

[Curtin Logo Placeholder]

[CURTIN UNIVERSITY — BENTLEY CAMPUS IMAGE]

[Replace with official Curtin campus photography]

The Complete Curtin University Student Guide

Assignment & Academic Success 2026

Your guide to assignments, referencing, grading, student support, campus life, and academic success at Curtin.

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For undergraduate, postgraduate, and international students

Updated 2026 | Australian English

#168 QS World

Est. 1967

58,000+
Students

Global
Campuses

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1. About Curtin University

QUICK
ANSWER

Curtin University is a public Australian university established in 1967 and headquartered in Bentley, Perth, Western Australia. It enrolls approximately 58,000 students across campuses in Perth, regional WA, and internationally in Singapore, Dubai, and Malaysia. It ranks #168 globally (QS 2025) and is Australia's largest university by enrolment in Western Australia.

History and Character

Curtin traces its origins to the Western Australian Institute of Technology (WAIT), established in 1967 to meet the growing demand for technical and professional education in Western Australia's expanding resource economy. It became a university in 1987 and was named after John Curtin, Australia's wartime Prime Minister from 1941 to 1945 — a figure whose legacy of pragmatic leadership and commitment to the working population reflects the institution's founding character.

What distinguishes Curtin from other Australian universities is its genuine global footprint. Beyond Bentley, Curtin operates full degree-granting campuses in Singapore (Curtin Singapore), Dubai (Curtin Dubai), and Malaysia (Curtin University Malaysia in Miri and Sarawak). This makes it one of a small number of Australian universities with genuinely operational international campuses rather than just overseas partnerships.

Curtin's discipline strengths are closely tied to Western Australia's economic base — mining engineering, resources engineering, petroleum engineering, and environmental geoscience are among the strongest programs in Australia and internationally recognised. The Curtin Business School, Curtin Medical School, and the disciplines of pharmacy, health sciences, and creative arts are also highly regarded.

The Bentley campus is one of the largest university campuses in Australia by land area — a purpose-built, self-contained environment on Perth's eastern fringe that includes residential colleges, commercial precincts, a sports stadium, performing arts venue, and the full range of academic and research infrastructure. It functions as a small city within a city.

Global Rankings and Strengths

Ranking System	2025 Position	Key Strengths
QS World University Rankings	#168	Mineral & Mining Engineering (#2 globally), Petroleum Engineering, Pharmacy
Times Higher Education (THE)	Top 400	Research output, industry income, international diversity
QS Subject — Mining Engineering	#2 globally	One of the world's top mining and resources engineering programs
QS Graduate Employability	Top 300	Employer reputation, work-integrated learning outcomes
Good Universities Guide	5 Stars — Overall	Consistently high ratings across teaching quality and student support

Detail	Information
University Name	Curtin University
Location (Main Campus)	Bentley, Perth, Western Australia 6102
Founded	1967 (as WAIT); university status 1987

Detail	Information
QS World Rank 2025	#168
Total Students	~58,000
International Students	~22,000+
Official Website	curtin.edu.au
Student Portal	oasis (oasis.curtin.edu.au)
LMS	Blackboard (blackboard.curtin.edu.au)
Main Library	Curtin Library, Bentley campus
Student Email	@postgrad.curtin.edu.au / @student.curtin.edu.au
Academic Year	Semester-based (S1 + S2 + Summer)
International Campuses	Singapore · Dubai · Malaysia (Miri + Sarawak)

2. Campus Guide

■■ [CAMPUS MAP PLACEHOLDER — Curtin Bentley campus with key buildings labelled]

Campus	Location	Primary Use	Key Facilities
Bentley (Main)	Bentley, Perth inner east	All Faculties — primary undergraduate and postgraduate	Curtin Library, Hive Equated Precinct, Oval stadium, Performing Arts precinct
Perth CBD (City Campus)	140 St Georges Terrace, Perth CBD	Perth CBD Business, selected Curtin Business School	Perth CBD facilities, corporate meeting spaces
Kalgoorlie (WA School of Mines)	Kalgoorlie, WA Goldfields	Mining, Metallurgy, Geoscience	Underground simulation, WA School of Mines facilities, mining engineering
Margaret River	Margaret River, South West WA	Wine, Enology, Tourism and Hospitality	Wine facilities, wine production lab, hospitality training
Curtin Singapore	Onstad Road, Singapore	Business, Engineering, Science	Mass Communication programs — Singapore regulatory environment
Curtin Dubai	Academic City, Dubai, UAE	Business, Media, Engineering	Full degree programs — UAE Ministry of Education approved
Curtin Malaysia	Miri, Sarawak, Malaysia	Engineering, Business, Science	Creative Arts international campus

Bentley Campus Highlights

- Curtin Library — research collections, group study rooms, silent zones, 24/7 exam access, 3D printing, AV equipment loans
- HIVE (Highly Immersive Visualisation Environment) — one of Australia's most advanced data visualisation and collaborative research facilities
- Student Central — centralised administrative services: enrolment, fees, ID cards, academic requests
- Guild precinct — student union services, food outlets, events, clubs, student media
- Health and Wellness Centre — GP, mental health, physiotherapy, dental, optometry — on campus
- Recreation Centre — gym, group fitness, aquatic centre, indoor sports courts, outdoor ovals
- Performing Arts precinct — theatre, music practice rooms, design studios
- Curtin Connect — industry partnerships, employer engagement, career services hub

BENTLEY CAMPUS SIZE	Curtin's Bentley campus covers approximately 165 hectares — one of the largest in Australia. Free shuttle buses (CurtinBus) run regular loops around the campus. Download the Curtin Campus Maps app for building navigation. The campus has its own postcode (6102) and functions as a self-contained precinct with accommodation, retail, sport, healthcare, and cultural facilities.
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3. Faculties and Schools

Curtin organises its academic programs across five Faculties. Each Faculty has its own assessment conventions, referencing requirements, and student support contacts. Knowing your Faculty matters for more than navigation.

Faculty	Key Schools / Disciplines	Referencing	Common Assessments
Curtin Business School (CBS)	Accounting, Finance, Marketing, Management, Human Resources	Harvard/APA/7th Edition	Casestudies, Business Propoys, reflective journals,
Engineering and Physical Sciences	Civil, Mechanical, Mining, Petroleum, Chemical, Electrical, Physics	IEEE/APA/7th Edition	Physics Space Science, WA, Technical reports, capst
Health Sciences	Nursing, Pharmacy, Occupational Therapy, Physiotherapy, Medical Radiation, Clinical	APA/7th Edition	Capre perty, Nutritive, Public Health
Humanities	Architecture, Built Environment, Creative Arts, Design, Law, Education, Social Sciences	APA/7th Edition	Essays, Reports, Media, Social Sciences, Legal Education, Res
Science and Engineering (Mathematics)	Mathematics, Statistics, Computer Science, Cyber Security, Data Science	APA/7th Edition	Essays, Reports, Media, Social Sciences, Legal Education, Res

WASM NOTE

The WA School of Mines (WASM) at Kalgoorlie is internationally ranked #2 globally for Mining Engineering (QS 2025). If you are enrolled in a WASM program, you will spend part of your degree in Kalgoorlie. WASM has its own student services, accommodation, and industry placement network — make contact with WASM Student Services in Semester 1.

4. Academic Calendar 2026

Curtin operates on a two-semester system. Always confirm exact dates at curtin.edu.au/students/academic-calendar — dates shift slightly year to year.

Period	Approx. Dates 2026	Key Actions
Semester 1 Teaching	Late February – Late May	Enrol, attend orientation (O-Day), note Census Date
S1 Census Date	~4 weeks into Semester 1	Last day to withdraw without academic or financial penalty
S1 Study Week	1 week before exams	No new teaching — revision and consultation
S1 Examination Period	Early–Late June	Check exam timetable via oasis 3–4 weeks prior
Mid-Year Break	July	Results released; Semester 2 enrolment opens
Semester 2 Teaching	Late July – Late October	Mid-semester assessment; assignment deadlines
S2 Census Date	~4 weeks into Semester 2	Same rules as S1 Census Date
S2 Examination Period	Early–Late November	All Semester 2 examinations
Summer Semester	Late November – February	Selected units only; intensive delivery format
Graduation	April and December	Faculty-specific ceremonies; apply via oasis

CENSUS DATE

The Census Date falls approximately four weeks into each semester. Before it, you can withdraw from a unit without academic penalty or financial liability. After it, withdrawal results in a Withdrawn Fail (WF) on your transcript and full financial liability. Set a calendar reminder before each semester begins.

5. Student Portals and Digital Systems

System	URL	What It Does
oasis (Student Portal)	oasis.curtin.edu.au	Central admin hub: enrolment, timetable, results, fees, exam registration, graduation
Blackboard (LMS)	blackboard.curtin.edu.au	Unit content, lecture recordings, assignment submission, grades, announcements
Curtin Library	library.curtin.edu.au	Database access, e-books, referencing guides, room bookings, research skills w
Student Email	@student.curtin.edu.au (undergrad) or @postgrad.curtin.edu.au (postgrad)	Official communications. Check daily. Critical for exam notices, results, and adm
Turnitin	Via Blackboard submission portals	Plagiarism detection and similarity reports for most written assessments
Curtin IT Help	help.curtin.edu.au	Password resets, software access, VPN, hardware support, remote learning tool
WiFi (Eduroam)	Campus-wide	Login with Curtin credentials. Works at partner universities globally — useful if vi
Class Timetable	timetable.curtin.edu.au	Build class schedule, resolve clashes, find room locations on Bentley campus
Curtin Connect	connect.curtin.edu.au	Career services, employer connections, job board, internship listings, alumni net

OASIS TIP

oasis is your single most important digital tool at Curtin. Everything administrative — enrolment, results, fees, exam registration, ID card, academic requests — is managed there. Log in and familiarise yourself with the interface in O-Week, before anything is urgent. Download the Curtin app for mobile oasis access and campus navigation.

6. Assignment Types Explained

Curtin assessments range from traditional academic essays to industry-partnered real-world briefs — particularly in Engineering (industry co-op reports), Business (consulting projects), and Health (clinical placement documentation). Understanding the purpose and conventions of each type before you start writing is essential.

Type	Length	Purpose	Key Conventions
Academic Essay	1,000–4,000w	Argue a position with evidence	Thesis, PEEL paragraphs, APA/Harvard/Chicago, formal register
Business Report	1,500–4,000w	Present analysis and recommend a course of action	Executive summary, numbered sections, headings, evidence, recommendations
Technical Report	1,500–5,000w	Document engineering/science findings	Specifications, diagrams, results, discussion — IEEE format
Lab Report	800–2,500w	Document and interpret experimental findings	Hypothesis, methods, results, discussion — APA or IEEE
Case Study	1,500–3,500w	Apply theory to a real scenario	Framework, evidence synthesis, conclusions with implications
Literature Review	1,500–4,000w	Survey and synthesise existing research	Thematic — not source-by-source; identify gaps and debates
Reflective Journal	500–2,000w	Analyse personal or professional practice	First person, reflective model (Gibbs/Kolb), honest evaluation
Research Proposal	1,500–3,000w	Justify a research project	Research question, rationale, methodology, timeline, ethics
Design Portfolio	Varies	Document design process and outcomes	Visual documentation, design rationale, iterative decisions
Problem Question (Law)	500–3,000w	Apply legal rules to a factual scenario	IRAC: Issue, Rule, Application, Conclusion — AGLC 4 footnotes
Capstone / Industry Project	Varies	Integrate full program learning with real-world problem	Balance presentation, artefact — often industry-assessed
Co-op Work Report	Varies	Document learning during industry placement	Structured reflection on applied skills — Engineering programs
Thesis (Honours/PG)	15,000–50,000w	Original research contribution	Full research process; supervised over one to two years

ENGINEERING CO-OP

Curtin's Engineering programs offer a co-operative education stream where students alternate between semesters of study and semesters of paid industry placement. Co-op work reports are formally assessed and count toward your degree. They require the same academic rigour as campus-based assignments — structured reflection, citations where relevant, professional presentation.

7. Grading System and WAM

Curtin uses the standard Australian university grading system. Your WAM (Weighted Average Mark) is the primary academic performance measure at Curtin — used for Honours entry, scholarships, and graduate program applications. Curtin does not use a GPA scale; WAM is the main number on your transcript.

Grade	Mark %	Descriptor	What It Means
HD — High Distinction	80–100%	Outstanding	Exceptional work exceeding all criteria. Strong Honours and scholarship eligibility.
D — Distinction	70–79%	Excellent	Exceeds most criteria. Strong scholarly and analytical work.
CR — Credit	60–69%	Good	Meets all criteria well. Solid work above the minimum pass standard.
P — Pass	50–59%	Satisfactory	Meets minimum requirements. Unit passed.
F — Fail	0–49%	Unsatisfactory	Did not meet requirements. Re-enrolment required.
W — Withdrawn	—	No penalty	Withdrew before Census Date. Not recorded; no financial liability.
WF — Withdrawn Fail	—	Recorded	Withdrew after Census Date. WF on transcript; financially liable.
S/US — Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory	—	Pass/fail only	Does not affect WAM. Used in placements and some research units.

Understanding Your WAM at Curtin

Your WAM (Weighted Average Mark) is calculated as the sum of (mark × credit points for each unit) divided by total credit points attempted. Units graded Satisfactory/Unsatisfactory are excluded. Curtin's HD threshold is 80% — the same as Deakin and RMIT, and lower than USyd and UQ (85%). A mark of 75% at Curtin earns a Distinction, not a Credit.

WAM Range	Equivalent Band	Common Implications
80+	HD average	Scholarship eligibility, Dean's List, strong Honours candidacy, PhD pathway
70–79	Distinction average	Honours entry (most Faculties), competitive scholarships, graduate programs
60–69	Credit average	Most graduate programs; exchange eligibility
50–59	Pass average	Graduated. May limit Honours and some graduate entry.

WAM VS GPA

Curtin uses WAM, not GPA, as its primary academic measure. This differs from QUT and UQ (7-point GPA), Deakin and RMIT (4.0 GPA), and is similar to USyd (WAM-based). When applying for graduate programs or scholarships that request a GPA, check whether they accept WAM as equivalent — most Australian graduate programs do.

8. Referencing at Curtin

Curtin does not mandate a single referencing style university-wide. Each unit specifies its required style in the Unit Outline (available on Blackboard). Curtin Library maintains referencing guides for all major styles at library.curtin.edu.au/referencing.

Style	Used In	In-Text Format	Reference List
APA 7th Edition	Health Sciences, Nursing, Pharmacy, Psychology, Education, Social Sciences, Business available	(Author, Year, p. #)	Alphabetical; publisher details required
Harvard (Author-Date)	Curtin Business School, Economics, Property	(Author, Year, p. #)	Alphabetical; publisher details required
IEEE	Engineering, Computer Science, IT, [1], [2], [3]	[1] J. Smith, "Signal processing for resource environments," IEEE Trans. Min. Eng., vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 12–20, Apr. 2022.	Numbered list matching in-text order
AGLC 4	Law (Curtin Law School)	Footnotes; short form after first citation	Alphabetical; jurisdiction-specific rules
Chicago Author-Date	Architecture, some Humanities and Social Sciences	(Author, Year, p. #)	Reference list alphabetical
Vancouver	Some Health Sciences and Pharmacy units	(1), (2), (3)	Numbered list; medical journal conventions

APA 7 Quick Examples

- Journal article (in-text):** (Nguyen & Patel, 2023, p. 45)
- Journal article (reference list):** Nguyen, T. H., & Patel, A. (2023). Academic integrity in Australian universities. *Higher Education Research*, 18(2), 40–58. <https://doi.org/10.xxxx>
- Book:** (Brown, 2021, p. 112) | Brown, M. (2021). *Critical thinking in higher education* (3rd ed.). Oxford University Press.
- IEEE example:** [1] J. Smith, "Signal processing for resource environments," *IEEE Trans. Min. Eng.*, vol. 5, no. 2, pp. 12–20, Apr. 2022.

Common Referencing Mistakes at Curtin

Mistake	Fix
Using wrong style for your Faculty	Check Blackboard Unit Outline before every assessment — never assume same style as last year
Missing DOI in APA 7	Always include https://doi.org/xxxx when available for journal articles
No page numbers for direct quotes	Add p. # for every direct quote in APA 7 and Harvard
et al. for only two authors in APA 7	List both surnames — et al. only applies from three authors in APA 7
Hanging indent missing in reference list	First line flush left; all subsequent lines indented 1.27cm in APA 7 and Harvard
Not using Curtin Library referencing guide	library.curtin.edu.au/referencing is Curtin-specific and more reliable than generic tools

TOOL TIP

Use Zotero (free, open-source) for reference management. It integrates with Word and Google Docs, generates APA 7, Harvard, IEEE, AGLC, and Chicago citations automatically, and stores PDFs alongside references. Curtin Library runs free Zotero workshops each semester — check library.curtin.edu.au for the schedule.

9. Academic Integrity

Curtin takes academic integrity seriously under its Academic Integrity Policy. Penalties range from a mark reduction to exclusion from the university. For students in professional programs — Nursing, Pharmacy, Engineering — misconduct may also be reported to professional registration bodies.

Misconduct Type	Definition	Examples	Penalty Range
Plagiarism	Using another's work or ideas without proper acknowledgment or paraphrasing without credit	Copying text, images, or graphics from a source and presenting it as your own work	Mark reduction; self-plagiarism (re-submitting prior work) is also penalised
Collusion	Unauthorised collaboration on individual assessments	Two or more students jointly written work submitted as individual work	Both parties penalised — same range as plagiarism
Contract Cheating	Third party completes assessment for you	Submitting a purchased or generated work where prohibited	Severe: suspension or exclusion; professional programs may be reported
Fabrication	Inventing or falsifying data, results, or experiences	False experimental results; invented citations; made-up references	Severe: typically zero grade and formal reporting
Self-Plagiarism	Reusing prior work without disclosure	Submitting a previous unit's assignment without approval	Treated as plagiarism — each unit requires separate approval

AI Policy at Curtin

Curtin's generative AI policy is unit-specific. Each unit outline specifies whether AI use is prohibited, permitted with mandatory disclosure, or unrestricted for a given assessment. Where AI is used and disclosure is required, Curtin expects a formal AI attribution statement identifying the tool, describing how it was used, and documenting the output that informed your work. Turnitin's AI detection is applied to written submissions.

Submitting AI-generated work where AI is prohibited constitutes contract cheating. This is not treated as a referencing error — it carries serious misconduct penalties. If you are uncertain what is permitted in a specific unit, email your unit coordinator before you begin the assessment.

INTEGRITY CHECK	Before every submission: (1) cited every source including paraphrased ideas? (2) direct quotes in quotation marks with page numbers? (3) Turnitin draft checked? (4) wrote this yourself, or if AI was used, is it explicitly permitted and properly disclosed? All four yes before submitting.
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10. Student Support Services

Curtin's student support infrastructure is substantial — particularly given the Bentley campus's scale and self-contained nature. Most services are available on-campus and online.

Service	What They Do	Access
Curtin Guild (Student Union)	Free legal advice, welfare, clubs, food, events, advocacy, student media	guild.curtin.edu.au — Building 106F, Bentley
Counselling and Psychological Services	Free confidential counselling; mental health support; crisis appointments	counselling.curtin.edu.au/health — same-day urgent appointments
Accessibility and Inclusion (DS)	Reasonable adjustments: extended exam time, alternative formats, assistive technology	Registersis@curtin.edu.au or inclusion.curtin.edu.au — before assessments
Curtin Library (Research Skills)	Database training, referencing workshops, research appointments	library.curtin.edu.au — research workshops run each semester
Academic Skills Centre	Academic writing, study skills, maths and statistics support, individual consultations/learning	academic.curtin.edu.au — City and Bentley
Curtin Connect (Careers)	Resume, interviews, employer fairs, internship listings, LinkedIn, career planning	connect.curtin.edu.au
Financial Support	Emergency bursaries, Curtin Hardship Fund, HECS-HELP guidance, scholarships and Student Central	financial.curtin.edu.au
International Student Support	Visa guidance (general), OSHC, cultural transition, arrival support	international.curtin.edu.au — Building 101, Bentley
Curtin Health and Wellness Centre	On-campus GP, mental health, physiotherapy, optometry, dental, pharmacy/health	health.curtin.edu.au — bulk billing available
Aya (Indigenous Student Services)	Academic and personal support for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students	aya.curtin.edu.au — Building 215, Bentley

MENTAL HEALTH

Curtin Counselling operates same-day urgent appointments. After hours: Lifeline 13 11 14, Beyond Blue 1300 22 4636, Curtin Security 9266 4444 (24 hours). You do not need to be in crisis to use counselling — early engagement is always more effective than intervention at breaking point.

11. International Student Guide

Curtin hosts more than 22,000 international students — a proportion that reflects its genuinely global character. Perth's relative geographic isolation from the east coast is offset by its direct flight connections to Asia, making Curtin particularly popular with students from Singapore, Malaysia, Indonesia, China, and India.

Topic	What You Need to Know
Student Visa (Subclass 501)	Required before arrival. Full-time enrolment required (75% completion rate). Notify Curtin of address changes within 14 days.
OSHC	Overseas Student Health Cover is mandatory throughout your visa period. Curtin's providers include Bupa and MGA.
Accommodation	No single large residential college. UniLodge Curtin (on-campus), Curtin St Catherine's College (on-campus residential), or private rental.
Bank Account	Open with Commonwealth Bank, ANZ, Westpac, or NAB. Bring: passport, visa grant notice, Curtin enrolment letter.
Tax File Number (TFN)	Required before working legally in Australia. Apply at ato.gov.au . Takes 2–4 weeks.
Work Rights	Student visa: 48 hours per fortnight during semester; unlimited during scheduled study breaks. Check your visa conditions.
Transport (Perth)	SmartRider card for trains, buses, and ferries. Curtin is served by the Curtin train station on the Thornlie-Cockburn line.
Living Costs	Perth is moderately expensive — less than Sydney, comparable to Brisbane. Budget approximately AUD \$1,700 per week.
Emergency Contacts	Police/Fire/Ambulance: 000. Curtin Security: 9266 4444 (24 hours). Lifeline: 13 11 14. Save these before arriving.

12. How to Score HD at Curtin

Curtin's HD threshold is 80%. That is the entry point — not the automatic destination. HD-level work at Curtin is characterised by independent thinking, sophisticated evidence use, and writing that communicates complex ideas with clarity and precision.

Stage	What HD Students Do	Common Gap
Task Analysis	Read the Unit Outline marking criteria before writing a word. Map the task with HD in mind explicitly. Plan backward from the end goal.	Starting with HD in mind explicitly. Plan backward from the end goal.
Research	Use Curtin Library databases (Scopus, Web of Science, CINAHL, IEEE, etc.) Go well beyond required readings. Peer review only.	Using only required readings. Not all peer-reviewed.
Critical Thinking	Evaluate — don't just describe. Identify contested claims. Take a definite position supported by evidence. Evaluate the evidence.	Describing what supports a view rather than evaluating it.
Structure	Explicit thesis or argument. PEEL paragraphs. Every paragraph earns its place and links back to the central clear argument.	Not as precise and links back to the central argument.
Evidence	Integrate sources to support analysis. Paraphrase with attribution. Do not quote excessively and only when exact wording is essential.	Over-quoting. Sources listed but not used.
Referencing	Zero errors. Correct style throughout. Every DOI included. Consistent formatting.	Inconsistent style; missing elements; wrong Faculty/Department.
Editing	24-hour gap before final submission. Read aloud. Two proofreading passes.	Submitting from the first draft.
Submission	Submit 24 hours early via Blackboard. Confirm file opens correctly. Keep a backup.	Submitting at the deadline.

13. Common Assignment Mistakes

Mistake	Why It Costs Marks	Fix
Not reading the Unit Outline	Wrong format, wrong referencing style, missed criteria	Read the Blackboard Unit Outline before starting — it is the contract
Description instead of analysis	Stating what happened without explaining what it means	After every claim, try to add 'This demonstrates...' / 'This suggests...' / 'This implies...'
No thesis or central argument	Essay lacks direction; markers cannot track your response	Over-underline your topic sentence at the end of your introduction stating your purpose
Over-quoting	Signals insufficient processing of sources; reduces space for your own analysis	Paraphrase when exact wording is essential
Wrong referencing style	Easy marks lost; signals failure to read the unit outline	Check Blackboard Unit Outline before every assessment
Late submission	Curtin's standard late penalty is 5% per business day	Submit 24 hours early; apply for extension before the deadline
Ignoring feedback	Same mistakes repeat across assessments	Read all feedback before starting the next piece and act on it explicitly
Misunderstanding 'critical'	Students treat 'critical' as finding fault — it means a strong evaluation	Evaluate by highlighting the weaknesses of evidence and argument used
Wrong file format	Blackboard may not render non-standard formats	Submit (PDF, DOCX, NUMBERS) unless unit specifies otherwise; test the file

14. Study Resources and Software

Curtin Library provides access to thousands of research databases at library.curtin.edu.au. All are accessible off-campus with your Curtin login. Microsoft 365 is free via your Curtin student account.

Resource / Software	Best For	Access
Scopus	Peer-reviewed literature, citation analysis, research metrics	Curtin Library → Databases
Web of Science	Multidisciplinary research, journal impact factors	Curtin Library → Databases
CINAHL Complete	Nursing, allied health, health science research	Curtin Library → Databases (key for Health Sciences students)
Engineering Village (Compendex)	Engineering and applied science literature	Curtin Library → Databases (key for Engineering students)
IEEE Xplore	Engineering, IT, electronics peer-reviewed content	Curtin Library → Databases
ScienceDirect	Science, technology, medicine, engineering	Curtin Library → Databases
Westlaw AU / LexisNexis AU	Australian case law, legislation, legal commentary	Curtin Library → Law Databases
AustLII	Free access to Australian case law and legislation	austlii.edu.au (free)
IBISWorld	Australian industry reports, market research	Curtin Library → Databases
SPSS Statistics	Quantitative data analysis, statistical testing	Curtin IT Help Desk software licence
R + RStudio	Statistical computing, data visualisation	Free open-source
Python (Anaconda)	Data science, machine learning, scripting	Free open-source
MATLAB	Numerical computing, engineering simulation	Curtin site licence
AutoCAD / Revit	Technical drawing, engineering design, BIM	Engineering Faculty labs; Autodesk student licence (free)
NVivo	Qualitative data analysis, coding for research	Curtin IT Help Desk
EndNote / Zotero	Reference management (Zotero recommended — free)	EndNote via Curtin; Zotero at zotero.org
Microsoft 365	Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams — free for students	Free via Curtin student account — office.com

ENGINEERING VILLAGE

Engineering Village (Compendex) is the primary engineering literature database for Curtin Engineering students — equivalent to CINAHL for Health Sciences students. It indexes more than 12 million engineering documents and is the standard first-stop for literature searches in civil, mining, petroleum, mechanical, and electrical engineering programs.

15. Student Life

Accommodation

Option	Approx. Weekly Cost (2026)	Notes
UniLodge Curtin (On-campus)	AUD \$290–\$470/week	Modern purpose-built on-campus. Single rooms to shared apartments. Apply early.
St Catherine's College (On-campus)	AUD \$380–\$560/week (catered)	Residential college with meals. Community feel. Apply before November.
Private Rental — Bentley / Subiaco	AUD \$250–\$360/week pp	Bentley, Victoria Park, St James, Rivervale. 5–20 min by bus to campus.
Private Rental — inner Perth	AUD \$250–\$420/week pp	Northbridge, Mount Lawley, Subiaco, Fremantle. Longer commute; vibrant area.
Homestay	AUD \$250–\$370/week	Organised via Curtin International. Popular with new international students.

Transport — Perth

Curtin is served by its own train station — Curtin Station on the Thornlie-Cockburn CrossCity Link line — with direct services to Perth CBD in approximately 25 minutes. Bus routes 98 (to Perth CBD) and 55 also stop at the Bentley campus boundary. Within campus, the free CurtinBus service loops all major buildings on a regular schedule.

Perth's public transport uses a SmartRider card (similar to Opal in Sydney and Myki in Melbourne). Purchase at any Transperth InfoCentre or online. Full-time students are eligible for a concession SmartRider — apply with your Curtin student ID and enrolment proof.

Budget Guide — Perth

Expense	Approx. Monthly (AUD)
Accommodation (shared, inner suburbs)	\$850–\$1,500
Groceries and food at home	\$280–\$450
Eating out and coffee (moderate)	\$130–\$270
Transport (SmartRider)	\$70–\$150
Phone plan	\$25–\$55
Entertainment and social	\$100–\$250
Estimated Total	AUD \$1,500–\$2,700/month

Student Clubs and Guild

The Curtin Guild (guild.curtin.edu.au) supports more than 100 affiliated clubs and societies — academic, cultural, sporting, recreational, and professional. Engineering students have a particularly active club culture through the Faculty of Engineering's student societies. The Guild also provides free legal advice, a food pantry, welfare casework, and student advocacy. Join clubs online via the Guild website.

Curtin's sport facilities at Bentley are extensive — gym, group fitness, aquatic centre, stadium, ovals, and indoor courts. The Recreation Centre (Building 111) is accessible to all enrolled students at subsidised rates.

16. Sample Assignment Topics by Faculty

These topics reflect the types of assessment students encounter across Curtin Faculties. They are orientation examples — not actual Curtin assessment tasks.

#	Faculty / Discipline	Sample Assignment Topic	Type
1	Business / Management	Critically evaluate servant leadership theory as a framework for managing work culture in WA's mining industry.	Essay
2	Business / Marketing	Develop an integrated digital marketing strategy for a Perth-based resources technology startup expanding internationally.	Business Report
3	Business / Accounting	Analyse the accounting treatment of rehabilitation liabilities under AASB 137 in the context of Western Australian mining operations.	Report
4	Business / Property	Evaluate the impact of Perth's population growth forecast (2025–2040) on commercial real estate investment opportunities.	Research Report
5	Engineering / Mining	Design and evaluate a ground support system for a development drive in a high-stress underground gold mine.	Design Report
6	Engineering / Petroleum	Evaluate enhanced oil recovery techniques for application in a mature offshore WA petroleum reservoir. Compare and contrast.	Technical Report
7	Engineering / Civil	Design a retaining wall and drainage system for a 5-metre cut in lateritic soil conditions typical of Perth's northern suburbs.	Design Report
8	Engineering / Software	Design and implement a cyber-physical security monitoring system for a remote Western Australian mining operation.	Technical Project
9	Health / Nursing	Using Gibbs' Reflective Cycle, reflect on a clinical experience from your placement where you managed your own patient.	Reflective Essay
10	Health / Pharmacy	Evaluate the clinical pharmacokinetics of vancomycin in critically ill patients with severe trauma, injury and infection.	Clinical Report
11	Health / Public Health	Assess the effectiveness of WA's Aboriginal health strategies against the Closing the Gap targets for the period 2018–2031.	Policy Analysis
12	Humanities / Law	The claimant has entered a service contract that includes a clause purporting to exclude liability for negligence. Advise.	Problem Question
13	Humanities / Architecture	Critically evaluate passive solar design principles in the context of Perth's Mediterranean climate. Analyse and synthesise.	Research Essay
14	Humanities / Creative Arts	Document the conceptual development and production process for an original short film (10 minutes) addressing a contemporary issue.	Portfolio (Report)
15	Humanities / Education	Critically evaluate explicit instruction as a strategy for teaching phonics in early childhood education settings.	Critical Essay
16	Science / Cyber Security	Conduct a comprehensive penetration testing methodology plan for a hypothetical cloud infrastructure environment.	Technical Report
17	Science / Data Science	Using a publicly available WA Government dataset, apply supervised machine learning to predict a meaningful outcome.	Technical Report
18	Science / Environmental	Evaluate the effectiveness of WA's Environmental Protection Act 1986 as a regulatory mechanism for managing land use.	Policy Analysis

17. Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What is oasis and what do I use it for?

oasis (oasis.curtin.edu.au) is Curtin's student administration portal — for enrolment management, results, fees, timetable, exam registration, graduation application, and student ID. Blackboard (blackboard.curtin.edu.au) is your Learning Management System — for unit content, lecture recordings, assignment submission, grades, and lecturer announcements. Both are essential; they serve entirely different functions.

Q2: What is Curtin's HD threshold and how does it compare to other universities?

Curtin's High Distinction starts at 80% — the same as Deakin and RMIT, and lower than USyd and UQ (85%). A Distinction at Curtin is 70–79%. If you are coming from an international system or another Australian university, confirm Curtin's thresholds before setting grade targets. A 75% at Curtin earns a Distinction, not a Credit as it would at universities with an 85% HD threshold.

Q3: What is WAM and why does Curtin use it instead of GPA?

WAM (Weighted Average Mark) is the numerical average of your marks, weighted by credit points for each unit. Curtin uses WAM as its primary academic performance measure rather than a GPA scale. WAM is used for Honours entry (typically WAM 70+ required), scholarship applications, and graduate program applications. It appears on your official transcript. When applying to programs that request a GPA, check whether WAM is accepted as equivalent — most Australian graduate programs accept it.

Q4: What is the Census Date and why does it matter?

The Census Date falls approximately four weeks into each semester. Before it, you can withdraw from a unit without academic penalty (it does not appear on your transcript) and without financial liability. After it, withdrawal results in a WF (Withdrawn Fail) on your transcript and full financial liability for the unit. Set a calendar reminder before Semester 1 begins every year.

Q5: How do I apply for an extension at Curtin?

Apply for a Late Assessment application via oasis. You need supporting documentation — a medical certificate, statutory declaration, or equivalent. Apply before the deadline or as soon as possible afterward with documentation. Approved applications grant additional time without late penalty. Do not wait until after results are released.

Q6: What happens if I submit an assignment late?

Curtin's standard late penalty is 5% of the available marks per business day late, up to a cap, after which a zero may apply. Some units have stricter rules — check your Blackboard Unit Outline before the semester starts. Always apply for an extension if you have a genuine reason, and always before the deadline.

Q7: What referencing style does Curtin use?

There is no single Curtin-wide referencing style. Each unit specifies its style in the Blackboard Unit Outline. Engineering and IT use IEEE; Health Sciences uses APA 7 or Vancouver; Business uses Harvard or APA 7; Law uses AGLC 4; Architecture and some Humanities use Chicago. Check your Unit Outline before every assessment.

Q8: What is the WA School of Mines (WASM)?

WASM (WA School of Mines) is Curtin's Kalgoorlie-based campus — one of the world's foremost mining, metallurgy, and geoscience education and research facilities, ranked #2 globally for Mining Engineering (QS 2025). Students in WASM programs spend significant study time in Kalgoorlie. WASM has its own student services, accommodation network, and industry placement connections. Contact WASM Student Services early in your first semester.

Q9: Can I use AI tools for my Curtin assignments?

Only if your Blackboard Unit Outline explicitly permits AI for that specific assessment. Curtin's AI policy is unit-specific. Where AI is permitted and used, you must include a formal attribution statement. Where it is prohibited, submitting AI-generated content constitutes contract cheating — a serious academic integrity breach with significant penalties. Email your unit coordinator if uncertain before starting the assessment.

Q10: What support is available for students with disability?

Curtin's Accessibility and Inclusion (Disability Services) office provides reasonable adjustments for students with a disability, chronic illness, or mental health condition — including extended exam time, alternative exam formats, flexible submission, and assistive technology support. Register at the beginning of your first semester, before assessments begin. Access via curtin.edu.au/accessibility.

Q11: How do I get around the Bentley campus?

The free CurtinBus loops all major buildings on the Bentley campus on a regular schedule during teaching hours. Download the Curtin app for real-time bus tracking and campus navigation. Building numbers on your timetable correspond to the Curtin campus map (available in the app and at Student Central). The campus also has extensive cycling infrastructure — bike storage and repair stations at multiple locations.

Q12: What is Curtin Connect?

Curtin Connect (connect.curtin.edu.au) is Curtin's careers and employability platform — for job listings, internship connections, employer events, resume reviews, mock interviews, and graduate program preparation. Many Curtin programs also have embedded industry connections through co-op programs and capstone projects. Activate your Curtin Connect profile in Semester 1 — not in your final year.

Q13: How does Curtin's co-operative education (co-op) engineering program work?

Curtin's co-op engineering model alternates between semesters of full-time study and semesters of paid industry placement. The program extends the degree by approximately one year but provides substantial real-world experience in resources, infrastructure, or technology companies. Co-op placements are formally assessed and contribute to your academic record. Ask about co-op eligibility in your Engineering Faculty orientation.

Q14: What is Aya at Curtin?

Aya is Curtin's dedicated support service for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander students. It provides academic mentoring, cultural connection, scholarship advice, welfare support, and community events. Services are available at the Bentley campus (Building 215) and accessible remotely. Contact via curtin.edu.au/aya.

Q15: What clubs are available at Curtin?

The Curtin Guild (guild.curtin.edu.au) supports more than 100 clubs and societies across academic, cultural, sporting, professional, and social interests. Engineering Faculty societies, the Curtin Business School Association, international student networks, and cultural clubs are particularly active. Join clubs online via the Guild website — many are free or low cost to join.

Q16: How do I access the Curtin Library from off-campus?

Go to library.curtin.edu.au and log in with your Curtin student credentials. All databases and e-resources are accessible remotely. For resources requiring a VPN, download the Curtin VPN client from help.curtin.edu.au. This allows full off-campus access to the library's research tools, including Scopus, Web of Science, CINAHL, and Engineering Village.

Q17: What is the difference between Curtin Singapore and the Bentley campus?

Curtin Singapore (located in Onstad Road, Singapore) is a full branch campus of Curtin University, offering complete degree programs in Business, Engineering, Science, and Mass Communication. Degrees awarded are full Curtin University degrees — identical in qualification to the Bentley campus. Curtin Singapore is regulated by both Curtin University and Singapore's Committee for Private Education (CPE). Students may have the option to transfer between campuses in some programs.

Q18: How do I appeal a grade at Curtin?

First, request feedback and an informal review from your unit coordinator within 10 business days of the result release. If unresolved, submit a formal Assessment Review application via oasis. Valid grounds are marking errors, failure to apply the stated rubric, or administrative errors. General disagreement with the grade is not a sufficient ground for formal review.

Q19: What happens if I fail a unit at Curtin?

A fail (F) is recorded on your transcript. You must re-enrol in the unit or obtain Faculty approval to substitute an equivalent unit. Failing multiple units in a semester may trigger an Academic Progress review under Curtin's Academic Progression Policy. Contact your Faculty Academic Adviser as soon as results are released — do not wait for a formal notification before seeking support.

Q20: What free software does Curtin provide to students?

Microsoft 365 (Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Teams, OneDrive) is free via your Curtin student account at office.com. MATLAB, SPSS, NVivo, and other specialist tools are available via Curtin software licences — check help.curtin.edu.au. AutoCAD and other Autodesk products have free student licences at autodesk.com/education. Zotero reference management is free at zotero.org.

Q21: How do I get a concession SmartRider for Perth public transport?

Full-time students at accredited Australian institutions are eligible for a concession SmartRider. Apply at a Transperth InfoCentre or major train station with your Curtin student ID and proof of full-time enrolment (an enrolment certificate from oasis). International students should confirm their concession eligibility separately — conditions may differ from domestic students.

Q22: Is Perth affordable compared to Sydney and Melbourne?

Perth is generally more affordable than Sydney or Melbourne for accommodation and daily living, though prices have risen significantly since 2022 due to the WA mining and construction boom driving population growth. Budget approximately AUD \$1,500–\$2,700/month depending on lifestyle and accommodation choice. Living on or adjacent to Bentley campus — in UniLodge or nearby suburbs — keeps transport costs low and is the most cost-effective approach for most students.

Q23: What is Curtin's Academic Integrity Policy?

Curtin's Academic Integrity Policy sets out the standards of honest, ethical academic conduct for all students. It defines plagiarism, collusion, contract cheating, fabrication, and self-plagiarism, and specifies penalty ranges. Familiarise yourself with it at curtin.edu.au/students/academic-integrity in your first week — you are responsible for understanding it regardless of whether you have read it.

Q24: How do I change my degree or major at Curtin?

Apply for a Course Transfer via oasis. Some transfers require Faculty approval and may affect credit for previously completed units. Speak with a Faculty Academic Adviser before applying — they can identify credit transfer opportunities and advise on entry requirements for your target program.

Q25: Does Curtin have scholarships for domestic students?

Yes. Curtin offers scholarships through its central Scholarships Office at curtin.edu.au/scholarships. Types include entry scholarships (ATAR-based), merit scholarships (academic performance during the degree), equity scholarships (financial or personal circumstances), and research scholarships (Honours, Masters by Research, PhD). Apply to every scholarship for which you meet eligibility criteria.

Q26: What is the Curtin Guild's legal service?

The Curtin Guild provides a free legal advice service (guild.curtin.edu.au/legal) for enrolled students covering tenancy disputes, employment issues, consumer matters, and general legal questions. This is separate from formal legal representation and does not cover criminal matters. For academic integrity proceedings, the Guild's Student Advocacy service provides support.

Q27: How do international students find housing near Curtin?

On-campus options (UniLodge and St Catherine's College) are most convenient but fill quickly — apply before November for Semester 1. Private rental in Bentley, Victoria Park, St James, and Rivervale is popular and typically 5–20 minutes by bus to campus. Curtin International maintains a private rental noticeboard and can advise on reputable listings for new arrivals.

Q28: What is the difference between Curtin's semester and summer sessions?

Curtin's main teaching occurs in Semester 1 (February–May) and Semester 2 (July–October). Summer semester (November–February) offers selected units in intensive format — typically covering a full semester of content in six to eight weeks. Not all units are available in summer. Summer study suits students who want to accelerate their degree, catch up on failed units, or maintain enrolment status over the break.

18. Need Academic Tutoring?

Curtin's programs span a wide range of complexity — from globally recognised mining and petroleum engineering through to creative arts, law, pharmacy, and business. The standard of academic writing and critical analysis expected across these disciplines is high, and the industry-connected assessment formats (co-op reports, capstone projects, clinical case studies) add a layer of complexity that standard writing guides do not address.

AssignPro Solution provides academic tutoring and mentoring for students across Australian universities, including Curtin. Whether you are navigating a first-year essay, a final-year capstone, or a postgraduate research proposal, our team can help you understand your task requirements, develop your argument, engage with evidence effectively, and write at the standard your degree demands — while keeping the work authentically yours.

Service	What It Covers
Academic Writing Coaching	Essay structure, thesis statements, PEEL paragraphs, argument development, academic register
Assignment Guidance and Feedback	Feedback on drafts: structure, logic, evidence use, referencing accuracy, argument clarity
Literature Review Support	Source selection, synthesis strategy, gap identification, thematic structuring
Referencing Help	APA 7, Harvard, IEEE, AGLC 4, Chicago, Vancouver — error checking and correct formatting
Research Proposal Mentoring	Research question, methodology, literature framing, ethical considerations
Dissertation and Thesis Mentoring	Long-form research support from proposal through to final submission
Proofreading and Editing	Grammar, clarity, consistency, flow — your argument, expressed with precision
Subject-Specific Tutoring	Business, Engineering (Mining/Petroleum/Civil/Software), Nursing, Pharmacy, Law, IT, Architecture

Australia · UK · Canada · UAE · Ireland · Germany · NZ · Malaysia · India

19. References and SEO Deliverables

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SEO Deliverables

SEO Element	Value
SEO Title (60 chars)	Curtin University Student Guide 2026 AssignPro Solution
Meta Description	Complete Curtin University student guide 2026 — assignments, WAM, referencing, HD tips, campus life
URL Slug	/curtin-university-student-guide
Canonical URL	https://assignprosolution.com/curtin-university-student-guide
Open Graph Title	Curtin University Complete Student & Assignment Guide 2026
Open Graph Description	Everything you need to succeed at Curtin — assignments, WAM, referencing, HD tips, campus guide, W
Focus Keyword	Curtin University student guide
Secondary Keywords	Curtin assignment guide, how to get HD at Curtin, Curtin WAM, Curtin referencing, Curtin Blackboard, W
LSI Keywords	Curtin WAM, oasis Curtin, Curtin census date, Curtin Library, Curtin academic integrity, Curtin Guild, Cu
Entity Keywords	Curtin University, oasis Curtin, Bentley campus, WASM, Curtin Library, Curtin Guild, Curtin Connect, Cu
Schema Markup	Article, FAQPage, HowTo, BreadcrumbList, EducationalOrganization, WebPage
Image ALT (hero)	Curtin University Bentley campus Perth Western Australia 2026
Image ALT (grading)	Curtin University grading system High Distinction Distinction Credit Pass WAM 2026

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