

## Bachelor of Spatial Science (BSPS) - BSpSc

QTAC code (Australian and New Zealand applicants): Unspecified (External: 907225; Toowoomba campus: 907222); Urban & Regional Planning (External: 907235; Toowoomba campus: 907232)

CRICOS code (International applicants): 053511E

**This program is offered only to continuing students. No new admissions will be accepted. Students who are interested in this study area should consider the [Bachelor of Spatial Science \(Honours\)](#) which will be offered from S1 2014.**

	<b>On-campus</b>	<b>External</b>
	No new admissions	No new admissions

In addition, students obtain knowledge of the natural, legal, commercial, industrial and social environments in which they will function as professionals. The program instils in students the need for continuing professional development and gives them the ability to adapt to change.

The program is designed to identify, and award honours to, students who have the capacity to undertake study at an advanced level and to make an original contribution to the fundamental science and practice of spatial science. The award of honours will be determined by academic performance and is normally based on a student's grade point average (GPA).

## Program objectives

A student who successfully completes the Bachelor of Spatial Science should be able to demonstrate:

- a broad knowledge of basic scientific and technical skills
- a high level of computer literacy skills appropriate to their field of study
- a high level of written and oral communication skills
- a capacity for analysis, evaluation and synthesis
- an understanding of, and ability to undertake, the processes required to collect, store, and manipulate a variety of spatial data
- a capacity to adapt to change and to apply innovation
- an understanding of the natural, social, professional, industrial and technical environments in which they will practice
- a knowledge of professional journals and other information sources related to the spatial science industry, the skills required to access information from those sources, and an aptitude to undertake further learning and study
- an ability to undertake applied research in a field of the spatial science discipline
- a knowledge of the financial and management principles and practices that are used to manage a professional office
- a knowledge of surveying, spatial information systems or urban and regional planning of sufficient depth to gain employment, certification and, where appropriate, registration as a Professional Surveyor, Spatial Scientist or Planner.

## Program Information Set

View USQ's admission criteria, student profiles and a summary of all offers made under [Course Admission Information Set](#) via the QTAC website.

## Admission requirements

To be eligible for admission, applicants must satisfy the following requirements:

- Geographic Information Systems and Surveying majors: have studied four semester units and achieved an exit assessment of 'Sound Achievement' or better in each of the following Queensland Senior Secondary School subjects: English and Mathematics B. It is recommended that applicants should also have satisfactorily completed the subject: Physics
- Urban and Regional Planning Major: hav

All students are required to satisfy the applicable [English language requirements](#).

If students do not meet the English language requirements they may apply to study a University-approved [English language program](#). On successful completion of the English language program, students may be admitted to an award program.

## **Program fees**

### **Commonwealth supported place**

A Commonwealth supported place is where the Australian Government makes a contribution towards the cost of a student's higher education and students pay a [student contribution amount](#), which varies depending on the courses undertaken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Commonwealth Supported students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [HECS-HELP](#).

### **Domestic full fee paying place**

Domestic full fee paying places are funded entirely through the full fees paid by the student. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

Domestic full fee paying students may be eligible to defer their fees through a Government loan called [FEE-HELP](#) provided they meet the residency and citizenship requirements.

Australian citizens, Permanent Humanitarian Visa holders, Permanent Resident visa holders and New Zealand citizens who will be resident outside Australia for the duration of their program pay full tuition fees and are not eligible for [FEE-Help](#).

### **International full fee paying place**

International students pay full fees. Full fees vary depending on the courses that are taken and whether they are studied on-campus, via distance education/online. Students are able to calculate the fees for a particular course via the [Course Fee Finder](#).

## **Program structure**

The Bachelor of Spatial Science is a 32-unit program consisting of Academic courses and Practice courses. Academic courses are normally one-unit courses and involve approximately 155 hours of student work per unit.

Practice courses are zero unit courses and each involves approximately 50 hours of student work. The only grades available for a Practice Course are Pass (P) and Fail (F). A Practice Course is designed to enable students to acquire specific competencies associated with their major study. The competencies range from specifi

## Required time limits

Full-time students have a maximum of six years to complete this program. Part-time students have a maximum of 12 years to complete this program.

A pro-rata adjustment of the maximum time period will apply for those students who transfer from one mode of study to another. A pro-rata reduction in the maximum time period will apply to students who are admitted to a program with advanced standing.

## Practical experience

Practical experience is desirable and encouraged but is not required for the completion of the Bachelor of Spatial Science program. Students are encouraged to obtain practical experience during vacation periods.

## IT requirements

Access to an up-to-date computer is necessary. On-campus students can access appropriately equipped laboratories, but should consider acquisition of their own computer. External students should be able to access a computer with the following [minimum standards](#) as advised by the University. All students should have access to email and the Internet via a computer running the latest versions of Internet web browsers such as Internet Explorer or Firefox. The University has a wireless network for on-campus students' computers. In order to take advantage of this facility and further enhance their on-campus learning environment, students should consider purchasing a notebook/laptop computer with wireless connectivity. A notebook/laptop may be required for some courses.

## Residential schools

The attendance requirement of residential schools within this degree is indicated by the following letters: V = Voluntary; O = Optional; C = Compulsory; R = Recommended; HR = Highly Recommended; M = Mandatory. Find out more about [residential schools](#), visit the [Residential School Schedule](#) to view specific dates for your degree, or visit the [Policy and Procedure Library](#).

External students are required to attend a number of [residential schools](#) during their program. These are associated with Practice courses and are normally conducted at the end of Semester 3 (February), or during the mid-semester recess in Semester 2 (September/October).

Students enrolled in the external offer of a Practice Course **must attend** the residential school for that course. In some cases students enrolled in the on-campus mode may also be required to attend the residential school. Students should only enrol in a Practice Course when they are able to attend the residential school for that course. Practice courses **may not** be taken earlier than shown except with the permission of the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences. In some cases students may enrol in two Practice courses in one term so they can complete the two residential schools in a two-week period. The actual dates for each residential school are shown in the [Residential School schedule](#) in this Handbook.

Safety boots are compulsory in engineering laboratories for several of the Practice courses and are strongly recommended for all other Practice courses.

## Practice courses

The majority of the practical and professional experience requirements for the program are contained within the major recommended enrolment pattern in the following table. These are zero unit courses, which are a **compulsory part** of the program, however they do not attract a student contribution charge for Australian Residents or a tuition fee for international students.

## Elective courses

Elective courses are included in the list of Academic courses. Students should select these courses from the Electives list. Students may undertake only one appropriate level five or level eight course from this program or another program in the area of Engineering and Built Environment as an Elective with the approval of the Faculty of Health, Engineering and Sciences.

## Articulation

Graduates of an Associate Degree in Spatial Science majoring in Surveying or GIS, would normally be eligible for up to 16 units of credit towards the Bachelor of Spatial Science Technology within the same field. Similarly, Bachelor of Spatial Science Technology graduates would normally be eligible for up to 24 units of credit towards the Bachelor of Spatial Science degree within the same field. Graduates of an Associate Degree in Spatial Science majoring in Urban and Regional Planning would normally be eligible for up to 16 courses of credit towards the Bachelor of Spatial Science within the same field.

Students who have completed an associate degree or certificate program in surveying more than five years ago are eligible to claim advanced standing. The number of units of advanced standing granted will depend upon the nature and currency of the studies undertaken, and on the major study undertaken.

The programs in Surveying, Geographic Information Systems and Urban and Regional Planning also articulate to and from each other and enable students to move between Surveying, Geographic Information Systems and Regional Planning degrees, whilst still retaining a significant amount of credit.

Prospective students who wish to upgrade an existing qualification should contact the Faculty to obtain information about likely exemptions and recommended enrolment patterns for their upgrade program.

## Exit points

Students who, for whatever reason, are unable to complete the Bachelor of Spatial Science and who satisfy all of the requirements of either the [Bachelor of Spatial Science Technology](#), the [Associate Degree of Spatial Science](#) or the [Diploma of Engineering Studies](#) may be permitted to exit with that award.

## Honours

The Bachelor of Spatial Science may be awarded with Honours. The class of honours to be awarded to a student is dependent upon:

- the Grade Point Average calculated from the grades achieved in the courses studied in, or transferred to, the program;
- the grade achieved by the student in the courses [ENG4111 Research Project Part 1](#) and [ENG4112 Research Project Part 2](#) (unless the student is exempted from these courses).

The minimum levels of achievement normally required for each class of honours are shown in the following table. To be assured of achieving a particular class of honours students must have achieved the specified grade in the research project courses and the minimum GPA requirements for all of the courses studied, for the last 16 courses studied, or for the last eight courses studied.

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