Over the following months you may hear some unfamiliar terms. Sometimes the interpretation of the same word may differ between different academics and even students. Therefore, the following explanations should be used only as a guide.

1000, 2000 and 3000 level - all the courses that you have enrolled in have a number that refers to the level of the course. 1000 level courses are the introductory level courses and 2000 and 3000 levels are the more advanced level courses.

Blackboard - is the University’s online learning management system that enables you to access, engage and interact with fellow students and lecturers.

Census date - is the last day in the semester or trimester that you can withdraw from a course without accruing fees for that course. It is also the date when you must finalise your arrangements for payment of your student contribution or fees.

Commission for Working with Children and Young People Declaration - if you are enrolled in a program that requires you to undertake a placement that may bring you into unsupervised contact with children, you must complete a Prohibited Employment Declaration, as required by the Child Protection (Prohibited Employment) Act 1998.

Commonwealth supported student - as a Commonwealth supported student you contribute to the cost of your tuition through a student contribution (HECS), while the Government pays the remainder.

Course - means a unit of study. For example, CHEM1010 – Introductory Chemistry 1 is a first year chemistry course.

Criminal Record Check - if you are enrolled in a program that requires you to undertake a placement within a NSW Health facility, you will need to obtain a Criminal Record Check before you can commence your placement.

Laboratory (or ‘lab’) - work generally involves working in groups, the application of scientific skills and gaining hands-on experience with testing and conducting experiments.

Lecture capture (Echo System) - is an automated recording system that records the audio and/or video of lectures. Lecturers may provide a link to recordings from Blackboard course sites.

Lectures - are the most common method for teaching and learning at university. In your first year you will find that many lectures are given in large lecture theatres and you will discover that individual lecturers vary in their delivery style. Taking notes assists your learning of concepts, theories and ideas.

Major - sometimes referred to as a Major Sequence. A major is a concentration of your studies in a particular subject area or discipline. In programs that have majors, you will take courses from across a number of different subject areas in your first year. After your first year, you will decide your main area(s) of study and focus your studies in this area.
**Negative service indicator** - if you are indebted to the University you will receive a negative service indicator (NSI) on your student record. The NSI will block some privileges until the debt is paid, such as obtaining a testamur, transcript or exam results. Once you pay the account the NSI is removed.

**Placement** - means a clinical placement, practicum, internship and any other form of professional, industrial or vocational experience included in a course or required for a program.

**Practicals** - some of the courses that you do will involve practicals (sometimes called ‘pracs’). Pracs give you a practical understanding of specific methodologies and skills appropriate to the course.

**Prerequisite** - refers to the education background you should have prior to commencing study of a program or course.

**Program** - this refers to the degree in which you are enrolled. For example the Bachelor of Science is a program.

**Recess** - this is the mid-semester break.

**Semester** - a semester, also referred to as a ‘term’, is a teaching period of 12-13 weeks. There are two semesters per year.

**Trimester** - a trimester, also referred to as a ‘term’ is a teaching period of 12 weeks. There are three trimesters per year.

**Tuition costs** - the cost per course to deliver courses to students. Students in Commonwealth supported places pay part of their tuition costs. Students in fee-paying places pay all of their tuition costs.

**Turnitin** - is a text-matching tool designed to improve your academic writing skills and assist in detecting errors of referencing in assignments.

**Tutorials (or ‘tutes’)** - consist of smaller groups of students (12-45). Most tutorials generally require you to have completed some reading or exercises prior to the session and will have a tutor in attendance to lead discussion. Some assessment items, such as quizzes, may take place in tutorials.

**Unit** - this is the credit value of the course. Most courses are worth 10 units.

**Vaccination Card** - any student who needs to enter a public health facility for a placement, research, or any other purpose is required to maintain a vaccination card as proof of the currency of their vaccinations.