

Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism Frequently Asked Questions 2017

Terminology

MGT – Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism

SBaT (SBT) – School of Business & Tourism

Units – individual subjects (16 Units for Masters)

Session – think semesters (but there are three)

Part A, B, C – refer to the Schedule of Units to see which units belong to each part

How do I apply?

To apply for entry into the MGT, Graduate Diploma of Gastronomic Tourism, Graduate Certificate of Gastronomic Tourism or single units, you must complete the application form for this program, print and sign and return with your certified transcripts, certificates and other required documentation to australia@cordobleu.edu

I don't have an undergraduate degree, can I still apply?

Yes, applications from individuals without an undergraduate degree will also be considered based on relevant expertise and specialist experience. In order to qualify on this basis, students must show evidence of minimum five (5) years of work experience, including three (3) years professional/ managerial experience.

Students wanting to apply on the basis of relevant expertise and specialist experience must supply (in addition to their application form):

1. **A current resume/ CV**
2. **Two written professional references** (that support the resume). These cannot be more than two years old. They do not necessarily need to be work references – they can be professional references. They are recommendations of the candidate's ability and commitment to undertake postgraduate level study.
3. We also encourage students to submit a **statement of purpose** (about 300-500 words) about why they would like to undertake this program and their ability and commitment to undertake postgraduate studies.

Students admitted on this basis will commence with Part C units to ensure they are comfortable with the transition from industry practice to academic writing and critical thinking.

Once they successfully complete the Part C units they can then continue into the Part A units from this Master's program. Applicants who have completed an undergraduate degree in a cognate discipline/ field will be granted Advanced Standing for four (4) Part C units

I am curious about the type of people with whom I will be studying, who takes this course?

Students currently studying in the program come from varying academic, cultural and professional backgrounds, from IT to Law to Events to Cellar Door/ Wine. We have students studying from across the world - from Japan, France, Canada, Trinidad and Tobago, Singapore and Australia (as examples). Passion for food, wine and tourism is the cohesive factor.

How much does the course cost?

In 2017 each unit will cost AUD\$2960, except MNG93003 and MNG03237 which are double-weighted units and cost AUD\$5920. The full cost of the Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism Program in 2017 is AUD\$35,520 (12 units) / AUD\$47, 360 (16 units). Please visit www.xe.com for an approximate currency conversion to another currency.

Students are expected to make payment for units prior to each unit commencement.

Are there scholarships available for this program?

For information on a range of partial tuition scholarships available for Australian and international students who wish to study the Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism program please refer to the Le Cordon Bleu website.

www.lecordonbleu.com.au

Will I be eligible for Advanced Standing?

Students may have their relevant prior learning recognised, through the process of Advanced Standing. Southern Cross University determines the amount of credit that may be awarded towards units (subjects), reducing the amount of learning required for course completion.

Applicants with an undergraduate degree (in a cognate discipline) will be granted Advanced Standing for four (4) Part C units.

Credit may also be awarded to students for formal learning (gained through full or partial achievement of an accredited qualification or course) at postgraduate level, where the units (subjects) closely match the syllabus of units from this program.

Students who undertake the Hautes Etudes du Goût, successfully completing the Diplôme d'Université du Gout, de la Gastronomie et des Arts de la Table – DUGGAT - will be eligible to receive credit for ONE (1) elective unit towards Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism program. This credit recognition is available to any student in possession of a DUGGAT since 2004 upon supply of their scanned certified certificate.

Students need to apply for Advanced Standing when enrolling into the Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism program and supply a scanned certified copy of their DUGGAT certificate with their enrolment forms.

Would I receive Advanced Standing for units that clearly match my work experience?

Few University courses accept applications for advanced standing on the basis of work experience or professional experience. To measure professional experience at a Masters level is extremely difficult to quantify, however in some instances Advanced Standing may be granted.

For more information please contact Sophie Davies, Le Cordon Bleu: sdavies@cordobleu.edu

This program is delivered online, what does that mean?

All units are offered entirely online through the Southern Cross University MySCU learning environment. MySCU is the one-stop portal to all your Unit Learning Sites, readings and assessments.

Students will be supported by experienced teaching staff and will share in discussions relating to each topic. The MySCU portal includes unit learning sites and information sites where students can access resources, communication tools and useful links that are integral to their studies. Through the MySCU portal students use the web-based program Blackboard Collaborate – an advanced on-line learning environment for students and lecturers to communicate and collaborate through virtual meeting spaces and classrooms. They can share files, presentations, and applications. Lectures and tutorials may also be podcasted.

What kind of computer format does the MySCU system run on? As I am an Apple user, I am slightly worried that it may be Windows only.

The MySCU portal can be accessed using Microsoft and/or Apple. Some lecturers use Apple computers also. There is no disadvantage either way.

Could you tell me more about the teaching calendar – Sessions 1, 2 & 3?

Instead of running over two semesters Southern Cross University offers three sessions per year to enable students to fast track their studies. Students can commence their studies in this program in any of the three sessions. Sessions commence in February, July and November.

How many units should I study per session?

You can opt to study one (1) or two units (2) per session to balance with your work/ life commitments. The recommendation is to undertake one (1) unit per session initially, allowing you to familiarise yourself with the study portal, learning resources and in some students' cases academic referencing and writing at postgraduate level.

Students can seek Program Manager Approval to study three (3) units per session in special circumstances (such as taking long service leave).

What modes of assessment are used for units for this program?

Assessment methods vary by unit and may include examinations, essays, reports, reviews, portfolios, special projects and other written assignments as well as a range of interactive assessments such as blogs, wikis, online discussion boards and multimedia presentations.

Exams

Will I have to sit exams?

There are some units in the program which have an end of session exam. Make sure you have checked whether your current unit has a final exam in your **Unit Information Guide (UIG)**. As you will be studying your course online you will be required to let the Exams Office know where you want to sit your exams. There are a large number of external exam centres throughout Australia from which you can choose.

What if I live overseas?

Overseas exam centres can be arranged for a non-refundable fee of \$200 AUD per exam. All students requiring to undertake an exam overseas must contact the Exams Office 6 weeks prior to the commencement date of the exam period

Who delivers the units for this program?

The program is delivered by Southern Cross University School of Business and Tourism (SBaT).

<http://scu.edu.au/business-tourism/>

<http://courses.scu.edu.au/courses/le-cordon-bleu-master-of-gastronomic-tourism2/2017>

The staff members selected to deliver units from this program are highly qualified and are often publishing papers out of their specialised research interests. They have been or are actively involved with industry or industry bodies. They offer a contemporary industry-relevant and quality learning experience.

Is this a program that applies internationally, or does it have an Australian focus?

Topics will be examined from an international, national, regional and local perspective. Students will be asked to give local/ community examples from their various places in the world.

Is there an internship included in this Master's program?

Students may choose to undertake a 300-hour internship (equivalent to two units) in either a paid or volunteer role. This practical experience, combined with theoretical understanding, enhances the learning experience for students who have a professional and personal interest in this high growth area.

Students are responsible for securing their internship placement and are given extensive assistance in interview and application procedures, access to an extensive database of potential employers and roles and ongoing support from the dedicated Work Integrated Learning Team.

All internship placements must be approved by the Work Integrated Learning Coordinator, prior to commencement. Students who wish to enrol in MNG03237 must first complete MNG0326 Tourism and Hotel Professional Development, in preparation for Internship. There is no Advanced Standing granted for these units.

- MNG03236 Tourism and Hotel Professional Development (**Pre-requisite for MNG03237**)
- MNG03237 Tourism and Hotel Internship*
**double-weighted unit*

Can this Masters lead to further study pathways?

Yes, the structure of the program (including the Industry Research Project) can lead towards a PhD pathway. If this is of interest options can be discussed on a case-by-case basis with the Program Manager at Southern Cross University.

Do I need to come to Australia for any part of my study?

There are no student visas attached to this program so you must study from your place of residence. There is no physical classroom time – the classes are all delivered online.

An optional, non-assessable residential is offered annually to students from this program to come together. This will be held in Australia and will run over 3-4 days. Southern Cross University can assist with a letter from the University regarding this activity to support your Visa application.

In 2017 this will be held in the Gold Coast, QLD and Northern Rivers, NSW region from 18 – 21 June. Students can book to attend via the website: <http://e.mybookingmanager.com/MGTResidential2017>

Graduation – I have finished the course: now what?

Students who successfully complete the requisite units from the program are eligible to *register* to graduate.

If students are not attending a Graduation ceremony they can select *Mail* in *My Enrolment* to receive their *testamur* by mail.

Students will also be invited to attend a Le Cordon Bleu Graduation Ceremony in Adelaide, South Australia following their formal graduation.

For more information about graduating from this program: <http://www.scu.edu.au/graduation/>

Who authorises the parchment for this program?

Students graduate at a Southern Cross University ceremony (or *In Absentia – by Mail*) with a parchment authorised by Southern Cross University.

Will Southern Cross University and Le Cordon Bleu assist me to get a job after I complete my studies?

Upon graduation you are eligible to become an alumnus of both Le Cordon Bleu and Southern Cross University. This includes access to a global network of alumni and career opportunities from both institutions who offer various opportunities via their alumni portals and social media networks. Assistance is provided in regards to career preparation however Southern Cross University and Le Cordon Bleu will not be responsible for job placement upon graduation.

This Master's degree includes a core double-weighted unit, *MNG93003 Industry Research Project*. This unit allows students to engage in a minor research project exploring in-depth a topic of personal interest relevant to the degree. This project can be used to start to build up your contacts/ network in your area of interest.

The program also includes an elective component that you may wish to consider. This consists of a workplace preparation unit and an internship placement. While ultimate responsibility for finding an internship placement rests with the student, a dedicated Work Integrated Learning team offer a variety of professional support services to students.

Australian Citizens

Australian citizens may be eligible for FEE-Help.

Will I be eligible for FEE-Help?

For current information regarding eligibility, refer to the following Australian Government website called Study Assist: <http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist>

How much can I borrow?

For current information regarding FEE-Help, refer to the following Australian Government website called Study Assist: <http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist>

The FEE-HELP limit is a lifetime limit and is not reset or 'topped up' by any repayments that you make. The FEE-HELP limit is the total amount available to eligible students under both the FEE-HELP and VET FEE-HELP loan schemes. This means that any amount you borrow under either FEE-HELP or VET FEE-HELP will reduce your FEE-HELP balance until you have reached the FEE-HELP limit.

Canadian Citizens

Canadian citizens studying this program can request a Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) form T2202 for 'Tuition fees – University outside Canada' to complete as part of their tax return.

For more information visit: <http://www.cra-arc.gc.ca/>

Student Aid Alberta

The program has now been designated for the provision of both full-time and part-time funding by Student Aid Alberta. Alberta residents may now apply according to how they are registered.

For more information visit: <http://studentaid.alberta.ca/>

American (US) Citizens

Because the Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism program is delivered entirely online, students from this program are not eligible for US Financial Aid. To be eligible for US Financial Aid, a student cannot be enrolled in courses offered by online, telecommunication or distance delivery in whole or part.

For more information visit: <http://studentaid.ed.gov/>

Also, the US GI Post 9-11 Bill that funds US veterans can only be utilized for on-campus study. The United States Department of Veterans Affairs does not pay educational benefits for students at foreign schools for distance learning courses. Thus you will not receive funding to undertake the Le Cordon Bleu Master of Gastronomic Tourism.

New Zealand Citizens

New Zealand citizens are not eligible for Australian Commonwealth assistance (HELP loans) unless they are also Australian citizens or holders of a permanent visa.

Note: Most New Zealand citizens who arrive in Australia are the holders of a temporary visa called a Special Category Visa (SCV). This is not a permanent visa.

For current information refer to the following Australian Government website called Study Assist:

<http://studyassist.gov.au/sites/studyassist>