Frequently Asked Questions

Graduate Certificate in Information Technology
Graduate Diploma of Information Technology
Master of Information Technology

What is so good about these courses?

These courses provide advanced training in Information technology for applicants from IT or non-IT backgrounds. The courses have been designed by leading IT academics and professionals and are highly flexible - allowing you to specialise in wide variety of topic areas that include computer programming, networking, management or security.

Research shows that Masters graduates in full time employment in computer science earn on average $79,700 (Graduate Careers Australia, 2012).

Is Charles Sturt University for me?

Charles Sturt University is one of the leading providers of University distance education in Australia. Each subject in these courses is supported by a variety of sophisticated online tools, including subject forums for communication with your lecturer and other students, and a variety of online course materials such as Study Guides. In addition, supporting materials such as video lectures or podcasts are frequently made available. Assignment submission is also online. In short, all of your study requirements can be met online, without ever having to visit one of our campuses!

CSU has developed and grown its IT courses, and is now the largest provider of IT postgraduate university courses in Australia (domestic by coursework) (IT Masters, 2008).
Is the Master of IT professionally recognised?

The Australian Computer Society (ACS) accredits the CSU Master of Information Technology at full professional level - this is the highest level. There is also reciprocal recognition of this accreditation by international professional societies, such as the Association of Computing Machinery (USA), British Computer Society, Canadian Information Processing Society, and the Computer Society of India.

What are the admission requirements?

Admission requirements for the Graduate Certificate in IT are available here: http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/information_technology_gc/admission-requirements

Admission requirements for the Graduate Diploma of IT and Master of IT are available here: http://www.csu.edu.au/courses/postgraduate/information_technology/admission-requirements

If you have any additional questions relating to your admission in these courses, please contact the Course Director: jhowarth@csu.edu.au

Do I need to be a member of the Australian Computer Society (ACS)?

You do not need to be a member for entry into one of these courses. Further information on ACS can be found on their website, www.acs.org.au

What is the cost?

The Graduate Certificate in Information Technology, the Graduate Diploma of Information Technology, and the Master of Information Technology are full fee programs, which mean the Australian Government does not contribute towards your study costs. You pay a tuition fee for each subject you undertake.

The cost per subject in the Graduate Certificate of IT, Graduate Diploma of IT, and Masters of IT for Australian and New Zealand students is $1850 per 8 point subject. The cost per subject for International students is $2200 per subject. In addition to these costs, you would normally be required to purchase a text book (approx value $100 - $120) for each subject.

Please note that the fees above are indicative only, as at September 2012 for students commencing study in 2013.

All Students will also need to pay the Student Services and Amenities Fee of $34 per 8 point subject. Tuition rates and associated costs are reviewed annually and are subject to change.

Further information regarding fees is available here.
Help with costs?

You may be eligible for a loan to help pay for tuition fees through the Commonwealth Government FEE-HELP program. More information

CSU also provides access to a variety of scholarships, loans, subsidies and schemes. Detailed information can be found at www.csu.edu.au/distance-education/scholarships-and-help-with-costs.

What is a session, and how many sessions can I enrol in each year?

CSU sessions are sometimes referred to as semesters at other Universities. CSU has three sessions per year. For these courses, subjects are available for study in all three sessions; however, most of the subjects are available in Sessions 1 and 2 (which generally commence in February and July, respectively).

Can I fast-track my study or, if the need arises, study less?

The average part-time study load is two subjects per session (semester). Depending on subject availability, you may increase your study load to up to four subjects per session. You may also reduce your load down to one subject. It is also possible for you to take a leave of absence for a number of sessions. Further information regarding distance education can be found here.

How much time will I have to spend studying each week?

Each subject in the course is designed such that students are engaged in 140-160 hours of learning and teaching activities over the duration of a session (semester). This equates to approximately 11-13 hours per week, per subject.

Can I get credit for previous study?

Yes, we encourage you to apply for credit based on previous University study. We also accept a selection of industry and vendor certifications for credit. You can apply for credit as part of the application process. If you would like some idea of the amount of credit you will receive before applying, please contact the Course Director Jason Howarth at jhowarth@csu.edu.au.

When applying, certified supporting evidence such as transcripts and subject descriptors will need to be included with the application. Further information on the recognition of prior learning can be found here.

If applying for credit based on relevant work experience, you must provide a supporting statement specifying the particular aspects of your work experience and the corresponding subjects where you believe you have gained proficiency as a result of that particular work experience. An additional statement from your employer about your work experience would also be useful.
I'm an international student, what am I required to submit in my application and do I need to provide evidence regarding my English proficiency?

Detailed information on entry requirements for international students can be found at www.csu.edu.au/international/entry-requirements.

Information on how to apply as an international student can be found at www.csu.edu.au/international/apply.

Information regarding English Proficiency Requirements can be found here.

Do I need to visit the University during my study or for my exams?

No, there are no subjects in this course which require you visit a CSU Campus – everything can be done remotely through distance education, including choosing an examination centre near your home. CSU has examination centres in most major cities. Further information about examinations including examination centres can be found here.

Of course, we would love to see you on-campus at your graduation ceremony when you complete your study – but even this is not mandatory (you may elect to receive your graduation documents by post).

How do I apply?

You can apply online at www.csu.edu.au/apply

Can I study through the Sydney or Melbourne Study Centres?

Yes. If you are an international student, or a full-time Australian or New Zealand student, these courses are available at the Sydney and Melbourne study centres.

Further information on the CSU Study Centres can be found here;

Sydney – Phone 02 9291 9300

Melbourne – Phone 03 9670 3788

How can I find more detailed information on the subjects available in these courses?

The 2013 Handbook lists detailed subject information. Jason referred to this in the webinar presentation, and the links are available below;
When do applications close for 2013?

The on-time closing date for applications for students commencing in Session 1, 2013 is December 1. Details on additional closing dates are below:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Session</th>
<th>On-time closing date</th>
<th>Late closing date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Session 1 (March-June)</td>
<td>31 October</td>
<td>December 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 2 (July-October)</td>
<td>1 May</td>
<td>June 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Session 3 (November-February)</td>
<td>1 September</td>
<td>October 1</td>
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As not all courses have an intake in each session, please refer to the online course brochure for session intakes. Applications are assessed on a continuous basis and offered to the next available intake.

Applicants are strongly encouraged to take advantage of this by lodging their application as early as possible. Places are offered to eligible applicants on a first-received basis and if the course offering is subject to a quota, applications received after the closing date will only be considered where places remain available.

When does the next session commence?

Session 1 for 2013 commences on the 4th March 2013.

Who should I contact for further information?

For general enquiries contact info.csu and ask for Sandra. Prospective students residing in Australia should call 1800 334 733. Prospective students residing outside of Australia should call + 61 2 6338 6077. Or you can email Sandra at inquiry@csu.edu.au

For course-specific or subject-specific questions, please contact the Course Director Jason Howarth at jhowarth@csu.edu.au