ADFA

WHERE IT ALL BEGINS

STUDENT GUIDE 2026

ADFA AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY | UNSW CANBERRA

ADF CAREERS

WORLD-CLASS DEGREES. UNRIVALLED MILITARY & LEADERSHIP TRAINING.

UNSW CANBERRA

Forged from a unique partnership between the Australian Defence Force (ADF) and UNSW, the Australian Defence Force Academy (ADFA) in Canberra offers world-class degrees in parallel with military and leadership training.

If your application to join the Navy, Army or Air Force and attend ADFA is successful you will receive a fully funded tertiary education plus a salary while you study and train. In return for a minimum period of military service, your HELP debt will be covered.

- One of the world's top 20 universities*
- Member of the Group of Eight leading research-intensive universities
- Australia's best student-to-teacher ratios
- Recognised as a university with strong links between higher education and industry

* 2026 QS World University Ranking

FEATURED INSIDE

This brochure provides an overview of the opportunities available to you at ADFA. Look out for the search symbol to access additional information online.

SEE WHERE YOUR DEGREE CAN TAKE YOU

THE ADF OFFERS OUTSTANDING CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IN A WIDE VARIETY OF AREAS INCLUDING AVIATION, BUSINESS MANAGEMENT, ENGINEERING, INTELLIGENCE, LOGISTICS AND TECHNOLOGY.

Your UNSW degree from ADFA will secure you a prestigious role as an Officer in the Navy, Army or Air Force; and uniquely, you'll leave university equipped with a broad range of leadership skills. Armed with world-class qualifications, the ability to take command, make informed decisions and bring out the best in people, you'll embark on a rich and rewarding career that takes you as far as you aspire to go.

JOIN A DIVERSE GROUP OF STUDENTS

YOU'LL FIND YOUR CLASSMATES ARE OF DIFFERENT BACKGROUNDS, FROM ALL OVER AUSTRALIA AND ACROSS THE WORLD. ADFA STUDENTS (CALLED MIDSHIPMEN IN THE NAVY AND OFFICER CADETS IN THE ARMY AND AIR FORCE) ALL STUDY AND SOCIALISE TOGETHER.

A common thread amongst ADFA students is a willingness to work hard, tackle new challenges, adapt to new situations and be strong team members, as well as potential team leaders.

Bonds you establish at ADFA will be strengthened by exciting shared experiences, and many of the people you study with will become friends for life.

ENJOY ALL THE BENEFITS OF ADFA AND THE ADF

STUDENTS ARE DRAWN TO ADFA BY ITS REPUTATION FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE AND THE DIVERSE CAREER OPPORTUNITIES IT UNLOCKS. BUT THERE ARE PLENTY OF OTHER GOOD REASONS TO CHOOSE ADFA OVER TRADITIONAL UNIVERSITIES.

CAREER BENEFITS

- A world-class UNSW degree
- Sought-after qualifications with no HELP debt
- Graduates are guaranteed a career as an ADF Officer
- Skills and experience that set you up for life

FINANCIAL BENEFITS

- A salary as you study, starting from $52,773
- Uni fees fully funded by the ADF
- Subsidised food and accommodation
- Free medical and dental care
- 16.4% superannuation (4.4% over the Australian standard)

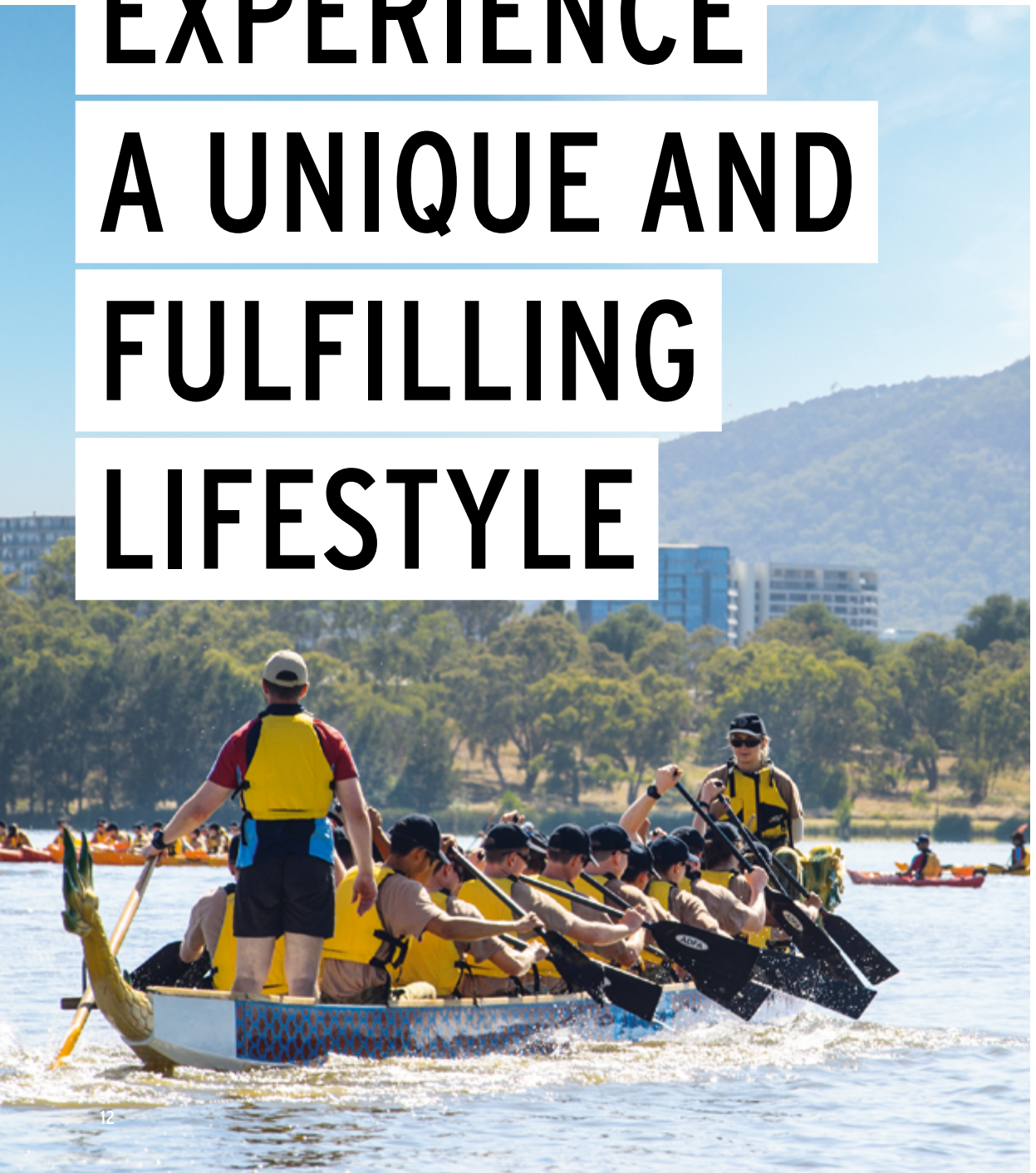
LIFESTYLE BENEFITS

- Free fitness and leisure facilities
- Variety of sports and extracurricular clubs
- Studies balanced with recreational opportunities
- Supportive team environment
- City, beach and snow nearby
- Funded travel for three trips home to family throughout the year

LEADERSHIP TRAINING

- Combined education, military and leadership training
- Build fundamental leadership skills
- Leadership coaching, tools and guidance
- Develop physical, mental and moral courage

EXPERIENCE A UNIQUE AND FULFILLING LIFESTYLE



WHILE MILITARY TRAINING AND ACADEMIC PURSUITS ARE THE FOCUS OF LIFE AT ADFA, THERE'S PLENTY OF TIME FOR SPORT, LEISURE AND SOCIALISING WITH YOUR NEW FRIENDS.

Rooms are comfortable and private, there are plenty of common areas to relax and unwind, with restaurants, museums and other local entertainment nearby. Above all, ADFA offers a secure and supportive environment for study and extracurricular activities.

SPORTS AND EXERCISE

ADFA has a state-of-the-art indoor sports centre housing a swimming pool, squash courts, a gymnasium and weights room. Sports played on campus include:

- Australian Rules Football
- Basketball
- Cricket
- CrossFit
- Cycling
- Hockey
- Mixed Martial Arts
- Netball
- Rowing
- Rugby Union
- Sailing
- Snow sports
- Soccer
- Squash
- Taekwondo
- Tennis
- Touch Football
- Triathlon
- Volleyball
- Water Polo

For more about what life's like for students:

'ADFA FAQS'

CAMPUS FACILITIES

You'll find everything you need for everyday life on the ADFA campus, including:

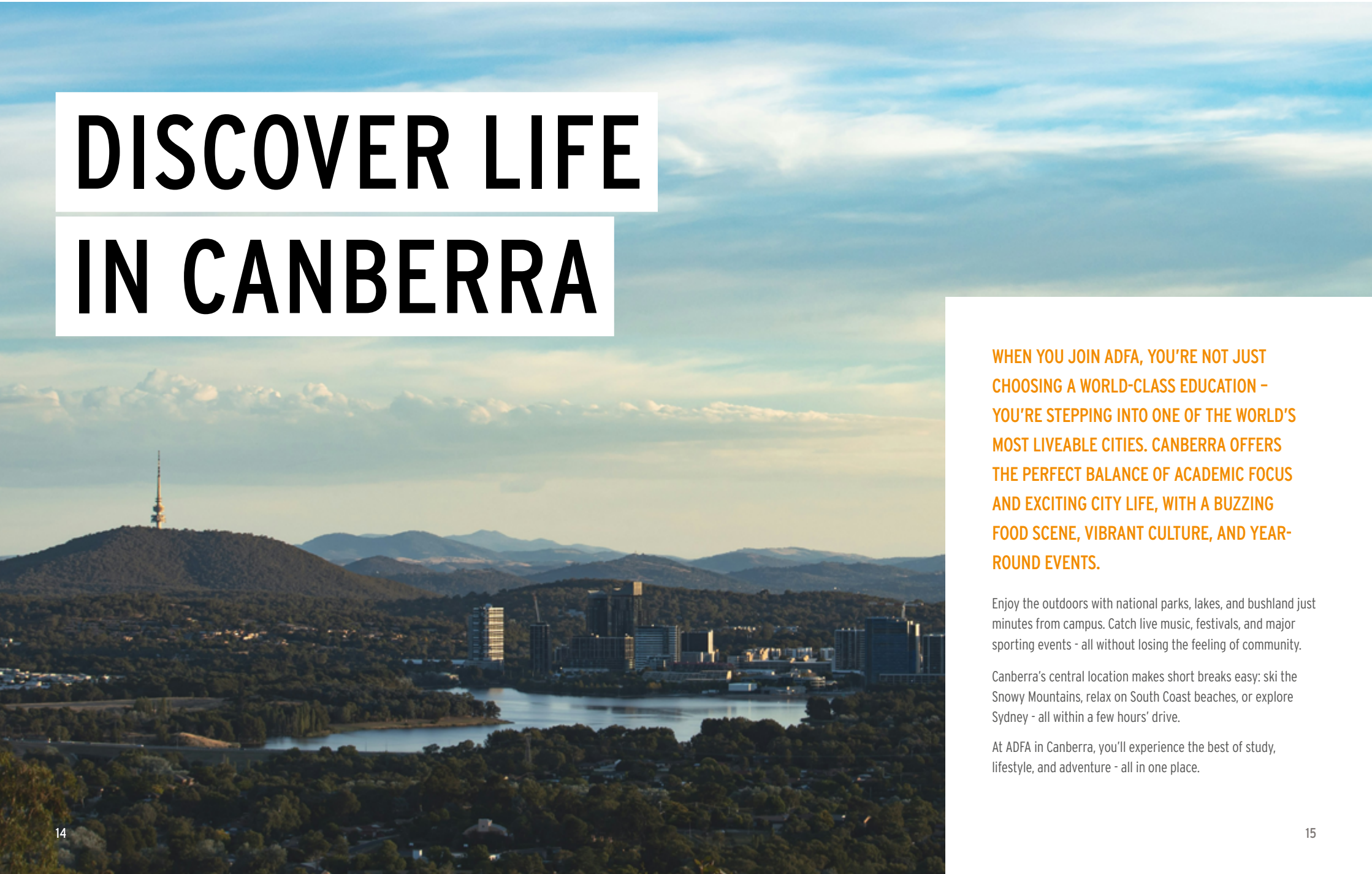
- Bank
- Cadets' mess
- Café
- Library
- Pool
- Public transport
- Fitness Facilities

OTHER ACTIVITIES

There are a broad range of activity options at ADFA, including:

- ADFA Band
- Aviation Appreciation
- Chess
- Committees for Academy events and social functions
- Cyber security
- Debating
- Jazz Band
- Military shooting
- Motor vehicle construction
- Performing arts
- 4-Wheel Driving

DISCOVER LIFE IN CANBERRA



WHEN YOU JOIN ADFA, YOU'RE NOT JUST CHOOSING A WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION – YOU'RE STEPPING INTO ONE OF THE WORLD'S MOST LIVEABLE CITIES. CANBERRA OFFERS THE PERFECT BALANCE OF ACADEMIC FOCUS AND EXCITING CITY LIFE, WITH A BUZZING FOOD SCENE, VIBRANT CULTURE, AND YEAR-ROUND EVENTS.

Enjoy the outdoors with national parks, lakes, and bushland just minutes from campus. Catch live music, festivals, and major sporting events - all without losing the feeling of community.

Canberra's central location makes short breaks easy: ski the Snowy Mountains, relax on South Coast beaches, or explore Sydney - all within a few hours' drive.

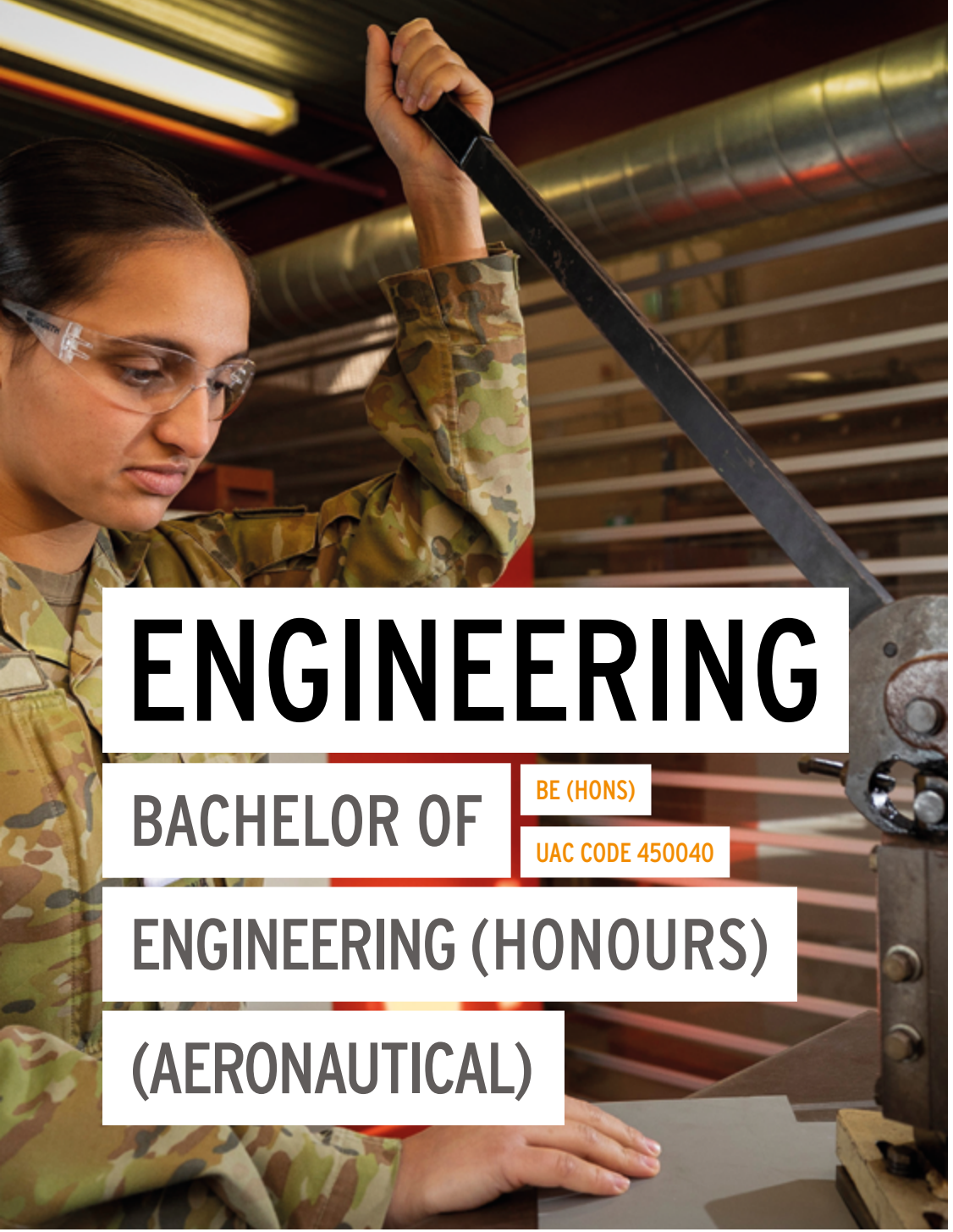
At ADFA in Canberra, you'll experience the best of study, lifestyle, and adventure - all in one place.


The friends you make here and the experiences you get are second to none.

CHOOSE A UNSW DEGREE

If you are unsure whether you meet all requirements of a degree, speak to ADF Careers about your options.

ADFA AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY | UNSW CANBERRA



ENGINEERING

BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS) (AERONAUTICAL)

BE (HONS)

UAC CODE 450040

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
85 MIN

DURATION

Four years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)
- Physics

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Aeronautical Engineering is the study of the design, development, manufacture, maintenance and control of vehicles operating in the Earth's atmosphere or in outer space. Such vehicles require the highest standards of engineering as they have to be very light relative to the loads they carry, and yet be strong and reliable as the consequences of failure are significant.

Aircraft are critical to the operations of the Navy, Army and Air Force, therefore Aeronautical Engineers are employed in all three Services.

Although the ADF does not design or build aircraft, as an ADF Engineer, you will have to ensure that aircraft are supplied and maintained to the highest standards, using the correct parts and materials installed with best-practice workmanship. At the same time, you will have to manage these activities with extreme efficiency as maintaining an air fleet during operations is time-critical. Our Aeronautical Engineers therefore need high-level project management skills as well as engineering expertise.

The Aeronautical Engineering program has been developed to meet the needs of the ADF and covers the design, reliability and maintenance of both fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

If you have ever dreamed of understanding things beyond our planet, this program provides the building blocks for a career pathway within the Space and Cyber domain.

AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING IN AN ADF CAREER

NAVY

Navy Aeronautical Engineering graduates are required for the maintenance and repair, modifications, operational deployments and airworthiness of advanced helicopters such as the MH-60R Seahawk.

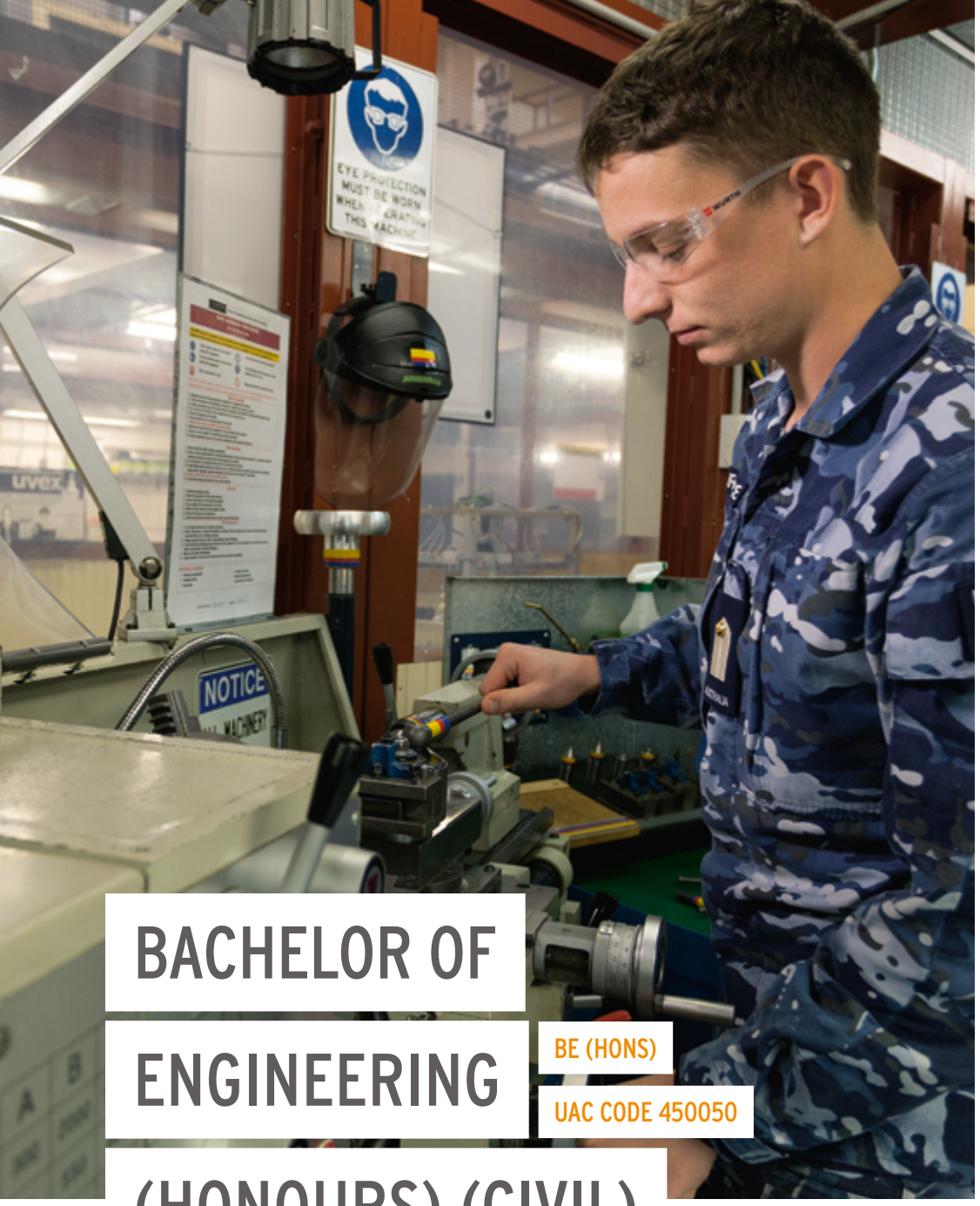
ARMY

Army Aeronautical Engineering graduates are most likely to be involved in the maintenance and repair of ARH Tiger, Chinook and Black Hawk helicopters or the Army's rapidly growing fleet of unmanned aerial vehicles.

AIR FORCE

Air Force Aeronautical Engineering graduates may be in involved in the operation and maintenance of combat aircraft or advanced weapons systems. Throughout a career as either an Aeronautical Engineer or an Armament Engineer, you may be responsible for the airworthiness and modification of aircraft or weapons and could be involved in the acquisition and introduction of new equipment in the Air Force.

Graduates may also manage and maintain advanced weapon systems deployed on fighter aircraft as an Armament Engineer.



BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS) (CIVIL)

BE (HONS)

UAC CODE 450050

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
85 MIN

DURATION

Four years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)
- Physics

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The Civil Engineering degree provides students with professional engineering design, construction and management skills. The ADF has become progressively more technologically based, and the education provided in a Civil Engineering degree is in even greater demand. Much of the work carried out by military civil engineers is comparable to that undertaken by their civilian counterparts. This includes the design and construction of facilities such as roads, bridges, airfields, buildings, water supply and waste treatment facilities, structures of all types, and the associated planning and management of projects.

CIVIL ENGINEERING IN AN ADF CAREER

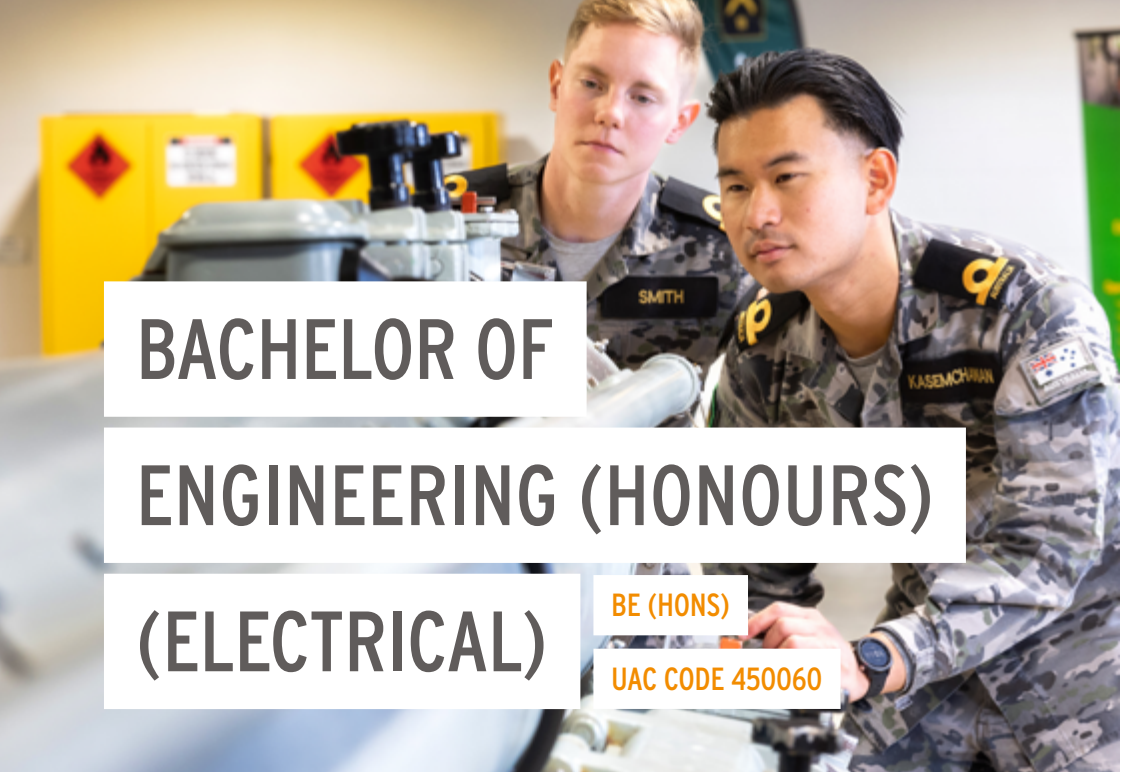
Graduates in Civil Engineering take responsibility for the design and construction of infrastructure, temporary runways and field engineering associated with ADF projects and military activities. Environmental management plays a major part in these projects, and you may also get involved with development and peacekeeping activities in the South Pacific and elsewhere in the world.

ARMY

Army graduates of Civil Engineering will go on to join the Royal Australian Engineers (RAE) corps as Engineering Officers. As an Engineering Officer, you'll lead and manage a team of soldiers who are responsible for supplying clean water, constructing accommodation, building airfields, restoring harbours, and improving defence against nuclear, biological and chemical attacks. As well as providing infrastructure within Australian borders, there are also opportunities for overseas deployment early in your career. Graduates may also specialise in other corps across the Army.

AIR FORCE

Air Force Airfield Engineers use their Civil Engineering degree and project management skills to work on Air Force infrastructure, aerodromes and a wide range of projects that provide critical support to Air Force and Defence operations. In this role, you have the opportunity to be deployed both in Australia and overseas to provide your vital engineering skills to enable Air Force's core capability.



BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS) (ELECTRICAL)

BE (HONS)

UAC CODE 450060

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
85 MIN

DURATION

Four years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)
- Physics

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Electrical Engineering program is built on a foundation of mathematics, computer science and physical science.

A small component of Electrical Engineering is introduced in the first year, with progressively larger components in the second and third years. The final year is devoted exclusively to Electrical Engineering courses.

In this final year, you'll have the option to specialise in areas such as communications, surveillance and radar, computer engineering, guided weapons electronics and space. You'll also undertake a major project supervised by a member of academic staff.

UNSW Canberra provides one of the best Electrical Engineering programs available and is supported by a well-equipped laboratory and excellent library facilities.

ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING IN AN ADF CAREER

NAVY

In conjunction with the technical sailors in your charge, as an Electronics Engineer or Electronics Engineer Submariner in the Navy, you will be responsible for looking after the weapons, communications and sensor systems on either ships or submarines.

These complex platforms will present you with many rewarding challenges, as will the demanding conditions in which you could work. Over time, there will be opportunities for a range of 'shore' postings, which could include working on projects to acquire new ships and submarines, or new naval systems to be fitted to Australia's existing ships and submarines.

ARMY

Army graduates of Electrical Engineering will go on to join as Mechatronic and Electrical Engineers or Avionics Engineers in the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) corps. You'll find yourself leading a number of technical soldiers responsible for the maintenance and support of any one of a number of systems as diverse as helicopters, ground-based telecommunications and radar systems, and weapon systems.
You may eventually find yourself employed as an engineering authority in the acquisition projects that keep the Army at the forefront of technology. Graduates may also become an Army Officer, with a range of specialisations and corps available.

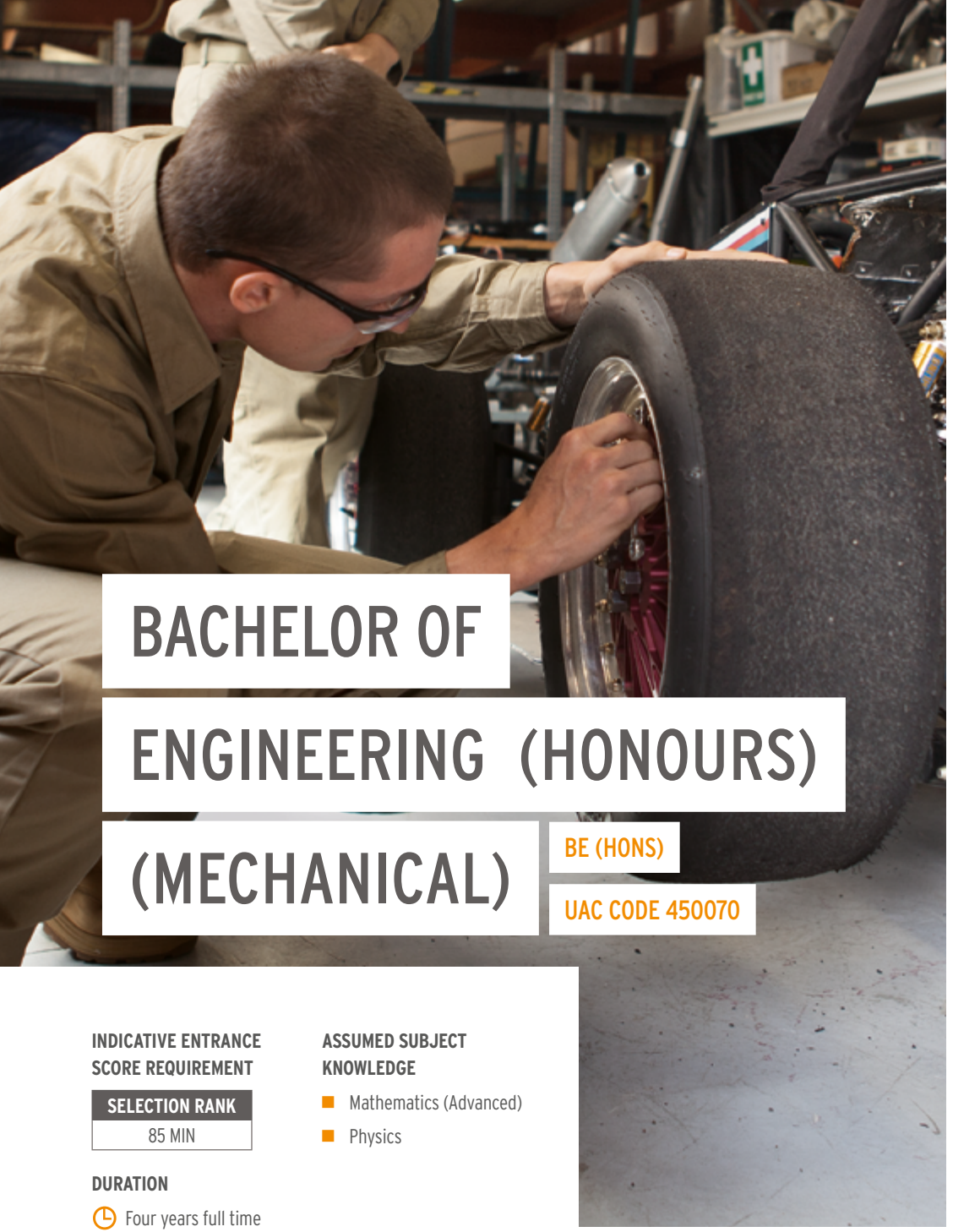
AIR FORCE

This degree is applicable for three engineering roles within Air Force: Electronics Engineer - Aviation, Electronics Engineer - Cyber Systems , and Armament Engineer.

An Electronics Engineer - Aviation is responsible for the avionic systems on an aircraft that allow it to fly. This includes power generation and distribution, radar, navigation, surveillance, and a range of systems, like electronic control, mission, communications, and electronic warfare systems.

An Electronics Engineer - Cyber Systems undertakes Information Technology and Network subject electives, and upon graduation may lead teams of Cyber Systems Specialists running IT departments. They could also ensure our communication, satellite and cyber networks are mission ready.

As an Armament Engineer, you'll manage and maintain the advanced weapon systems deployed on fighter aircraft, including missiles, bombs, torpedoes and mounted guns; and the computers that control them.



BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS) (MECHANICAL)

BE (HONS)

UAC CODE 450070

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
85 MIN

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)
- Physics

DURATION

Four years full time

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The Mechanical Engineering degree is built on a branch of Engineering that focuses on machines and the production of power, in particular, with forces and motion. A core task of a Mechanical Engineer is to devise new and better ways to extract mechanical power from heat and to use that power to perform a useful task.

Mechanical Engineers are required to understand a number of fields, such as: thermodynamics, mechanical systems dynamics, properties of solid materials, fluid dynamics, design and management.

MECHANICAL ENGINEERING IN AN ADF CAREER

All three Services employ Mechanical Engineers to maintain and repair an extremely diverse and sophisticated range of equipment, including land transport vehicles, ships, tanks, armoured personnel carriers and weapon systems. No other organisation in Australia has such a complex and challenging equipment inventory operating under such demanding conditions.

NAVY

You will undertake courses to enhance your professional development as a Mechanical Engineer or Mechanical Engineer Submariner. In these roles, you will be the technical authority on board the ship or submarine, responsible for the vessel's structures, propulsion systems, electrical generation and distribution, and domestic and associated mechanical services.

Your responsibilities will also include the main and auxiliary machinery, engines, automatic and remote control systems, hydraulics, air conditioning and refrigeration, ventilation systems and electrical power generation and conversion equipment.

ARMY

Army graduates of Mechanical Engineering will go on to join as Mechanical Engineer Officers in the Royal Australian Electrical and Mechanical Engineers (RAEME) corps. You will lead and manage a team of soldiers who are responsible for the management, repair and recovery service for all equipment operated by the Army. Your team of soldiers will repair and maintain equipment as diverse as tanks, trucks and armoured personnel carriers, radios, radars and computers, artillery guns and missile systems. You may eventually find yourself employed as an engineering authority in the acquisition projects that keep the Army at the forefront of technology. Graduates may also specialise in other corps across the Army.

AIR FORCE

This Mechanical Engineering degree is applicable for two engineering roles within Air Force: Aeronautical Engineer and Armament Engineer. As an Aeronautical Engineer, graduates (who have studied relevant aeronautical electives) may be involved in the operation, maintenance and acquisition of combat aircraft or advanced weapons systems. As an Armament Engineer, you'll manage and maintain the advanced weapon systems deployed on fighter aircraft, including missiles, bombs, torpedoes and mounted guns; and the computers that control them.

BACHELOR OF ENGINEERING (HONOURS) (NAVAL ARCHITECTURE)

BE (HONS)

UAC CODE 450300

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
85 MIN

DURATION

Four years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)
- Physics

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Naval Architecture Engineering focuses on the design, building and utilisation of all types of ships and marine vehicles. In taking responsibility for the overall design and integration of systems, Naval Architects must be conversant with a wide variety of skills, covering most forms of engineering. This is because a ship must be a self-sufficient vehicle capable of operating in challenging environmental conditions, while being able to withstand the loads from the sea and weather.

Building on a foundation in the engineering sciences and Mechanical Engineering, the third and fourth years of study in the Naval Architecture Engineering degree covers ship stability, ship hydrodynamics, ship resistance and propulsion, ship design, ship structures, seaworthiness, engineering management and engineering materials.

NAVAL ARCHITECTURE

ENGINEERING IN AN ADF CAREER

The Australian Naval Shipbuilding program will provide many roles for Naval Architects in design, construction and in the operation of the fleet as the nation builds its sovereign maritime capabilities.

The Bachelor of Naval Architecture Engineering degree is available to Navy or Army Officer Cadets. The degree is undertaken by Navy Midshipmen or Army Officer Cadets who intend to work as Mechanical Engineers or Mechanical Engineer Submariners, or as an Army Officer, in any specialisation or corps.

BACHELOR OF TECHNOLOGY (AERONAUTICAL ENGINEERING)

BTECH (AERO)

UAC CODE 450080

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
85 MIN

DURATION

Three years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)
- Physics

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Technology (Aeronautical Engineering) degree provides a solid and broad foundation in Engineering Technology, specifically developed to meet the needs of the ADF and accredited by Engineers Australia at the Engineering Technologist level.

At the discretion of the Services, there is potential for you to be considered to upgrade a Bachelor of Technology degree to a Bachelor of Engineering (Honours) through further study at ADFA.

AERONAUTICAL TECHNOLOGY IN AN ADF CAREER

The Bachelor of Technology (Aeronautical Engineering) is primarily undertaken by Air Force Officer Cadets who intend to work as aircrew and wish to enhance their understanding of the operation and performance of aircraft.

Additionally, this degree can provide the background and skills required for a career within the space and cyber domain.

The program is also available to Navy Midshipmen and Army Officer Cadets, and graduates are employed in many technical branches of the ADF.

Note: For all Pilots, the practical flying components are undertaken after graduating from ADFA.


To those thinking about a change of career in whatever form that is, never be afraid to step out of your comfort zone.

BACHELOR OF COMPUTING & CYBER SECURITY

BCOMPCYBSEC

UAC CODE 450030

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
80 MIN

DURATION

Three years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced)

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Computing and Cyber Security is built on solid computer science and mathematics fundamentals with a focus on both theoretical foundations and practical approaches to computation and its applications within security. In this program, you'll first apply these techniques to gaming and then later learn more about hardware, systems, networking and the internet, and how to secure such environments.

The design methods, tools and programming ability gained can be applied to many kinds of computer applications. In a final-year capstone team project, you will be able to select from a wide range of ADF and civilian application domains in which to develop these abilities in computing and cyber security. You will use state-of-the-art equipment in all your security and forensics courses.

The Bachelor of Computing and Cyber Security program will help you develop lifelong skills including creativity, problem-solving ability, critical thinking and communication skills, all of which are important not only in a cyber security, space or cyber war environment, but in all professions. It will prepare you to deal with technical issues in a computing environment, and help you develop intellectual and practical problem-solving skills through studies across a range of computing specialisations.

COMPUTING & CYBER SECURITY IN AN ADF CAREER

As a graduate of the Bachelor of Computing and Cyber Security degree, you will have an intellectual advantage for all relevant careers in the ADF, given the introduction of new capabilities, growth of the space and cyber domains, and the increased influence of the information environment on military operations. Most importantly, you will possess an excellent combination of technical knowledge and practical expertise for specific ADF careers that leverage advantage from Computing and Cyber Security. These include the following roles:

NAVY

- Aviation Warfare Officer
- Helicopter Pilot
- Human Resource Manager
- Hydrographic Officer
- Intelligence Officer
- Information Warfare Officer
- Logistics Officer
- Maritime Warfare Officer Submariner
- Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer
- Surface Warfare Officer

ARMY

All Army Officer roles are available to Computing and Cyber Security graduates, including Signals, Aviation and Intelligence.

AIR FORCE

- Air Intelligence Officer
- Cyber Warfare Officer
- Logistics Officer
- Mission
- Pilot

BACHELOR OF ARTS

BA

UAC CODE 450001

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
75 MIN

DURATION

Three years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- English

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

This Bachelor of Arts degree will enrich your understanding of the world and challenge you to think outside the box. The degree enhances your understanding of how human beings make and debate life's meaning and values. Whether you want to learn a new language, study international politics, or discover the past, a Bachelor of Arts will prepare you for a multifaceted career in a wide range of industries.

Bachelor of Arts Midshipmen and Officer Cadets must complete two majors from the following:

- Business
- Geography
- History
- Indo-Pacific Studies
- International and Political Studies

ARTS IN AN ADF CAREER

A Bachelor of Arts degree is flexible and will allow you to keep your options open by developing a capacity for critical analysis and argument, as well as an awareness of the value of language as a political, intellectual, creative and communicative tool.

This program gives you the analytical skills to be an effective leader and manager, and therefore can lead to a variety of Officer roles across Navy, Army or Air Force.

BACHELOR OF BUSINESS

BBUS

UAC CODE 450010

INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
80 MIN

DURATION

Three years full time

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

The Bachelor of Business is designed to enhance business acumen among future leaders and managers in the ADF, and provide you with the capacity to interact effectively with external business providers. It aims to lay solid foundations in communication, numeracy and general problem-solving capabilities.

The degree is built within a specifically business-oriented context of study, and will develop your knowledge in a diverse range of areas associated with organisational management and leadership. When taking this degree, you will become familiar with bodies of knowledge that will enhance your capacity to manage Defence business throughout your ADF career.

The diverse range of electives form discipline pathways in economics, accounting, management and human resources and will build a solid core of fundamental business knowledge. If you want qualifications and skills highly sought-after internationally by industry and government, the Bachelor of Business degree has you covered.

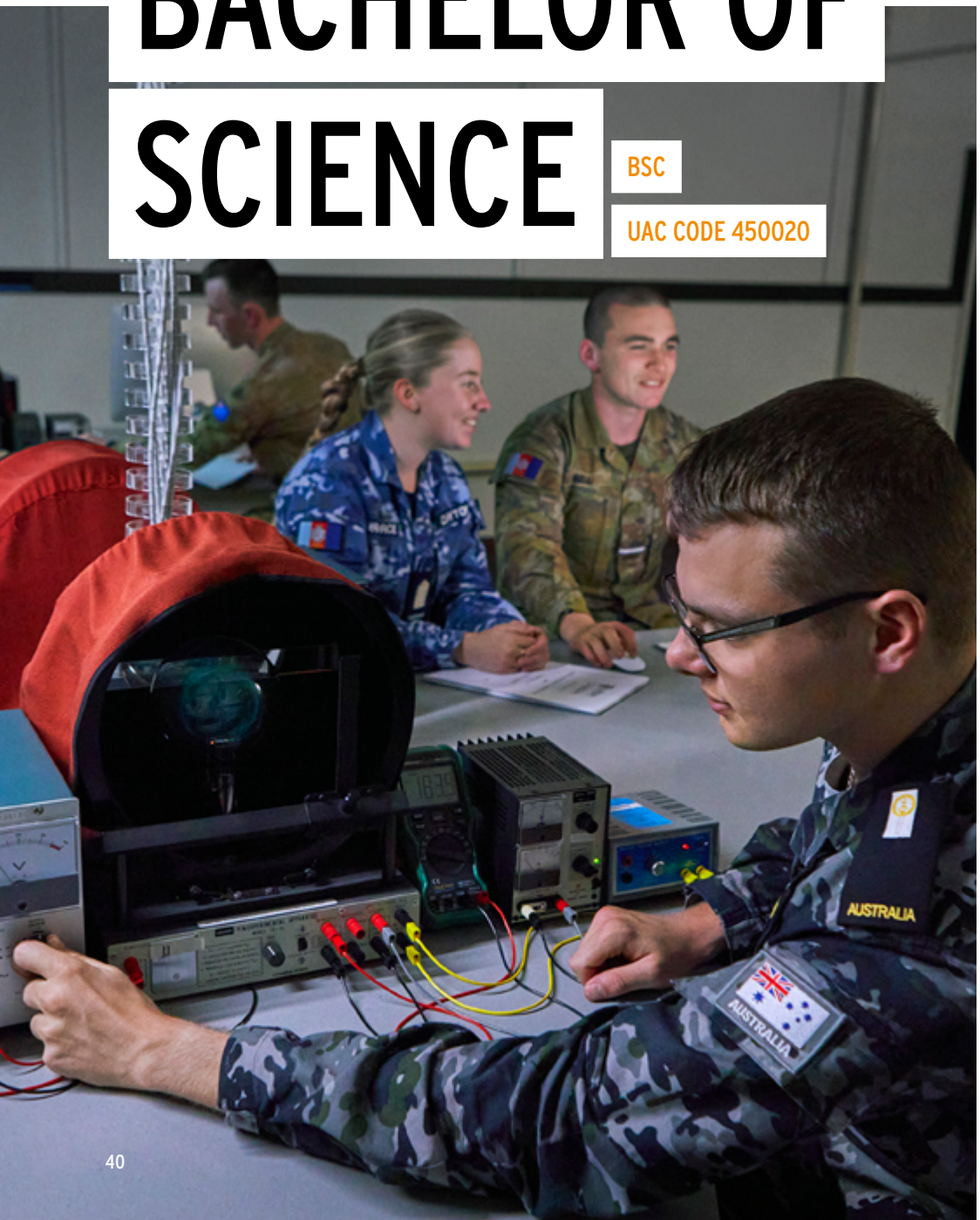
BUSINESS IN AN ADF CAREER

A Bachelor of Business positions you to work within the business processes of the ADF and to interact with external service providers. This is particularly valuable in leadership and management roles in the ADF in areas such as acquisitions and procurement, general administration, intelligence analysis, logistics, project management, workforce design and the management of people across all three Services.

BACHELOR OF SCIENCE

BSC

UAC CODE 450020



INDICATIVE ENTRANCE SCORE REQUIREMENT

SELECTION RANK
75 MIN

DURATION

Three years full time

ASSUMED SUBJECT KNOWLEDGE

- Mathematics (Advanced) (for Aviation, Chemistry, Mathematics, Oceanography and Physics majors)
- Physics (for Aviation, Oceanography and Physics majors)

SUBJECT OVERVIEW

Science is the understanding of the physical universe (from subatomic particles and microbes through to the planet's environment and the origin of the universe itself), and human interactions with it. Just as important is the scientific process by which this understanding is gained.

It is the foundation of the modern technologies that enhance the quality of lives and provide even more sophisticated means of applying the scientific process. In addition, science is crucial in the control of disease, biotechnology, new sustainable energy sources, information technology and the management of precious natural resources.

A Bachelor of Science degree will help you develop lifelong skills including creativity, problem-solving abilities, critical thinking and communication skills. Such expertise will be useful not only in a scientific environment, but in all professions including the military.

The ADF requires leaders who are prepared to deal with technical and management issues. This requires scientific knowledge, and the intellectual and practical problem-solving skills developed through studies in physical, environmental and mathematical sciences.

Should you excel in your Bachelor of Science degree, you may have the opportunity to undertake an Honours degree, which is an extra year of study. This is subject to the needs of the individual Services.

In the Bachelor of Science you will be required to complete a major and a minor from the following disciplines:

- Aviation
- Chemistry
- Computer Science
- Geography
- Mathematics
- Oceanography
- Physics

SCIENCE IN AN ADF CAREER

The Bachelor of Science degree will prepare graduates to deal with technical and management issues that often require scientific knowledge and the intellectual and practical problem-solving skills developed through studies in physical, environmental and mathematical sciences, and information technology.

Additionally, these skills, alongside personal motivation, provide you with a solid background for a pathway into the space and cyber domain within the ADF.


You get your degree paid for, have all the support you need, and build friendships for a lifetime.

EMBARK ON A RICH & REWARDING CAREER

An ADFA degree opens up an exciting range of opportunities in the Navy, Army and Air Force. From a career perspective, this world-class qualification will set you up for life.

Here you can explore the jobs each degree can lead to. For full details about each role visit the ADF Careers Website.

'<SERVICE> <JOB TITLE>'

DEGREE	ATAR	RECOMMENDED SUBJECTS	ADF CAREER OPTIONS		
			NAVY	ARMY	AIR FORCE
ENGINEERING					
Bachelor of Aeronautical Engineering (Honours)	85	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Aerospace Engineer Officer Nuclear Submarine Officer Intelligence Officer	Aviation Engineering Officer (Aeronautical) Avionics Engineer Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Aeronautical Engineer Armament Engineer Air Intelligence Officer
Bachelor of Civil Engineering (Honours)	85	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Nuclear Submarine Officer Intelligence Officer	Civil Engineer Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Airfield Engineer Air Intelligence Officer
Bachelor of Electrical Engineering (Honours)	85	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Electronics Engineer Electronics Engineer Submariner Nuclear Submarine Officer Intelligence Officer	Avionics Engineer Mechatronic & Electrical Engineer Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Armament Engineer Electronics Engineer - Aviation Electronics Engineer - Cyber Systems Air Intelligence Officer
Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering (Honours)	85	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Mechanical Engineer Mechanical Engineer Submariner Nuclear Submarine Officer Intelligence Officer Aerospace Engineer Officer	Mechanical Engineer Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps) Aviation Engineering Officer (Aeronautical)	Aeronautical Engineer Armament Engineer Air Intelligence Officer
Bachelor of Naval Architecture Engineering (Honours)	85	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Mechanical Engineer Mechanical Engineer Submariner Nuclear Submarine Officer Intelligence Officer	Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Air Intelligence Officer
Bachelor of Technology (Aeronautical Engineering)	85	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Aviation Warfare Officer Helicopter Pilot Nuclear Submarine Officer Intelligence Officer	Helicopter Pilot Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Mission Pilot Air Intelligence Officer

DEGREE	ATAR	RECOMMENDED SUBJECTS	ADF CAREER OPTIONS		
			NAVY	ARMY	AIR FORCE
COMPUTING AND CYBER SECURITY					
Bachelor of Computing & Cyber Security	80	Mathematics (Advanced)	Aviation Warfare Officer Helicopter Pilot Human Resource Manager Information Warfare Officer Intelligence Officer Maritime Warfare Officer Submariner Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer Nuclear Submarine Officer Surface Warfare Officer	Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Cyber Warfare Officer Personnel Officer Air Intelligence Officer Logistics Officer Mission Pilot
ARTS					
Bachelor of Arts	75	English	Aviation Warfare Officer Helicopter Pilot Human Resource Manager Intelligence Officer Maritime Warfare Officer Submariner Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer Nuclear Submarine Officer Surface Warfare Officer	Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Personnel Officer Air Intelligence Officer Logistics Officer Mission Pilot Security Forces Officer
BUSINESS					
Bachelor of Business	80	English	Aviation Warfare Officer Helicopter Pilot Human Resource Manager Intelligence Officer Maritime Warfare Officer Submariner Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer Nuclear Submarine Officer Surface Warfare Officer	Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Personnel Officer Air Intelligence Officer Logistics Officer Mission Pilot Security Forces Officer
SCIENCE					
Bachelor of Science	75	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics	Aviation Warfare Officer Helicopter Pilot Human Resource Manager Hydrographic Officer Intelligence Officer Maritime Warfare Officer Submariner Meteorological and Oceanographic Officer Mine Warfare and Clearance Diving Officer Nuclear Submarine Officer Surface Warfare Officer	Army Officer (in any specialisation or corps)	Personnel Officer Air Intelligence Officer Logistics Officer Mission Pilot Security Forces Officer

DEGREE	ATAR	RECOMMENDED SUBJECTS
CHIEF OF DEFENCE FORCE STUDENTS PROGRAM		
Bachelor of Arts	95	English
Bachelor of Business	95	English
Bachelor of Computing & Cyber Security	98	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics
Bachelor of Engineering (all specifications)	98	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics
Bachelor of Science	95	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics
Bachelor of Technology (Aeronautical Engineering)	98	Mathematics (Advanced) and Physics

SPECIAL PROGRAMS AND AWARDS

CHIEF OF DEFENCE FORCE STUDENTS PROGRAM

THE PROGRAM FOR ACADEMICALLY GIFTED STUDENTS

UNSW Canberra offers an exciting range of enhanced undergraduate degree options to high performers in Arts, Business, Computing, Engineering, Science, and Technology.

The Chief of the Defence Force Students Program (CDFSP) provides academically gifted Midshipmen and Officer Cadets with a rich and challenging educational experience that will develop their critical thinking and research skills.

If you are eligible for the CDFSP, you will undertake individual research projects working closely with academic staff on projects from their area of interest. Upon completion of your degree, you will receive a special award that reflects your involvement in this prestigious program.

CDFSPs are offered across all five schools at ADFA and provide an exceptional opportunity for gifted students to reach their full academic potential.

ENTRY AND PROGRESSION REQUIREMENTS

You will be invited to join the CDFSP program if you have achieved the following entrance scores. Please note that HSC Plus bonus points cannot be used for entry into this program.

Bachelor of Arts	ATAR 95
Bachelor of Business	ATAR 95
Bachelor of Computing and Cyber Security	ATAR 98
Bachelor of Engineering (all specifications)	ATAR 98
Bachelor of Science	ATAR 95
Bachelor of Technology (Aeronautical)	ATAR 98

If you do not initially obtain a high enough entrance score for admission into the CDFSP, yet achieve outstanding academic results during your first year of study at ADFA, you may apply to transfer from a standard degree to the program in the middle of Year 1 or at the start of Year 2.

All students enrolling in the CDFSP are expected to maintain a high level of academic and military performance in order to remain in the program. If you do not maintain the required level of performance (which varies across the degree programs), you will be transferred to the standard degree program offered at ADFA with credit for all courses completed.

ADJUSTMENT FACTORS (BONUS POINTS)

UNSW has three schemes that allow bonus points to be added to your Australian Tertiary entrance rank (ATAR). This adjusted score is then used to assess your eligibility.

A maximum total of 10 bonus points is available to applicants who apply for a UNSW Canberra course at ADFA.

HSC PLUS

This is a national scheme for Year 12 students that recognises the strong correlation between subject performance and preparation for, and success in, first year university studies. If you have done well in relevant Year 12 subjects you may qualify for up to 5 bonus points.

To find out about eligibility and how points are awarded:

'UNSW HSC PLUS'

ELITE ATHLETES AND PERFORMERS

This scheme recognises high school leavers who have excelled in areas of sport, academia, performance, leadership, and/or music at a national and/or international level during years 11 and/or 12. If you are a classic 'all-rounder' you may qualify for up to 5 bonus points.

Applications must be made to UNSW before 30 November. To find out about eligibility and how to apply:

'UNSW ELITE ATHLETES AND PERFORMERS'

EDUCATIONAL ACCESS SCHEME

Part of UNSW's commitment to equal opportunity and affirmative action in education, this scheme provides an alternative method of entry to higher education if you have experienced a long-term educational disadvantage. Eligible students may qualify for up to 10 bonus points.

Applications must be made through UAC. To find out about eligibility and how to apply:

'UAC EDUCATIONAL ACCESS SCHEME'


We've got footy fields, basketball courts, a swimming pool and even a rock climbing wall.
A SQN

AT ADFA YOU NOT ONLY STUDY FOR A TERTIARY DEGREE, BUT YOU ALSO UNDERTAKE TWO TYPES OF MILITARY TRAINING TO DEVELOP THE FUNDAMENTAL KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND ATTRIBUTES REQUIRED TO BECOME A LEADER IN THE NAVY, ARMY OR AIR FORCE:

1. Joint Military Education and Training (JMET)
2. Single Service Training (SST)

1 JOINT MILITARY EDUCATION AND TRAINING (JMET)

Military training at ADFA is uniquely blended with your tertiary education in a joint environment.

This blend comes in the form of Joint Military Education and Training, which provides structured learning across key domains such as leadership, technology, communication, military skills and ethical decision-making.

JMET ensures a consistent standard of education and development across the services, supporting transition from civilian to professional military life.

As part of JMET, you'll receive training in:

- Character, leadership and ethics
- Drill and ceremonial
- Field craft
- Joint warfare
- National security, policy and strategy
- Physical training
- Technology and capability
- Weapons training

GAIN MILITARY & LEADERSHIP SKILLS

2 SINGLE SERVICE TRAINING (SST)

During your academic semester breaks, you will conduct work experience and training within your chosen service and area of employment.

NAVY

SST in the Navy uses the knowledge you've acquired in your first year to provide degree-related professional work experience and further your skills in your chosen specialisation.

- Navy culture and traditions
- Seamanship and mariner skills
- Teamwork and leadership

ARMY

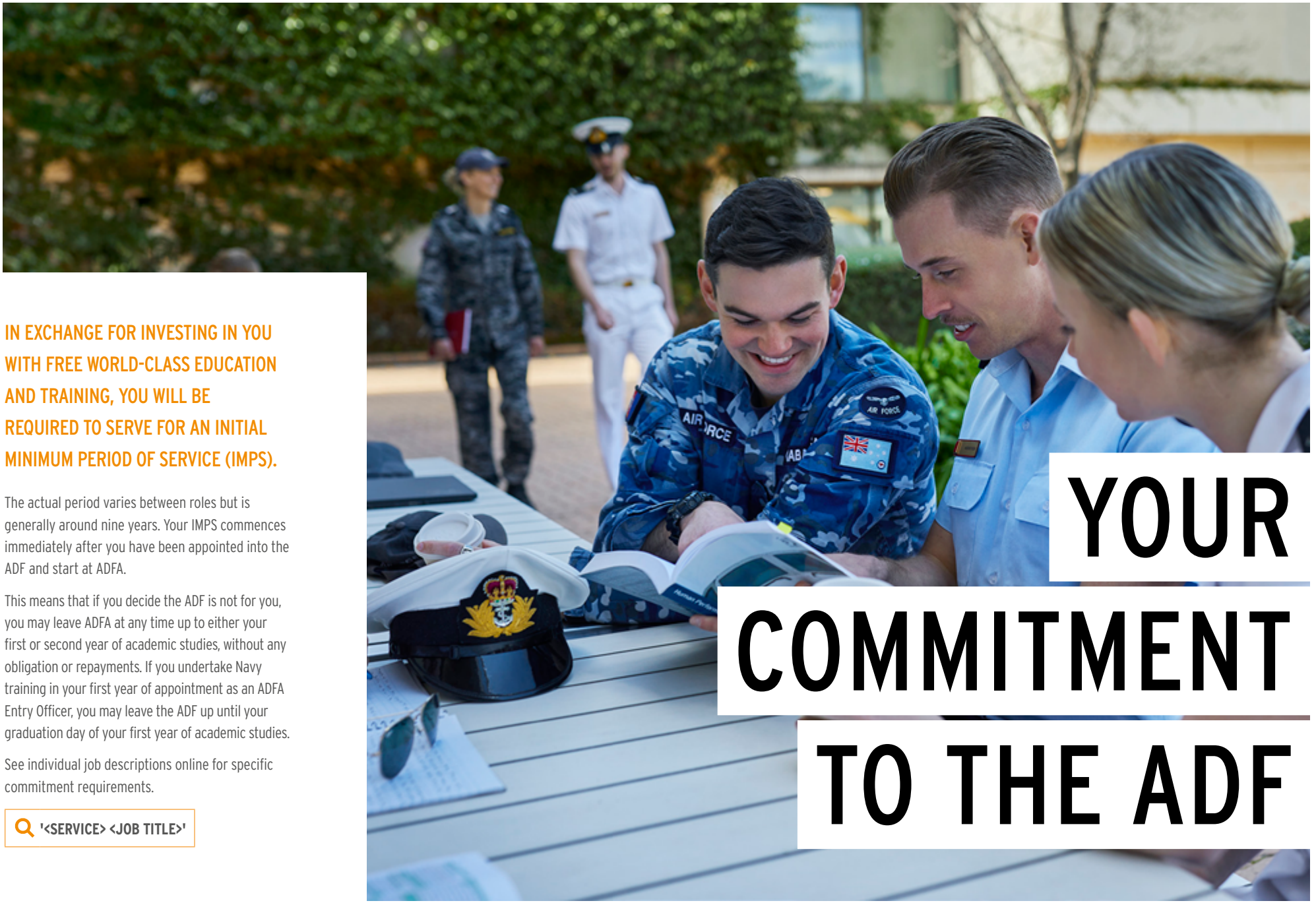
Army SST allows you to experience life in the Army and gain core leadership, technical and field skills for when you're right in the action – like getting qualified for machine guns, grenade launchers, anti-tank weapons and more.

- Weapons training
- Leadership training
- Combat fitness
- Field craft
- Teamwork and leadership
- Radio communications
- Work experience

AIR FORCE

Completing your SST in the Air Force gives you the opportunity to experience life in this service up close.

- Adventure training
- Air Force customs and traditions
- Airpower knowledge
- Communications
- Drill and ceremonial
- Teamwork and leadership
- Military justice
- Weapons training



YOUR COMMITMENT TO THE ADF

IN EXCHANGE FOR INVESTING IN YOU WITH FREE WORLD-CLASS EDUCATION AND TRAINING, YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO SERVE FOR AN INITIAL MINIMUM PERIOD OF SERVICE (IMPS).

The actual period varies between roles but is generally around nine years. Your IMPS commences immediately after you have been appointed into the ADF and start at ADFA.

This means that if you decide the ADF is not for you, you may leave ADFA at any time up to either your first or second year of academic studies, without any obligation or repayments. If you undertake Navy training in your first year of appointment as an ADFA Entry Officer, you may leave the ADF up until your graduation day of your first year of academic studies.

See individual job descriptions online for specific commitment requirements.

'<SERVICE> <JOB TITLE>'

ELIGIBILITY CHECK

EDUCATION

COMPLETION OF YEAR 12

PASSES THAT MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF YOUR CHOSEN ADF ROLE AND UNSW DEGREE

16+ AGE

AT LEAST 16 WHEN APPLYING AND 17 ON ENTRY

FITNESS

AS PART OF YOUR PRE-ENTRY FITNESS ASSESSMENT (PFA), YOU MAY NEED TO COMPLETE A NUMBER OF SPECIFIC EXERCISES TO A CERTAIN STANDARD

The fitness requirements vary across Navy, Army and Air Force and depend on the role you're applying for. To find out which exercises and standards are relevant to you, visit the Health & Fitness page on **adfcareers.gov.au**

NATIONALITY

AN AUSTRALIAN CITIZEN, OR AN AUSTRALIAN PERMANENT RESIDENT WHO IS ELIGIBLE TO APPLY FOR CITIZENSHIP

HOW TO APPLY

APPLYING FOR ADFA IS A COMPETITIVE, DUAL APPLICATION PROCESS.

You will be applying for an Officer role in the Navy, Army or Air Force, as well as a UNSW degree program; so you will need to submit separate applications that meet the entry requirements of both elements.

The process can take up to 12 months. Therefore it's preferable you apply in Year 11, but you may still apply in Year 12.

THE DUAL APPLICATION PROCESS

ADF PROCESS

- CHOOSE AND APPLY FOR YOUR ROLE AT ADFCAREERS.GOV.AU, CALL A RECRUITER OR VISIT YOUR LOCAL ADF CAREERS CENTRE
- ATTEND A YOUR OPPORTUNITIES UNLIMITED (YOU) SESSION (PREFERABLY IN YEAR 11 OR EARLY 12)
- ATTEND AN ASSESSMENT DAY WITH A PSYCHOLOGICAL INTERVIEW, MEDICAL ASSESSMENT AND ADF INTERVIEW
- ATTEND AN OFFICER SELECTION BOARD
- RECEIVE OFFER FROM THE ADF
- ACCEPT ADF OFFER (SUBJECT TO PASSING PRE-ENTRY FITNESS ASSESSMENT AND FINAL MEDICAL)

UNSW PROCESS

- VIEW UNSW CANBERRA DEGREE OPTIONS AND APPLICATION PROCESS AT UNSW.EDU.AU/CANBERRA
- DECIDE WHICH DEGREE TO APPLY FOR BASED ON YOUR CAREER CHOICE
- APPLY FOR UNSW CANBERRA-ADFA THROUGH THE UNIVERSITIES ADMISSIONS CENTRE (UAC) UAC.EDU.AU

  (Opens in August in the year prior to the year of entry)
- ACCEPT UNIVERSITIES ADMISSIONS CENTRE OFFER

NEXT STOP CANBERRA, WELCOME TO ADFA!

ADFA OPEN DAY

EVERY AUGUST WE HOLD OUR ANNUAL ADFA OPEN DAY IN CANBERRA. JOIN US AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO EXPERIENCE A FIRSTHAND LOOK AT LIFE ON CAMPUS THROUGH GUIDED TOURS WITH CURRENT ADFA STUDENTS, AND YOU'LL BE ABLE TO ATTEND DEDICATED INFORMATION SESSIONS ON ALL OF UNSW'S WORLD-CLASS DEGREES ON OFFER.

You'll also hear about what it's like to live on campus and be a part of our military training, as well as experiencing demonstrations from Navy, Army and Air Force personnel.

If you can't make it in-person, you can also attend the ADFA Virtual Open Day by visiting the ADF Careers website.

Fill out an expression of interest to stay up to date on all things ADFA Open Day at adfcareers.gov.au


I love it
mainly because
you meet
experiences
to bits,
of the people
and the
you have.

TAKE THE NEXT STEP

FIND OUT MORE ONLINE

Learn more about the roles, lifestyle, opportunities and rewards on the ADF Careers website. You'll find the answers to frequently asked questions there too. **adfcareers.gov.au**

VISIT AN ADF CAREERS CENTRE

ADF Careers Centres are located across Australia. Find your nearest here: **adfcareers.gov.au/help/contact-us**

CHAT WITH A RECRUITER

Call **13 19 01**

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- ADF Careers
- @ADF Careers

CONNECT WITH ADFA

- Australian Defence Force Academy
- ADFAcademy

SEE YOU AT ADFA

ADFA
AUSTRALIAN DEFENCE FORCE ACADEMY

UNSW
CANBERRA

ADF CAREERS

JULY 2025