What do I need to know in my first year?!!….. A lot!!

The first year of university can be a challenge for all students. It can be even harder for a student who has relocated to the city to study, or who has other additional burdens.

Gaining an equity scholarship or award can be a big help financially, but there is still more to do as an independent learner.

For tips on how you are going and what you should have organised by now – look at the following checklists. If there is anything that you have missed, try to do them as it will make the rest of your first year of study a lot easier.

** This checklist has been created based on the Griffith University First Year Experience program checklist.

---

### Before First Semester Commences

- I have enrolled in all of my classes for the Semester and checked that all my enrolment details are correct.

- I have paid any fees or charges. (Contact your Faculty/School office if you are concerned that anything is outstanding)

- I know how to get to uni and where to park / catch public transport to.

- I have been to O Week and participated in all the Orientation Programs relevant to me at my campus.

- I have familiarised myself with where things are around my campus.

- I have explored the student clubs and societies that are of interest to me.

- I have some pens and note pads for my classes.

- I have applied for any Equity Scholarships I may be eligible for.
First Week

- I have the course outlines for all of my subjects. These can either be obtained from your lecturer in detailed form, or online. [http://courses.swinburne.edu.au/](http://courses.swinburne.edu.au/)

- I know the exact time and location of all my classes.

- I have a copy of the academic calendar showing critical dates. [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/corporate/registrar/calendar.htm](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/corporate/registrar/calendar.htm)


- I have read the IT student guide, my Swinburne computer access is set up and I know how to access my student email account. [http://www.its.swinburne.edu.au/student_services/student_guide/](http://www.its.swinburne.edu.au/student_services/student_guide/)

- I know where the library is and how to best utilise its resources. [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lib/](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/lib/)

- I know what textbooks or equipment I need to buy (these will be specified by your lecturer/tutor) and where I can buy them. [http://bookshop.su.swin.edu.au/](http://bookshop.su.swin.edu.au/)

- I have familiarised myself with My.Swinburne and the applications available through it. [http://my.swinburne.edu.au/](http://my.swinburne.edu.au/)


- I have met some other students in my course.

- I know where to find the student lounges, study areas and cafeterias.

First Month

- I have all the textbooks and equipment that are required for my subjects. [http://bookshop.su.swin.edu.au/](http://bookshop.su.swin.edu.au/)

- I have received my Equity Scholarship fridge magnet and know all the important dates in relation to my scholarship. [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/equity/awards.html](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/equity/awards.html)

- I know what Student Services are available to me and where to locate them. [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/)

- I have met some students with similar interests to me. [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/ssaa/clubshomepage.html](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/ssaa/clubshomepage.html)

- I have worked out a personal time-table incorporating time for my study, family, employment, recreation and social time. [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/counselling/swin_ecounselling/resources/workload.htm](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/counselling/swin_ecounselling/resources/workload.htm)

- I understand my study commitments (assignments, projects, exams) and when they need to be submitted.

- As an Equity Scholarship recipient, I have thought about being an ambassador for my old high school. If this interests you please contact the Equity Scholarships Office: [http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/equity/contact.html](http://www.swinburne.edu.au/stuserv/equity/contact.html)
### First Semester

|☐| I have met all my lecturers and tutors. |
|☐| I have sought feedback on my study assessments to identify where I can improve and know where I can find further study support.  
|☐| I have formed study groups with other students. |
|☐| I am involved in some extra-curricular activities at Swinburne (clubs, volunteer work) or outside.  
|☐| I can find my way to most buildings around the campus.  

### First Year

|☐| I am happy with my study progress and what I have chosen to study. I know where to find support in relation to this.  
|☐| I have made some friends at Swinburne. |
|☐| I have developed a course plan with my intended career choices in mind.  
|☐| I have looked into part-time employment or volunteer work in my area of study to further enhance my post-study career opportunities.  
|☐| I have confirmed my re-enrolment and know when study commences next year.  

### Congratulations!

If you have done all or most of these things you are well on your way to being a success and achieving your goals. 😊