAMPUS (INSIDE THE FOOD COURT). THERE YOU’LL FIND DELICIOUS ORGANIC, VEGETARIAN, VEGAN, RAW, LIVING FOODS, LOW-FAT, GLUTEN-FREE AND SUGAR-FREE MEALS, SNACKS AND DRINKS. IT’S OPEN MONDAY–FRIDAY, 11AM–4PM (DURING SEMESTER) AND RELIES ON WONDERFUL STUDENT VOLUNTEERS TO KEEP IT GOING. SO GO HAVE A LOOK, SETTLE DOWN TO A DELICIOUS ORGANIC SOUP AND MAYBE PICK UP A FORM TO HELP OUT.

WWW.SU.RMIT.EDU.AU/DEPARTMENTS/RUSU-REALFOODS
Talk to any student who was at uni last year and they may grumble to you about ‘another bloody fee’ the university billed them for. It’s likely however that the vast majority actually know very little about what the fee is for.

**What is it?**
The Student Services and Amenities Fee (SSAF) was introduced by RMIT University in 2012 following legislative changes made by the Australian Government. Its purpose is to fund and therefore improve services that enrich your university experience.

**What does it do?**
This fee is not collected by RUSU. It’s collected by the university for non-academic purposes. The money collected under the SSAF can only be spent on things that appear on the government’s list of ‘allowable items’. RMIT uses part of it to fund RUSU activities—including student media, clubs and societies, events, campaigns and student rights but not any activity of a political nature.

**RUSU plans to use these funds to maintain existing services as well as some new projects including:**

- More Compass welfare services and a new Compass lounge
- More student rights officers on campuses
- More on-campus childcare places for students with children
- A new ‘at risk’ student support program
- More money and resources for student clubs and societies
- Creating a student union space on the Bundoora East Campus
- Improving the RMIT Orientation Program, including an O-Week Camp
- Producing this beautiful (and useful!) survival guide
**IMPORTANT SERVICES, WEBSITES AND ADVICE LINES**

**DRUGS AND ALCOHOL**


**DENTAL**

MELBOURNE DENTAL HEALTH CLINIC
1/723 SWANSTON ST
CARLTON
03 9035 8402

**HELP AND ADVICE LINES**

**BEYOND BLUE**

ONLINE INFORMATION ON DEPRESSION AND ANXIETY

**LIFELINE**

24 HOUR TELEPHONE COUNSELLING AND SUICIDE PREVENTION
13 11 14
[www.lifeline.org.au](http://www.lifeline.org.au)

**HOUSING**

TENANTS UNION OF VICTORIA
KNOW ABOUT YOUR RIGHTS AS A TENANT AS WELL AS ACCESS TO A FREE ADVICE HELPLINE THAT YOU CAN CALL WITH ANY QUESTION IN REGARDS TO HOUSING
[www.tuv.org.au](http://www.tuv.org.au)

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS**

**THE COUCH**

BEING AN INTERNATIONAL STUDENT IN AN UNFAMILIAR COUNTRY CAN BE EXCITING, BUT IT CAN ALSO FEEL LONELY AND DIFFICULT AT TIMES. THE COUCH IS A PLACE FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS TO SOCIALISE. IT ALSO OFFERS SUPPORT SERVICES AND INFORMATION ABOUT HOUSING, EMPLOYMENT AND COUNSELING. IT HOSTS FREE ACTIVITIES INCLUDING ENGLISH CLASSES AND FOOTY OUTINGS AS WELL AS DINNER SUNDAY TO THURSDAY FROM 5PM TO 9PM.

BASED AT SALVATION ARMY MELBOURNE PROJECT 614’S HAMODAVA CAFE

**INTERNATIONAL STUDENT CARE SERVICE**

A PLACE THAT OFFERS CRISIS INTERVENTION AND SUPPORT IN EMERGENCY SITUATIONS AS WELL AS FRIENDLY AND PROFESSIONAL ADVICE.

**SEXUAL HEALTH**

MELBOURNE SEXUAL HEALTH CENTRE
GOOD SOURCE OF GENERAL INFORMATION ABOUT SEXUAL HEALTH, AS WELL AS OFFERING FREE SEXUAL HEALTH TESTING AND ADVICE
RMITV is RMIT’s very own student-run TV station. It is aired on Channel 31 and produces a variety of shows throughout the year. Rove and Hamish and Andy started their careers here, so if you want to end up in the television industry then this is probably the place to set up camp.

RMITV membership means the opportunity to gain experience both in front and behind the camera (as well as some great networking opportunities). Whether you enjoy being centre stage, or your talents lie in lighting, audio, directing or production, RMITV gives you the opportunity to pitch your own ideas or assist with someone else’s.

www.su.rmit.edu.au/media/RMITV
Catalyst is RMIT’s student magazine. It appears online and in print bi-monthly, featuring articles and stories by students. This year’s editors are Andrei Ghoukassian, Dragana Mrkaja and Nathan Stanogias. If you want to flex your writing muscles Catalyst is the place to start.

rmитcatalyst@gmail.com
SYN IS AUSTRALIA’S PREMIER LEADING YOUTH MEDIA ORGANISATION THAT PROVIDES TRAINING AND BROADCAST OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOUNG AUSTRALIANS BETWEEN THE AGES OF 12-25. SYN RADIO BROADCASTS ON 90.7FM FROM THE RMIT CITY CAMPUS AND CAN BE STREAMED ONLINE. BUT THAT’S NOT ALL! SYN ALSO PRODUCES TELEVISION CONTENT FOR CHANNEL 31 AND ORIGINAL MEDIA AT SYN.ORG.AU

SYN OFFERS AFFORDABLE TRAINING IN RADIO AND TELEVISION/FILM PRODUCTION WITH REGULAR WORKSHOPS TO EQUIP YOU WITH THE PRACTICAL SKILLS NEEDED FOR A MEDIA CAREER. ONCE YOU’VE COMPLETED TRAINING (WITH DISCOUNTED MEMBERSHIP FOR RMIT STUDENTS!), THE OPPORTUNITIES ARE ENDLESS. GET INVOLVED IN A FLAGSHIP SHOW, OR COME UP WITH, PRESENT AND PRODUCE YOUR OWN. SYN NOW HAS SPANKING NEW REFRUBISHED STUDIOS AND IS A GREAT WAY TO MEET LIKE-MINDED AND CREATIVE PEOPLE (WITH FANTASTIC MUSIC TASTE!)

TO GET INVOLVED AND VOLUNTEER FOR SYN VISIT SYN.ORG.AU
There are over 10,000 postgraduate students at RMIT, making up a significant part of the student population.

RUSU provides a space for postgraduate students to relax, socialise and study. It’s called the Postgraduate Lounge and it is located in Building 28.

There is also a postgraduate committee that coordinates events and services for postgraduate students across all of RMIT’s campuses.

TO GET IN TOUCH, EMAIL RUSU.POSTGRAD@RMIT.EDU.AU
No matter how much we plan or how hard we try, we can never know what’s around the corner. Sometimes life throws you a curveball. Education at university isn’t limited to the lecture theatre—it’s also about learning to deal with obstacles as they arise. You might find yourself in a fight with your landlord, or unable to do your exam because you broke your arm. Compass is a place you can go with any problem—big or small—and you’ll be pointed in the right direction.

Whether you’re confused or worried about something at uni or elsewhere in your life, Compass can help you find and get in contact with the best service for you either on-campus or in your local community. It’s a completely confidential service and because it’s run by the Student Union, it’s entirely separate from the RMIT University administration.
Compass also organises outreach programs and activities on all campuses throughout the year (look out for the jumping castle and vagina cupcakes!). It also runs stress-less weeks around examination time.

You don’t need to be having ‘problems’ to come in for advice—pop in if you want to know what activities are happening on campus or just feel like a chat with a friendly face. They also have handy things like free tampons, pads, condoms and lube.

The Compass Centre is located in Building 8, Level 3, Room 9. It’s just across the corridor from the gym. Students can email compass@rmit.edu.au or call 03 9925 2785.

If you need to talk to someone, whatever hour of the day or night, there’s always someone ready to listen. For 24-hour advice or referrals you can call:

- Lifeline 13 11 14
- Suicide Line 1300 65 1251
- Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636
- The Police 000

Compass is staffed by highly trained and friendly student volunteers who are eager to help. It’s a relaxed and approachable place (with the comfiest couch) where you can always get reliable help. Compass is open Tuesday to Friday, 10am to 4pm. You can make an appointment or simply drop in when you need someone to talk to.

Some of the issues we can help with include:

- Homelessness
- Centrelink
- Rent or your landlord
- Employment
- Domestic and family violence
- Public transport
- Mental health
- Legal issues
- Harassment and bullying
- Drugs and substance abuse
No-one will get your cultural references

You and your older friends have your own inside jokes and references that regularly get a laugh, or at least a knowing reply. Perhaps you do an excellent impression of Seinfeld’s J. Peterman, or still remember Rob Sitch doing Yasser Arafat on the The Late Show. Amusing, right? Wrong. No-one has seen these shows, and no-one cares. University students are young. Most of them were born in the 1990s. By then you were walking and talking and maybe even in high school. Brush up on modern pop-culture, or at the very least put away that George Costanza having a neurotic meltdown act.

Despite this you will still make friends

So no-one will get your sense of humour. But you’ll still meet some pretty great people. Why? Because despite the age difference, you’re going to the same classes. Reading the same texts. Complaining about the same impossible-to-please lecturers and struggling with the same assessments. Besides, you might just be lucky enough to meet a prematurely grown-up type who has discovered Leonard Cohen and the difficulty of existence early. Remember, you’re all in it together. If being older means you have some extra knowledge in a certain area, then share it. They’ll be grateful, believe me.
**HOWEVER NO-ONE LIKES A KNOW-IT-ALL**

Respond to questions in class if you have an appropriate answer, but don’t respond to every question just because you can. You’re older, you probably know more and have the confidence to share it—but don’t put people offside by rubbing it in. Students make their way through course material at different speeds, so let others answer questions even if you’re burning to raise your hand. You’re all starting from scratch, whatever the course is, so chances are you know less than you think you do.

**THE TEACHERS WILL APPRECIATE YOU**

If you’ve decided to return to university as a mature-age student, it probably means you’re a pretty committed type. Going back to study as an adult usually means giving up a stable income, or even moving back to the family home. As a result of these sacrifices (and your more meaningful understanding of personal debt) you’ll want to get the most out of your university experience. This means you’ll go to class, pay attention, do the readings and get your assessments in on time. This is all the lecturers and tutors really want.

**THERE ARE HUGE BENEFITS TO GETTING INVOLVED**

Even though you probably have relevant industry experience, or at least a longish resume, getting involved in RMIT’s extracurricular activities can be immensely rewarding. Whether it’s through student media, one of the many clubs and societies or even the RMIT Student Union you’ll be sure to meet excellent people and develop your credentials. Get published, host a podcast, start a club, campaign on various issues, represent your fellow students in the union—there are a host of opportunities available to you. Being older places you in a unique position to bring a wealth of knowledge and experience to these positions and activities. Make the most of it.

**UNIVERSITY IS NOT LIKE AN AMERICAN COMEDY**

Your university-as-an-adult experience is not going to be anything like Old School. Sorry about that.
RMIT LINK
YOU’LL GET OFF YOUR TIGER AIRWAYS FLIGHT AND THINK, FUCK IT’S COLD. YOU’LL LOOK AROUND AND NOTICE EVERYONE DRESSED IN BLACK. THEY WILL BE WEARING SCARVES AND TRENDY JACKETS, SOME LEATHER AND OTHERS WITH ZIPPERS. YOU WILL BE WEARING A SINGLET AND THONGS.

For a moment you’ll feel tough but walking across the tarmac the skin on your shoulders and arms will burst with gooseflesh. You’ll pretend not to be cold even though you are cold. On the way to your mate’s place in Brunswick you’ll stop at a bar somewhere in the city. The first thing you’ll think is, where the fuck is all the Bundy? You’ll lean over the bar and stare at the beer taps with names like Mountain Goat, Red Duck and 2 Brothers. You’ll look around. For a second you’ll feel lonely. You’ll flex your muscles a little bit to distract people from looking at your face.

You’ll begin reminiscing about old times. You’ll remember how you and Stevo and Bruce built a beer bong in year ten and how the sun was so hot you thought it was going to melt the plastic but it didn’t melt the plastic. You’ll remember Sally, how her body got really good that summer and how she’d bought meat pies for the boys and how she smiled when you did three beers in one hit even though it made you throw up next to the clothes line.

You’ll wait for someone with skinny jeans, tattoos, glasses and a beanie to stop staring at his iPhone and serve you. You’ll say, ‘Hey mate,’ and he’ll look at you with a blank expression and you’ll say, ‘Give us a bourbon,’ and he’ll nod, staring at his iPhone, and you’ll see a triangle tattoo on his finger and you’ll think, why the fuck does everybody have triangle tattoos on their fingers?
You’ll sit by the window and stare out at Little Lonsdale Street. Small bits of sunlight and leaves blowing hard down the road, you’ll remember going out in Brisbane, in the city, the Port Office hotel, you and Jessica, the short, black dress she’d always wear, the way she’d stand in front of you when you both went to the bar, leaning forward a little bit while saying to the barman, ‘Just two Vodka Redbulls,’ her arse teasing you.

‘You’ll see a triangle tattoo on his finger and you’ll think, why the fuck does everybody have triangle tattoos on their fingers?’

You’ll remember how she said, ‘I don’t want you to meet my parents,’ and you’ll remember saying, ‘Didn’t want to anyway.’ You’ll stare at the beer you’re drinking, confused because you thought you ordered a bourbon, and you’ll try to read the label, some obscure, italicised writing, and an email will come in reminding you to enroll in your law degree, and Jessica will be tagged in a photo, and something hot, a jealousy, will rise through you as some other bloke with broad shoulders and big hands puts his arm around her, and you will let it show on your face, in the corner of your lips, because it’s what you’ve always done.

Across the street a girl will be wearing clothes from the wrong generation, a red dress, and you’ll wonder if you could ever love someone like that, and for a moment you won’t know what to do, and you’ll think about calling home except your old man would probably laugh at you, and you’ll think about calling Stevo except he’d tell you to ‘Grow a pair,’ and ultimately you’ll think about calling Jessica, but as her tagged photos continue to roll in, each one more disturbing than the last, you’ll decide to do what you’ve always done, and you’ll bury it somewhere, your fists clenching and then unclenching while you swallow, quickly, the lump in your throat.

The thing you could never know was that one day you would open up, small at first, little sentences, and you’d feel it when you held that person’s hand, when they asked how you were, in the shudders of their breath when they lowered themselves onto you and afterwards, after you spoke about things you’d never told anybody, how you worried you could never impress your dad, how you’d been arrogant because of your looks, of your brain, of being insignificant, something salty and heavy began running down your cheeks and it felt wonderful, it felt fucking fantastic, and after you excused yourself you stared in the mirror, at your red eyes and damp hair, and you exhaled feeling genuinely good, feeling like more of a man than you’d even been.
RMIT LINK is your opportunity to get the most out of university life—a chance to get active in a sports club you didn’t know existed, unleash your inner artist or just to meet some half-decent people to brave the further education journey with. RMIT Link is responsible for:

• Sports and Recreation
• Arts and Culture
• The City Fitness Gym

With this in mind there’s no excuse for not picking up at least one new skill during your time at RMIT. And who knows—a sexy stranger could be waiting for you by the treadmill.
RMIT LINK’S ARTS AND CULTURE PROGRAMS ARE THE PERFECT WAY TO MEET OTHER STUDENTS WITH SIMILAR INTERESTS.

IF YOU FANCY WALKING INTO A GALLERY AND SEEING YOUR OWN WORK HANGING ON THE WALLS, YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT FIRST SITE GALLERY—RMIT’S OWN STUDENT ART GALLERY. YOU CAN APPLY FOR YOUR OWN EXHIBITION AT THE START OF EACH SEMESTER. THROUGH THE HEAVY WOODEN DOORS YOU’LL ALSO FIND NEW EXHIBITIONS OPENING FORTNIGHTLY ON A TUESDAY AS WELL AS AN ANNUAL MENTORSHIP PROGRAM.

IF YOU’VE GOT THAT BIG IDEA BUT HAVEN’T GOT THE BUDGET TO MATCH, YOU CAN ALSO APPLY FOR ARTS FUNDING THROUGH RMIT LINK AT THE BEGINNING OF EACH SEMESTER.
SPORTS AND RECREATION

UNIVERSITY ISN’T JUST ABOUT STUDYING AND CHEAP ALCOHOL. LUCKILY, RMIT LINK HAS A VARIETY OF SPORTS CLUBS YOU CAN JOIN. DODGEBALL OR QUIIDDITCH, ANYONE? CHECK OUT THE FULL LIST OF CLUBS HERE: RMIT.EDU.AU/STUDENTS/SPORT-CLUBS

THERE ARE ALSO A WIDE RANGE OF TRIPS AND TOURS HELD THROUGHOUT THE YEAR. VISIT RMIT.EDU.AU/STUDENTS/TRIPS-TOURS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

COMPETE IN THE ANNUAL UNIVERSITY GAMES AND SHOW THE WORLD (ALL RIGHT, AUSTRALIA) JUST HOW GOOD YOU ARE: WWW.RMIT.EDU.AU/STUDENTS/UNIVERSITYGAMES
MELBOURNE IS HOME TO MANY ICONIC COMMUNITY EVENTS INCLUDING THE MELBOURNE MARATHON, AROUND THE BAY AND THE MOTHER’S DAY CLASSIC. IF YOU DON’T FANCY DOING THEM ALONE, JOIN THE RMIT TEAM AND YOU’LL HAVE A SHOULDER TO LEAN ON AND SOMEONE TO SWEAR AT AS YOU TRY TO MAKE IT THROUGH THE LAST FEW KILOMETRES.

WWW.RMIT.EDU.AU/STUDENTS/COMMUNITY-EVENTS
STUDENT SERVICES
1) BE PICKY ABOUT YOUR HOUSEMATES

It sounds pretty simple, but it’s good to make sure you actually like the people you’re going to be living with. Don’t be like my friend who found a place on Gumtree and ended up living with two guys in their mid-30s, who worked part-time and had nothing else going for them. For a 20-year-old female with interests beyond sleeping, there wasn’t much common ground to chat about in the kitchen.

2) ...BUT NOT TOO PICKY

Living with people you don’t know too well is a fantastic way to make friends and get involved in new things. I lived with someone I didn’t know well, and now we’re really close. A friend found her housemates online, and since meeting them they’ve been practically inseparable. Even if you don’t end up as BFFs, your new housemates are bound to expose you to new music, people, and experiences.

3) SUCK UP TO REAL ESTATE AGENTS

Although it can be easier to find a room in an established sharehouse, some of you will want to find your own place. That means inspecting a lot of houses and having applications rejected. As a student, you probably won’t be first choice, so it’s important to dress nicely, and submit timely and complete applications. Be as charming as possible in the hopes they’ll remember your winning smile and overlook the fact your character reference is your mum.

4) DON’T EXPECT A DREAM HOUSE

Let’s be real, your budget probably doesn’t stretch to a mansion. What you’ll most likely end up living in will be a bit ramshackled, with the distinct possibility of at least one important fixture being broken. Cover up that peeling paint with your favourite pictures and move your bed over that weird stain on the carpet. As long as there’s no asbestos in the ceiling, embracing those flaws will add to the fun of a sharehouse.
5) IKEA IS A TRAP

Seriously. I was tempted by IKEA’s $1 hot dogs and cheap Swedish furniture at first, but now I never want to go back. It’s all well and good until you spend an afternoon circling the store, lifting heavy flatpacks and spending too much money on pretty things with unpronounceable names. It’s good stuff, but you’ll be able to find a lot of cheap, comfortable furniture and homewares second-hand.

6) EVERYONE HAS ANNOYING HABITS. INCLUDING YOU

Living in the same space as people brings their most annoying traits to light. You might be best friends, but after a month of them not stacking the dishes properly you could be plotting ways to make their life miserable. It’s important to realise that it’s normal to squabble over little things, and there are probably habits you have that your housemates are too nice to complain about. Lay down some ground rules when you first move in, and unless they’re making meth in your basement, learn to compromise and forgive their small misdeeds.
KEEP DREAMING ABOUT LYING ON A YACHT IN THE MEDITERRANEAN OR BACKPACKING THROUGH SOUTH EAST ASIA? JUST NOT LOVING YOUR COURSE? IF YOU SUBCONSCIOUSLY NODDED TO ANY OF THE ABOVE, THEN CHANCES ARE YOU’VE CONSIDERED DEFERRING.

IF YOU WANT TO DEFER, DON’T ENROL. YOU STILL HAVE TO LOG INTO MYRMIT, BUT INSTEAD OF CLICKING ‘ENROL’ SELECT THE ‘DEFER STUDIES’ OPTION. IF SUCCESSFUL, YOU WILL RECEIVE IMMEDIATE CONFIRMATION OF THIS VIA ENROLMENT ONLINE, FOLLOWED BY A HARD COPY LETTER FOR YOUR RECORDS A LITTLE LATER. HOWEVER, NOT EVERYONE CAN DEFER ONLINE (FOR EXAMPLE RESEARCH AND INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS). IT’S BEST TO SPEAK TO SOMEONE TO ENSURE YOU FOLLOW THE RIGHT PROCEDURE AND DON’T DO THE WRONG THING BY ACCIDENT.

THE LENGTH OF TIME YOU CAN DEFER FOR VARIES FROM COURSE TO COURSE. ALSO REMEMBER THAT YOU CAN ONLY DEFER YOUR COURSE ONCE.
Deferring usually refers to delaying your study before commencement of your time at university. If you’re partway through your course and fancy a bit of a break, you can apply for a leave of absence.

To get your leave of absence approved you need to complete an application form. You’ll also need to get approval from your school before the enrolment deadline. If you have already enrolled for the academic year, the deadline for confirming an approved leave of absence is the census date for your course.

You can also find the application form at the Hub or www.rmit.edu.au/students/enrolment/loa.
Everyone has the right to feel secure and at ease on campus. RMIT is a safe place to study and work, with RMIT security providing CCTV and a 24-hour presence on campus. Safety and security isn’t just keys and burglar alarm systems (although RMIT has some pretty good ones)—it’s also about being prepared and aware of your surroundings.

In the case of an emergency on any campus call security on

- 53333 from an internal phone
- 03 9925 3333 from an external phone

If you are unable to get through, phone 000 and request either the police, fire brigade or ambulance.

If you witness or are the victim of a robbery, contact RMIT Security who will compile an incident report and contact the police.

For tips on how to stay safe visit: www.rmit.edu.au/security
To park your vehicle on campus you’ll need to display either a daily permit (available from ticket machines) or a windscreen permit, which can be purchased from the Hub for $115 per year. If you regularly drive to uni the annual permits are the most economical option. Do not park in any of the numbered or reserved bays.

Discounted parking rates are available for RMIT students at the Building 91 car park in Cardigan Street, Carlton (which is managed for the University by Wilson Parking). Monthly rates are currently $140 for unreserved parking or $169 for reserved parking. However, GST and the Congestion Levy component are extra. For more information call 03 9629 1055.

RMIT student drivers with disabilities should apply for a City of Melbourne ‘Disabled Workers Parking Permit’. Motorcycle parking is available in the Building 51 garage at 80-92 Victoria Street, Carlton. To apply for a permit email the Parking Administrator Chris Box at parking@rmit.edu.au.

Free parking for bikes is available in the secured enclosure in the Building 51 garage at 80-92 Victoria Street, Carlton. Visit the Hub to get your existing access card programmed for entry into the enclosure.

You want to avoid these at all costs. Any vehicle parked on campus without displaying a valid permit is likely to be issued an infringement or fine. Further action will be taken if the fine is not paid.

Parking permits and the fines for parking without a permit are considered RMIT-approved student fees, so failure to purchase a permit or pay a parking fine will incur the same consequences as not paying any other student fee.

www.rmit.edu.au/propertyservices/parking
Regardless of what anyone might tell you, student life is not easy. Recent studies have found a high rate of mental illness among Australian university students. This is not isolated—throughout the US, anxiety and depression is much more prevalent among the student population than non-students of the same age.

For a high percentage of people with a lifelong mental illness, the first symptoms will occur between the ages of 18 to 24—which is precisely the age of the average undergraduate university student. Furthermore, this is an age where you may be confronted with a number of challenges that you will not have previously had to contend with: bereavement, the break-up of a relationship, financial and family troubles, or housing issues. The impact of these issues can snowball and seriously undermine your mental health and your studies.
Mental illness, if left untreated, can have a debilitating impact on the ability of a student to perform at their best level. If you think that you might need help, then you should seek it as soon as you can. There are people out there who will listen to you and respect your concerns. RMIT Student Services has a free counselling service, while RUSU runs Compass (which is staffed by a social worker and student volunteers).

RMIT does have policies to assist you. If you are coping with depression or anxiety and you feel that this is affecting your study, then you can seek special consideration to get an extension on an assignment or defer an exam. That is why these policies exist—to help students who need it. Make sure you know what the deadlines are so you can get your application for special consideration in on time. The special consideration form is not easy to read. If you find it confusing, call RUSU and they will help you to fill it out.

In all, don’t leave it to the last minute. That is when things can get most stressful.
If you’re looking for a place to rest your hat, here are some good places to start:

**THE RMIT HOUSING SERVICE.** This is an online database free for all current and future RMIT students. Visit housing.rmit.edu.au or access the database through myRMIT.

**GUMTREE.** This website is an online noticeboard for just about everything, including ads for sharehouses and rooms for rent. www.melbourne.gumtree.com.au

**STUDENT HOUSING AUSTRALIA.** This is a website that has a very large listing of student apartments searchable by suburb. A lot less scary than Gumtree, a little more pricey.


**GAY SHARE** is Australia’s largest gay and lesbian share accommodation service. Visit www.gayshare.com.au for more information.

**REAL ESTATE AGENTS.** They may be tough to deal with, but they’re a necessary evil. Sucking up to them doesn’t hurt, either.
The disability liaison unit assists students with a disability or long-term illness. They can assist you with all kinds of things, like reasonable adjustments or technology to assist with your studies.

To use their services, you will first need to register with them. Give them a call on 03 9925 1089 or by shooting an email through to dlu@rmit.edu.au.

**CITY CAMPUS**
**BUILDING 10, LEVEL 4**

**BUNDOORA CAMPUS**
**BUILDING 202, LEVEL 3**

**BRUNSWICK CAMPUS**
**BUILDING 514, LEVEL 2**
Once the hassle of enrolling is over, there are a few more things to worry about. For starters, all those financial acronyms that get thrown around.

- **HECS-HELP** For eligible Commonwealth supported students
- **FEE-HELP** For eligible full-fee students
- **OS-HELP** For eligible Commonwealth supported students studying overseas
- **SA-HELP** For eligible students to defer paying the Student Services and Amenities Fee
- **VET FEE-HELP** For eligible TAFE students

More information on all these can be found on the Australian Government’s Study Assist go to: www.studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist
SORT OUT CENTRELINK EARLY. IT SOUNDS CHEESY, BUT MAKE A BUDGET (MORE IMPORTANTLY, STICK TO SAID BUDGET).

GET A PART TIME JOB IF YOU CAN SQUEEZE IT INTO YOUR SCHEDULE AND OPEN A SAVINGS ACCOUNT.

SHOPPING AT PLACES LIKE THE VIC MARKET INSTEAD OF WOOLWORTHS IS ALSO A GOOD IDEA—YOU CAN ALWAYS BUY CAMEMBERT AND QUINCE PASTE WHEN YOU’RE 45.

MOST OF ALL, DON’T STRESS. MONEY IS JUST MONEY AND A LOT OF STUDENTS ARE GOING THROUGH EXACTLY WHAT YOU’RE FEELING.

VISIT THE RMIT WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION ON BUDGETING AND STUDENT LOANS.
PRINTING

YOU’LL NEED A PHOTOCOPYING AND PRINTING CARD. THIS CAN BE COLLECTED FROM THE FRONT DESK OF THE LIBRARY FREE OF CHARGE. THEN ADD VALUE TO THE CARD USING EFTPOS OR FOLLOW THE INSTRUCTIONS ON THE CASH MACHINES LOCATED IN THE SWANSTON AND BRUNSWICK LIBRARIES. HOWEVER YOU MUST USE A LIBRARY COMPUTER TO CONNECT TO THE PRINTER AND THERE CAN BE QUITE A QUEUE. PRICES RANGE FROM 11 CENTS FOR BLACK AND WHITE A4 SINGLE-SIDED TO $1.20 FOR COLOURED A3 SINGLE-SIDED PRINTING.

OFFICWORKS

Officeworks (located in almost every suburb) offers great printing services for low prices. They’re also great if you want to make your assignments look professional by getting them bound, etc. City students can find one conveniently located in the QV Shopping Centre, opposite Melbourne Central.

STUDENT COPY CENTRE

Located in Building 10, Level 4 the student copy centre offers a range of printing and photocopying services. They don’t accept cash, instead you can use your library printing card, debit or credit card.

OPENING HOURS:
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 5PM
03 9925 2552
STUDENTCOPYCENTRE@RMIT.EDU.AU
Students face a variety of pressures and concerns each and every day. You don’t have to tough it out alone—RMIT offers counselling services on each of its campuses.

It’s important to realise that you don’t need to be experiencing a personal crisis in order to see a counsellor. They can talk to you about issues big and small, ranging from minor study concerns to your general wellbeing. Best of all, on-campus counselling is free for all students.

Book an appointment by calling 03 9925 4365 during business hours. Alternatively you can give them a visit by wandering over to 52 Cardigan Street Carlton or Building 202 in Bundoora.
INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS

RMIT PROVIDES FREE AND CONFIDENTIAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR ALL ENROLLED STUDENTS TO USE. FOR STUDY HELP VISIT THE RMIT STUDY AND LEARNING CENTRE, THE RUSU COMPASS DROP-IN CENTRE FOR ADVICE AND REFERRAL OR THE COUNSELLING SERVICE FOR STRICTLY CONFIDENTIAL HELP AND SUPPORT.

THE INTERNATIONAL DESK, LOCATED AT THE INFO CORNER, IS THE PLACE TO GO TO FOR ASSISTANCE WITH:

• APPLYING FOR FURTHER STUDY OR TO CHANGE PROGRAMS
• LEAVE OF ABSENCE APPROVAL
• SPONSORSHIP OR SCHOLARSHIP ENQUIRIES
• BASIC ADVICE ON STUDENT VISAS

THE INFO CORNER IS LOCATED IN BUILDING 22 AT THE CITY CAMPUS. IF YOU’RE CONCERNED ABOUT YOUR VISA REQUIREMENTS OR CONFUSED ABOUT ANY INFORMATION FROM RMIT, YOU SHOULD SEE A STUDENT ADVISOR IN YOUR FACULTY, INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT OR A STUDENT LIAISON OFFICER AT THE STUDENT UNION IMMEDIATELY FOR ADVICE.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS MAKE UP OVER 35% OF ALL RMIT ENROLMENTS. THAT’S A DECENT CHUNK OF THE PIE CHART. RMIT IS AN EXCITING PLACE TO STUDY, BUT THERE ARE A FEW RULES AND RESPONSIBILITIES THAT INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS NEED TO BE AWARE OF. LUCKILY THERE A NUMBER OF SERVICES TO ENSURE THAT ALL STUDENTS KNOW EXACTLY WHAT THESE ARE.
LEARNING ENGLISH

IMPROVE YOUR ENGLISH LANGUAGE SKILLS THROUGH RMIT ENGLISH WORLDWIDE (REW), WITH A NUMBER OF SHORT COURSES ON OFFER TO ASSIST WITH STUDY AND CAREER SUCCESS.

USEFUL CONTACTS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS:

RUSU INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS DEPARTMENT
03 9925 3725
RUSU.INTERNATIONAL@RMIT.EDU.AU

STUDENT RIGHTS
03 9925 5004
STUDENT.RIGHTS@RMIT.EDU.AU

RMIT INTERNATIONAL STUDENT SUPPORT
03 9925 2078
STUDENT.WELLBEING@RMIT.EDU.AU

CITY CAMPUS STUDENT SUPPORT
BUILDING 14, LEVEL 4
MONDAY TO FRIDAY 9AM TO 4.30PM

BUNDOORA STUDENT SUPPORT
BUILDING 202, LEVEL 3
MONDAY, THURSDAY AND FRIDAY 9AM TO 4.30PM
TUESDAY 9AM TO 11AM AND 3PM TO 4.30PM

BUILDING 36, LEVEL 1
393 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE VIC 3000
03 9567 5800
ENGLISHWORLDWIDE@RMIT.EDU.AU
WWW.RMITENGLISHWORLDWIDE.COM

BUNDOORA EAST STUDENT SUPPORT
CAFETERIA, BUILDING 251, LEVEL 2
TUESDAY 12PM TO 2PM
WWW.RMIT.EDU.AU/INTERNATIONALSUPPORT

RMIT STUDY AND LEARNING CENTRE
03 9925 3600
BUILDING 12, LEVEL 4, ROOM 20

STUDENT COMPLAINTS LIAISON OFFICERS ARE LOCATED IN ALL ACADEMIC PORTFOLIOS, DEPARTMENTS, SCHOOLS AND GROUPS. VISIT WWW.RMIT.EDU.AU/STUDENTS/COMPLAINTS FOR MORE INFORMATION.

BUILDING 36, LEVEL 1
393 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE VIC 3000
03 9567 5800
ENGLISHWORLDWIDE@RMIT.EDU.AU
WWW.RMITENGLISHWORLDWIDE.COM
The Ngarara Willim Centre for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples offers support and encouragement throughout your studies. ‘Ngara willim’ means ‘gathering place’ in the language of the Wurundjeri, who are the traditional custodians of the land on which RMIT stands.

Staff are there to assist Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students with their studies. They also offer ongoing guidance with living and cultural needs.

For more information call 03 9925 5885 or 1800 054885. You can also email ngarara@rmit.edu.au or drop into Building 12, Level 4, Room 29 on the city campus.
If you fancy some adventure and worldly travel during your time at RMIT, then you should consider going on exchange. It’s a great chance to soak up another culture while getting credit for your current degree.

You can choose to spend one or two semesters of your program at RMIT Vietnam or pick from one of over 150 exchange partners worldwide. RMIT’s exchange program is open to domestic and international students and is available across TAFE, undergraduate and postgraduate programs.

If you don’t feel like staying away for quite so long, then you might find the idea of a study tour more attractive. Study tours range from two to six weeks and are also credited to your studies.

Lacking the funds? Don’t despair quite yet. Students going on exchange and study tours may be eligible to receive some funding assistance, such as RMIT travel grants, OS-HELP loans and government-funded scholarships.

For more information, contact the Education Abroad Office on 03 9925 3947 or by emailing eao@rmit.edu.au.

www.rmit.edu.au/globalpassport
The Spiritual Centre offers a space for reflection. The Chaplaincy Lounge is located in Building 11, Level 1 and is a quiet space for students to drop in for a chat with the chaplain or simply escape from the hustle and bustle of city life. Various prayer rooms are also available throughout Building 11.

To make a booking at the Spiritual Centre, email chaplaincy@rmit.edu.au or call 03 9925 2317.
The RMIT Student Legal Service provides legal advice that is free and confidential to all RMIT students. They can help you with a variety of issues including fines, traffic accidents, debt and employment disputes. However, they cannot assist you with matters such as legal action against RMIT or family law issues. They can, however, refer you on to Legal Aid or an appropriate solicitor.

To make a booking, email studentlegal@rmit.edu.au or call the number for your respective campus:

City: 03 9925 2078
Bundoora: 03 9925 7280
Brunswick: 03 9925 2280
Being a student brings with it a wide range of responsibilities. Being a student and a parent at the same time can be especially difficult.

RMIT offers two childcare centres for staff and students: the City Campus Children’s Centre and Bundoora’s Numdaji Kwei Children’s Centre.

Visit RMIT’s website for more information and to download an application form.
Sometimes your course doesn’t end up being what you thought it would be. If you feel like you need a bit of direction—whether it be advice on changing courses or simply setting some career-related goals—make sure you speak with a careers counsellor.

Appointments are available from 9.30am to 4.30pm Monday to Friday. Email careers@rmit.edu.au or contact the careers department on your respective campus:

**CITY**
Building 14, Level 4
03 9925 2078

**BUNDOORA**
Building 202, Level 3
03 9925 7280

**BRUNSWICK**
03 9925 2078
SAFETY OF PERSONAL ITEMS

THEFT IS AN ISSUE THAT AFFECTS EVERYONE ON CAMPUS. MAKE SURE YOU NEVER LEAVE YOUR PERSONAL PROPERTY UNATTENDED—EVEN IF YOU THINK IT WILL BE IN SAFE HANDS. A MAC OR IPHONE LYING ON AN EMPTY DESK IS A GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY FOR A POTENTIAL THIEF.

BE ESPECIALLY VIGILANT DURING EXAM TIME, AS THERE WILL BE A LOT OF STUDENTS STUDYING IN THE ONE SPACE AND PERSONAL ITEMS CAN BECOME MISPLACED EASILY.

IF SOMETHING DOES GET STOLEN FROM YOU, REPORT IT TO THE UNIVERSITY STRAIGHT AWAY.
There are many ways to get involved at RMIT. Whether you’re on the Student Staff Consultative Committees or part of RMIT LEAD, volunteering will ensure you develop the skills and connections necessary to become a highly employable university graduate.

Volunteering is also a wonderful way to make new friends. Visit www.rmit.edu.au/lead for more information on the various leadership and volunteering opportunities available to students.
There are five libraries across each of RMIT’s campuses, the largest being the City Library. Whether you’re a chronic bibliophile, hunting down a book for a late assignment or simply lost, the library provides a host of extremely useful services for you to take full advantage of.

The steel and virtual shelves are stocked full of books, periodicals and other course-related materials including videos, magazines, computer software, tapes, slides, films, newspapers and maps.

To borrow a book, all you’ll need is your current student card. If the item you wish to borrow is on loan with someone else, you can place it on hold. You can hold up to 10 items at any one time.

Renewals can be made online via your library account, by phone or in person. It’s your responsibility to return items on time. If you fail to do so, you will be fined 50 cents per day, and unable to reserve or borrow anything else until this is cleared. To avoid this, be sure to check the status of your items in the myRMIT student portal.

If an item is more than six months overdue, it will be assumed you have lost the item and you’ll be asked to pay the replacement charges. You can pay these via EFTPOS or credit card (cash is not accepted) at any RMIT University Library or at the Hub. Outstanding fines and charges mean you will not be able to re-enrol, receive transcripts of results or graduate.
The library can be a good place to study or meet to work on group assignments, but bear in mind it can get extremely busy and finding a spare table or computer can be as rare as an uncooked steak. To ensure you get a space every time, book rooms and computers via the library’s ‘Bookit’ system. This is accessible through their website. Simply log in using your myRMIT details and away you go.

The library website is also the place to go when looking for academic sources and journals for essays and assignments, with links and subscriptions to a range of useful online databases. Visit www.rmit.edu.au/library.

**LOCATIONS AND OPENING HOURS**

Library hours may vary during holidays and exam periods.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Opening Hours</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Brunswick Library</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday to Thursday 8am to 8pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building 514, Level 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 8am to 5pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25 Dawson Street</td>
<td><strong>Closed Saturday and Sunday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brunswick</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bundoora Library</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday to Thursday 8am to 9pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building 210</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 8am to 6pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plenty Road, Bundoora</td>
<td><strong>Saturday and Sunday 12pm to 5pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Swanston Library</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday to Thursday 8am to 12am</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building 8, Level 5</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 8am to 8pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>360 Swanston Street</td>
<td><strong>Saturday and Sunday 10am to 5pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Carlton Library</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday to Thursday 8am to 9pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building 94, Level 3</strong></td>
<td><strong>Friday 8am to 6pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23 Cardigan Street</td>
<td><strong>Saturday to Sunday 12pm to 5pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carlton</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Bundoora East Library</strong></td>
<td><strong>Monday to Friday 10am to 4.30pm</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Building 251, Level 2</strong></td>
<td><strong>Closed Saturday and Sunday</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plenty Road, Bundoora</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Library hours may vary during holidays and exam periods.
It probably won’t be until after your first lecture or tutorial that you find out what books you’ll need for your first semester. If you know someone who’s already completed the subjects and will sell you the books secondhand, that’s great. The library also has limited copies of most of the required textbooks for you to borrow. Otherwise head to the RMIT Bookshop to pick up your textbooks and fancy stationary.

Membership to the Melbourne Cooperative Bookshop Group is a one-off fee of $10 and gives you a 10% discount on all purchases. RMIT staff and students who are not members still receive a 5% discount.
Computer Facilities
There are computer labs on every campus. A few are open 24 hours, seven days a week. Some are open to all students while others are limited to students from particular departments. Portable laptops are also sometimes provided for use in tutorials and classes.

IT Assistance
For IT help you can email itservicedesk@rmit.edu.au or call 03 9925 8888.

You can also visit the IT service desks located at the Swanston, Bundoora and Brunswick libraries.

Audiovisual Equipment
RMIT has a range of audiovisual equipment that both staff and students can hire. The best way to ensure the equipment is available exactly when you need it is to make a booking, either by phone, email or in person.
STUDENT LIFE
THINGS I WISH I KNEW WHEN I WAS FRESH-FACED AT RMIT

BY RUBY MAHONEY

1. THE LIBRARY IS ACTUALLY A COOL PLACE TO HANG OUT

High school libraries suck, I know. But university libraries don’t. Once I overcame my fear of librarians and fragrant books I found RMIT library had all the resources needed for my assignments, plus an extensive collection of the latest DVDs and TV shows. Yes, that includes Game of Thrones and Gossip Girl.

2. TRAMS NEVER RUN ON TIME

When I first moved to Melbourne, I thought trams were the most useful inventions ever—like a car but without having to wear a seatbelt. I’ve since learnt that trams travel at 40km an hour and don’t follow the timetable—so if you’re going to take one through the city, leave 10 minutes earlier. Do yourself a favour and check out an alternative means of transport that could be quicker: this includes trains, buses or even your own two feet. Get organised with a concession myki to present proudly to the ticket inspectors, should they appear.

3. COFFEE ALWAYS SAVES THE DAY (AND NIGHT)

If you haven’t attended uni before, chances are you won’t have experienced a lecture. It involves silently absorbing information continuously for one to two hours. But any lecture—even one that goes for two hours on a Monday morning—is manageable if you drop by Pearson and Murphy’s or Milano Cafe (City Campus) en route.
4. **YOU SHOULD DO THE READINGS. AND IF YOU DON'T, YOU SHOULD AT LEAST PRETEND YOU DID**

You’ve heard the rumours: you can ditch university classes and homework without getting detention. It’s true—no-one cares. You know why? Because it’s up to you now. But that doesn’t mean essays get any easier if you haven’t opened the textbook or heard of solipsism before. (Been there, done that, don’t ask.)

5. **MATURE-AGE STUDENTS AREN'T THAT ANNOYING**

If you’re fresh out of high school, chances are you still find adults intimidating. Many RMIT courses host a larger number of mature-age students than other universities. They’re really helpful people because they’ve been adults for a while and tend to know people in the industry where you all hope to end up. So resist rolling your eyes when they raise their hand.

6. **ALCOHOL IS AWESOME. SOMETIMES**

Things that are beautiful: O-Week parties, city clubs that stay open all night, flavoured cider, not working at 9am. Things that aren’t so beautiful: missing the last train home, hangovers when you have assignments to finish, having nothing to eat until your next Austudy payment. So include alcohol in your budget (unless you’re really good at convincing strangers it’s your birthday).

7. **YOU’LL BE DONE WITH UNI BEFORE YOU KNOW IT**

Doesn’t it feel like yesterday that you started high school? Well, uni courses take half as long, and don’t incorporate the trials of puberty, parents and VCE. Get motivated and informed by taking on internships and other types of work experience offered to you while you’re here, because before you know it you’ll be through uni and expected to know about the workplace. Best to do it in small steps—practise getting up early on Mondays, visit career expos offered by RMIT, contact somewhere you’d love to work and offer to volunteer around the office. You want to finish uni with the skills as well as the knowledge before you venture out into the real world.
Places to eat, drink and be merry

**BARS**

**ROOFTOP BAR**  
**LEVEL 7, CURTIN HOUSE, 252 SWANSTON STREET, MELBOURNE**  
Rooftop is one of the best venues in the city. Plus, those seven floors give you quite the workout. Obviously the rooftop is subject to the weather, so it’s not the best when it’s cold and windy.

**SECTION 8**  
**29 TATTERSALLS LANE, MELBOURNE**  
Consisting of a shipping container as the bar, this venue is very casual and sure to impress. In winter their mulled wine is definitely something you have to try. It can get a little loud later at night because it is an open space, but otherwise it’s very trendy.

**SISTER BELLA’S**  
**22 DREWERY PLACE, MELBOURNE**  
Tucked away in the graffitied alleyways between Melbourne Central and Little Lonsdale Street, this bar offers an intimate setting. Best enjoyed with a few mates after work or a long day at uni.

**CAFES**

**1000 £ BEND**  
**361 LITTLE LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE**  
Despite the uber hipster setting, this cafe has a really relaxed atmosphere. It’s cash only, which can be a pain, but their saganaki burger is to die for.

**GREEN REFECTORY**  
**115 SYDNEY ROAD, BRUNSWICK**  
The food here is utterly delicious—ranging from savoury pastries and sushi to cakes and slices. The best thing though is the price. No wonder it’s such an institution for RMIT Brunswick students.

**MANCHESTER PRESS**  
**8 RANKINS LANE, MELBOURNE**  
This stylish cafe has the best bagels outside of New York. Nestled within the CBD’s Hardware precinct, it’s just off Little Bourke. It can get pretty busy though, so if you go during peak times you might have to wait for a table.
**RESTAURANTS**

**BIMBO DELUXE**
**CORNER OF BRUNSWICK STREET AND ROSE STREET, FITZROY**
Three words: $4 gourmet pizzas. The setting is really laid back, with a rooftop courtyard complete with Moroccan lights. There is also a sister restaurant called Lucky Coq on the corner of Chapel Street and High Street, Windsor.

**VEGIE BAR**
**380 BRUNSWICK STREET, FITZROY**
Vegie Bar is a Fitzroy institution. You haven’t truly visited Brunswick Street until you’ve eaten there. They cater to vegetarians and vegans, with a wide range of gluten-free and raw food options. Don’t worry, though—even the most ardent meat eater will find their food delicious.

**SHANGHAI DUMPLINGS**
**112-114 LITTLE BourKE STREET, MELBOURNE**
This place is extraordinarily cheap. Perfect for dinner with a group of friends. It can get very busy during peak hours and on weekends, so make sure you turn up early.

**DON DONS**
**198 LITTLE LONSDALE STREET, MELBOURNE**
Don Dons is cheap and delicious. They’re also super quick—you’ll often find that your meal will be given to you before you finish handling your change. Perfect for lunch or dinner between or after classes.
THE DAILY GRIND
BY CLANCY HOLZGREFE

There are only a few high quality things you can afford to buy on a student budget. Fortunately, good coffee is never out of financial reach. You can go to the nicest cafe and still pay no more than $4 for your caffeine fix. Add the need to stay alert and productive and the desire for a good coffee becomes essential.

With a cafe on every second shopfront in Melbourne, finding the right place to spend your money can be hard. So here are a few recommendations to guide you in the right direction.

Pearson & Murphy’s
124 La Trobe Street
This cafe is located on the RMIT city campus. In terms of ease of access, this is a good thing. But if you’re looking for a break from the university environment, it may not be ideal for you. Their coffee can be a bit bitter—but if you really can’t be bothered going far it’s the best coffee on campus. RMIT students get a discount, so show your student card when you order.

Brother Baba Budan
359 Little Bourke Street
This may just be Melbourne’s best coffee. It’s a bit of a walk from RMIT, but definitely worth the trek. Focusing on specialty coffee, Brother Baba Budan will satisfy even your most obscure coffee cravings. The only downside here is they offer takeaway coffee in just one size. And I can guarantee you’ll always be left wanting more.

1000 £ Bend
361 Little Lonsdale Street
Unfortunately, much of Melbourne’s best coffee is located on the opposite side of the CBD to RMIT. 1000 £ Bend makes it on this list for the atmosphere more than the coffee. It’s a bit further away from university—but with its large tables and free wi-fi it’s the perfect place to go and study when you need a break. The coffee is often a bit hot, but that’s not too much of an issue if you don’t have to rush anywhere. The flavour is full, but they don’t have skinny milk—so if you can’t hack full cream or soy, it’s probably best to stay away from this one.

Mr Tulk
State Library of Victoria, 328 Swanston Street
Located on Latrobe St, Mr Tulk is ideally positioned for when you need to grab that coffee before heading to a lecture. The baristas here deliver some of the most consistently good coffee this side of Elizabeth Street. It’s on the strong side, and never too bitter. It can get very busy just before 9am and at lunchtime, so keep that in mind if you’re short on time. Studying in this bustling cafe can be hard at times—but it’s perfect for coffee on the go.

Plantation
Shop 253, Level 2, Melbourne Central
As far as food court coffee goes, it doesn’t get much better than this. If it’s atmosphere you’re after, this probably isn’t the place for you. But when it comes to really good coffee and fast service, this is the place to go. Located in Melbourne Central, it’s literally across the road from campus. Plus it offers a discount to RMIT students.
QUEEN VICTORIA MARKET
The Queen Victoria Market is one of Melbourne’s most historic sites. It has been providing Melbournians with fresh produce for 130 years. Nestled in between the CBD and North Melbourne, the market is open throughout the week except for Mondays and Wednesdays. Make sure you get a borek from the deli and try the famous American doughnuts. During the warmer months there is also a night market, which is lots of fun.

NORTH MELBOURNE MARKET
The North Melbourne Market only runs on one Sunday a month from 10am to 3pm. Despite this, it’s well worth a visit. The stalls are home to all manner of things from vintage fabric to homemade cupcakes. The market is held at the Melbourne Lithuanian Club, 44 Errol Street North Melbourne. Check out their website for more information.

CAMBERWELL MARKET
The Camberwell Market is run by the Rotary Club of Balwyn. It is overflowing with second-hand clothes and collectable items. Make sure you know what you’re after beforehand due to the large volume of stuff (there are over 300 stalls). The market isn’t arranged into sections, so make sure you’re wearing comfortable shoes because you’re going to have to do a lot of walking to make sure you don’t miss anything. The market is open every Sunday from 7am to 12.30pm.

SOUTH MELBOURNE MARKET
The South Melbourne Market is the oldest continuing market in Melbourne. Like the Queen Victoria Market it is home to a wide range of fresh produce. It’s generally a little more expensive though, but perfect if you live on the other side of the river. Be sure to check out its cheeses and fresh seafood.
1. The Unspoken Rule of the Escalator
People are often in a hurry. When people are in a hurry they can be angry and rude. Especially if you are blocking their way. Many a naïve student or tourist has felt the brunt of this frustration on the Melbourne Central escalators. Don’t be one of them. If you plan on standing on the escalator, stick to the left-hand side. Keep the right side clear for people to walk or run past.

2. Walk Quickly and With Purpose
Again, there are a lot of people who need to get somewhere quickly. While we definitely recommend taking a leisurely walk to admire the beauty of Melbourne, don’t choose to do it on the pedestrian crossing outside Melbourne Central or in the middle of Bourke Street. Instead, be conscious of the speed people are walking at, maintain it and don’t stop suddenly. Watch out for opening umbrellas too, if you fancy keeping both eyes.

3. There’ll Be Lots of People with Clipboards Trying to Sell You Stuff in the Street
If you come across a Big Issue vendor and you have a spare few dollars, buy one—it’s a great magazine. However you should never feel obligated to give away any information or money that you don’t want to or can’t afford. Don’t feel bad—if you’re in a rush and don’t have time to talk, just say so. The safest method to ignore salespeople is just to avoid eye contact and walk past.

If you want to survive university in the city, there are a few things you’ll quickly learn not to do. Take it from us (we learnt the hard way). Being aware of city etiquette will make things a lot less stressful.
The Brunswick Campus of RMIT is home to an array of creative and passionate people. At the Student Union we endeavour to provide representation and a great range of events for all Brunswick students. Apart from selling super cheap movie tickets from our counter and feeding everyone yummy meals on a Tuesday at 12pm, the Brunswick arm of RUSU is a great place to come for advice and local insider know-how.

**THINGS TO DO AROUND THE BRUNSWICK CAMPUS**

- **Barkley Square**
  You’ll find Kmart, Safeway and Coles tucked away inside as well as Gangemi family green grocers where you’ll often find bargain fruit and veg.

- **Dangerfield Outlet**
  Everything you like about Dangerfield’s eclectic style of clothing plus a cheap vintage section in the back.

- **The Green Refectory**
  Good tasty food that will fill you up for under $10. The super cheap homemade sausage rolls are a student staple at $2.50.

- **Cornish Arms**
  Cheap pub feeds all week long. Check the board for daily specials and upcoming gigs.

- **The Retreat Hotel**
  Live music, large outside beer garden, good pub fare.

- **Savers**
  Hunt for second-hand clothing and homeware bargains and, come October, the place to get decked out for Halloween.

**Brunswick Office**

- **Open Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30am to 4.30pm**
- **Building 514, Level 2, Room 8**
- **Phone 03 9925 9478 (Any day and leave a message)**
- **Email rusu.brunswick@rmit.edu.au**
OPENED IN 2011, THIS BUILDING FEATURES THE RUSTIC CHARMS OF YEARS GONE BY. A DYSFUNCTIONAL AIR CONDITIONER, FREQUENT POWER OUTAGES AND RECYCLED TIMBER THAT THE RMIT ARCHITECTS WOULD NEVER DREAM OF PUTTING IN THE OFFICE OF THE ACADEMIC REGISTRAR. THIS SHED-LIKE BUILDING WITH A FIRST-YEAR-APPRENTICE-FINISH IS HOME TO THREE TIRELESS MICROWAVES, ONE KETTLE OF ENORMOUS HEART, ASSORTED TEA, COFFEE AND A SINK WHICH FEATURES A TAP WITH RUNNING WATER. THERE ARE PEOPLE WHO WORK IN BUILDING 204 WHO WANT TO MAKE YOUR TIME AT UNIVERSITY MORE ENJOYABLE. OR AT LEAST LESS STRESSFUL.

RUSU runs free food events every Thursday, just outside Building 204. Make sure you get in quick. The RUSU Bundoora Student Rights Officer is also to be found in this building. They can help you out if you are having trouble with your studies and need some advice in finding your way around RMIT’s labyrinthine academic and disciplinary policies.

RMIT Link Arts and Culture maintains a reading room, stocked with magazines such as Frankie and Voiceworks, as well as a range of zines direct from Sticky. If you would like to stock your own zines in 204, feel free. RMIT Link Sport and Recreation runs sports challenges at Bundoora. You can also find information on signing up for university games in this building.

This building also features a Womyn’s Room on level two and a Queer Room on level one. Respect these safe spaces. If there was no discrimination in our world, then these spaces would not be needed. Unfortunately there is, and as a consequence, these spaces exist.

Enjoy this space, but whatever you do, don’t turn on the television.
Aussies love to drink. So much so that it’s a tough call between the Australians and the Irish over who likes their alcohol more. It’s only natural then that everyone has their ‘local’—the local pub they head to for celebrations, commiserations and everything in between.

RMIT city campus is located in the heart of the CBD, meaning there are plenty of potential candidates for you to claim as your own.

**The Queensberry**  
593 Swanston St, Carlton  
Conveniently located mere streets away from RMIT, this pub offers decent meals and drinks as well as student discounts and specials.

**The Oxford Scholar**  
427 Swanston St, Melbourne  
Talk about local, the Oxford Scholar is literally across the road. Offers standard pub food fare and good service.

**Bridie O’Reilly’s**  
62 Sydney Road, Brunswick or 62 Little Collins St, Melbourne  
This Irish old-school pub has a great atmosphere, good selection of beers on tap as well as several screens to get your sports fix. A must for St Patrick’s Day.

**Asian Beer Cafe**  
Top Level, Melbourne Central  
3/211 La Trobe St, Melbourne  
A favourite haunt for many RMIT students due to the cheap food ($4 pizzas) and drinks ($1 champagne for ladies during happy hour). It’s a good place to kill a few hours between classes and extra points if you spot Mao in the corner.

**Prince Alfred Hotel**  
191-197 Grattan Street, Carlton  
Veering slight towards Melbourne Uni territory (but nonetheless worth a visit), Prince Alfred is your classic student pub. It’s open from 11.30am and serves up a decent parma too.

**Beer Deluxe**  
Federation Square (between NGV Atrium and ACMI)  
As the name would suggest, this place has a fantastic selection of local and foreign beers. Enjoy live music in the beer garden and definitely save room for their world-famous $14 beer and burger deal on a Thursday.

**The Penny Black**  
420 Sydney Rd, Brunswick  
A busy pub this side of the city, visit on a weeknight for a laid-back drink or go with the crowds on a weekend. Good location and frequent cheap gigs.

Note: Australians use strange names for the size of alcoholic beverages. And to make things complicated, it’s different in every city. In Melbourne you’ll generally find pots (285ml), pints (570ml) and in some places schooners (425ml).
How to: Survive Public Transport

Public transport has become one of those first world problems we all love to complain about.

Whether it’s a late train or issues with Myki, everyone seems to have a story they need to vent about. If your timetable includes early morning lectures or tutorials, all this travelling could easily become a nightmare. Being stuck in peak hour traffic is one thing, but when that traffic becomes a human stampede towards a closing train door, all you want to do is run away.

So for all those poor students among us who can’t afford to drive to the city every day (of which there are many), here’s a few tips that will hopefully make your public transport experiences a little more enjoyable:

**Time your travel**

Yes, this seems like a straightforward suggestion, but it really is essential. Coming from the western suburbs, everyone seems to be travelling to the city at the same time. During the peak hour rush, a five minute drive to the station quickly turns into a 40 minute drainer. If you’re taking a bus, it’s even worse. Then, just like a punch in the face, you realise there’s no space left to park your car. Timing is everything.

**Choose your spot wisely**

Now, this can be applied to a few things. If you have to change trains like I do, your position on the platform will hopefully guarantee you first entry and a choice of seating. If you’re not lucky to get a seat, run towards something you can lean on. Running may seem drastic, but look, I’d rather annoy a few people than have my face wedged between the armpits of two guys.

**Hold your breath**

This is self-explanatory. Some people have either forgotten what a shower is, or they never discovered the deodorant can. Holding your breath is also your best talent in the winter months when people forget how to cover their mouths whenever they cough or sneeze.
ENTERTAIN YOURSELF

Never forget your phone, a book and headphones. These three are a sure cure for boredom. If they fail, you can always people-watch. This involves finding a person, and giving them a story. It may be considered a little creepy, but when you’re bored, you’re bored.

DON’T PUSH

When a train is full, it’s actually full. If I have a tutorial that finishes at 5pm, I’m guaranteed to miss at least one train because there are so many people travelling home. Now, if human Tetris seems like your kind of thing, try and find some room in there. But if you want your ribs to remain intact, just wait for the next one.

DON’T WORRY

Trams aren’t my friends, so every time I get on one, I just pretend I know what I’m doing. This applies to all other forms of transport. If you get lost, you can always go back or head in the right direction by waiting for the next train/tram/bus.

BY DRAGANA MRKAJA
If you have a concession myki, you’ll need to carry proof of entitlement. This means getting a Victorian Public Transport Student Concession Card for $9. You can obtain a copy of the necessary form from the Hub or library. You can also download it from: www.myki.com.au/About-myki/Students/Students

Fill it in and validate it at the Hub before heading to a premium station to have it processed.

Look carefully at the eligibility criteria before applying. At this stage you must be a full-time student and a permanent resident or citizen of Australia to be eligible (although some exceptions apply, including students with refugee status and students studying as part of an approved overseas exchange program). You are not eligible if you are:

• Enrolled in a Masters, Doctorate, or other postgraduate course
• An overseas full-fee paying student (primary, secondary or tertiary)
• Enrolled in a tertiary course which is less than 10 weeks in duration
• Enrolled in an apprenticeship course
• Enrolled in an off-campus course
• Not studying full-time

For more information visit ptv.vic.gov.au or call 1800 800 007.

Using a Myki

If you want to get anywhere in Melbourne, you’ll need a myki. Myki is a smart card ticketing system that works across trains, trams and buses.

There are four Myki card types available: full fare, concession, child and seniors. You’ll most likely need either a full fare or concession card. These can be purchased from metropolitan premium stations, close to 800 retail outlets (including 7-Eleven), Myki machines, online or by calling 13 6954.

A full fare Myki costs $6 and a concession $3. However when you buy a Myki, it has no value on it, so you’ll need to top it up before you hop on your tram, train or bus. You can top up using the machines at the train station or at special retailers.

Using your Myki is really simple if you just follow the three Ts:

• Top up — Put money on your Myki so it is ready to go.
• Touch on — Using the Myki readers. When you hear a beep and see a green light, you have successfully touched on. You now have a valid ticket.
• Touch off — As you hop off to ensure you pay the lowest fare. You don’t need to touch off on trams if your trip was entirely in Zone 1.
BUNDOORA EAST CAMPUS

BUNDOORA WEST CAMPUS
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Brittany Stewart
Studies Journalism at RMIT. She divides her time between reading and failing in the kitchen. Give her any trouble and she’ll get the London mafia on your arse.

Broede Carmody
Studies Journalism at RMIT. He is on the Voiceworks editorial committee and likes typewriters, Finland and copious amounts of tea. If he could, he would proofread your thoughts.

Alia Madkhul
Studies Advertising at RMIT. She loves to eat food and make things look pretty. If you have a spare apartment in New York she wants to be your friend.