About the ATSIS Unit

The Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (ATSIS) Unit was established at UQ in 1984 as a commitment to the teaching, learning, research and cultural needs of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

The ATSIS Unit celebrates Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander cultures and knowledges, and recognises the enormous contribution that Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples have made and continue to make at UQ.

We work closely with faculties, schools, central units and the wider UQ community to provide a range of services for students, from pre-enrolment through to graduation.

Our students have access to a range of professional development and employability services, including internships, graduate programs and global experiences.

Through the ATSIS Unit, the Goonie Borimpa Indigenous Student Collective and a large Indigenous student peer group, you will be able to get involved with social, cultural and professional development events, including the pre-Orientation welcome and information sessions, workshops with guest speakers, NAIDOC Week and the NAIDOC Ball, Reconciliation Week and the Indigenous Uni Games. Social and study spaces are provided in the ATSIS Unit, and graduating students can also look forward to the Indigenous Sashing Ceremony.

More information

Give us a call
Call our friendly Student Success team for advice and assistance with applications, scholarships and general enquiries.
+61 7 3443 1404

Visit us online
Find out more about programs, entry pathways, scholarships, and support services offered by the ATSIS Unit.
atisis.uq.edu.au

Ask us a question
Email us and we’ll be in touch soon.
atisis@uq.edu.au

Future student guide

Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students

Cover artwork elements from ‘A Guidance Through Time’ by Quandamooka artists Casey Coolwell and Kyra Mancktelow. This artwork recognises UQ’s three major campuses, while also championing the creation of a strong sense of belonging and truth-telling about Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander histories, and ongoing connections with Country, knowledges, culture and kin.
Welcome

Welcome to The University of Queensland (UQ), where we strive every day to ensure you achieve your goals and aspirations through access to a world-class university education.

You’ll find opportunities at UQ that will help you become a game-changer and future leaders ready to join our strong and growing networks of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander alumni who are doing extraordinary work in our communities and around the globe.

As UQ, we acknowledge and respect Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as First Australians. We value and celebrate the uniqueness of knowledge, cultures, histories and languages that have been created and shared for at least 60,000 years.

You will study among some of the brightest and brightest Indigenous students in the country, and have fun being immersed in a positive, enriching environment.

As UQ, we will empower you with the skills and confidence to excel, no matter where life takes you.

Come and explore your full potential at UQ.

Professor Bronwyn Fredericks
Pro-Vice-Chancellor (Indigenous Engagement)

Why choose UQ?

UQ offers a complete university experience, including an exciting mix of educational, social and cultural opportunities, to help you achieve your individual goals.

UQ is the number one university in Queensland for graduate employability (QS Graduate Employability Rankings 2020), and UQ graduates enjoy some of the best employment rates and starting salaries in Australia, thanks to our outstanding global reputation.

Student services available

UQ always ensure that all students feel part of a positive and affirming learning environment. The ATSIS Unit assists and supports prospective and current students from application through to graduation. Indigenous students at UQ can access:

• world-class learning facilities, including spaces specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students
• helpful advice and support on UQ admission pathways to help you find the best program for you
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• professional development, pastoral care and tutoring (the ITAR program via the ATSIS Unit)
• access to financial support and a wide range of UQ and community scholarships
• a fun and engaging program of social and cultural activities
• professional development, work experience and career opportunities
• learning support, pastoral care and tutoring (the ITAR program via the ATSIS Unit)
• a range of accommodation options
• student services tailored specifically to your needs.

Admissions pathways

In addition to gaining entry through QTAC based on your Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR) or other tertiary selection rank, UQ has an admission scheme specifically for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students.

If you identify as Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander on your QTAC application, you will be automatically assessed through the QTAC UQ pre-qualification pathway.

My goals

“I have spent a lot of time in the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies (ATNIS) Unit. I have found it really helpful and culturally safe. It has created an atmosphere for us Indigenous students where we can all come in, interact, have a yarn and a laugh, and just be ourselves.

“As a lot of us leave our communities and our people, we can struggle to connect at times, so it gives us a really good grounding. Also, the ATNIS Unit provides academic support so we have a better chance at succeeding both at university, but also outside of university as well.

“I chose UQ because it’s a really pretty campus and a sunbaked university with an incredible medicine program but, more importantly, it’s closer to my family. Being not just on my country but close to my family was really important to me.

“UQ also offers a lot of partnerships, internships, and mentoring opportunities that provide real world experience and hands-on knowledge, which was really important to me when choosing where to study.”

HARRY REUBEN
Diploma Science (pre-med)

What can I study?

UQ offers the most comprehensive range of undergraduate and postgraduate programs and courses in Queensland across a study area, including:

• Agriculture and Environment
• Architecture and Planning
• Arts, Communication and Society
• Business, Economics and Law
• Education
• Engineering and Information Technology
• Health and Behavioural Sciences
• Medicine
• Science and Mathematics
• the Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Studies major.

Visit future-students.uq.edu.au to explore your study options.

How do I apply?

QTAC

All applications for UQ’s undergraduate programs are processed through the Queensland Tertiary Admissions Centre (QTAC). For more information about applying through QTAC, visit qtc.qld.edu.au.

For UQ postgraduate coursework and higher degree by research requirements, visit future-students.uq.edu.au or contact the ATNIS Unit for further assistance.

ANGUS LOFT
Bachelor of Science and Nutrition Science

CAIMMIE GIFFRIDS
Bachelor of Science Education (Secondary)

“I did an Inspire! Engineering Camp while I was in high school – didn’t love the engineering aspect but fell in love with the St Lucia campus and the staff at the ATNIS Unit.

“I’m from rural NSW – no traffic lights even! – so UQ’s atmosphere and the people and vibrant just blew me away. I knew I had to study here.

“I’m staying on campus at the Women’s College: it’s so convenient being on campus and close to everything, and beautiful being by the lakes.”

HARRY REUBEN
Diploma Science (pre-med)

“I chose UQ because it’s a really pretty campus and a sunbaked university with an incredible medicine program but, more importantly, it’s closer to my family. Being not just on my country but close to my family was really important to me. UQ also offers a lot of partnerships, internships, and mentoring opportunities that provide real world experience and hands-on knowledge, which was really important to me when choosing where to study.”

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