

# Explaining university terms

<https://allprofessionalenglish.blogspot.com/2019/02/explaining-university-terms.html>

**I Watch the video and fill in the gaps with the words you hear.**

When I first started thinking about going to 1)\_\_\_\_\_, I realised there were some 2)\_\_\_\_\_ and concepts I would need to get familiar with. Say for example the difference between a '3)\_\_\_\_\_' and a 'degree'. Knowing these terms made it easier to understand what my choices were and what I needed to do next. So let me help by taking you through the most important 4)\_\_\_\_\_.  
Ok who's first?

Person #1: Okay, I'll start. What exactly is a 5)\_\_\_\_\_?

Narrator: A degree is the 6)\_\_\_\_\_ you get when you complete your studies. Say you complete all your studies for a Bachelor of Arts program, then you will receive a Bachelor of 7)\_\_\_\_\_ degree. Bachelor degrees are normally the first ones people do and are called 8)\_\_\_\_\_ degrees. Then they move onto graduate programs like 9)\_\_\_\_\_ and Doctoral degrees. When you 10)\_\_\_\_\_ your studies, ANU will give you a testamur -which is a degree 11)\_\_\_\_\_.

Person #1: What is a course?

Narrator: Courses are the 12)\_\_\_\_\_ blocks of your degree. For example, "Introduction to Commercial Law" is a course which you complete along with other courses towards your 13)\_\_\_\_\_. Undergraduate courses usually go for one semester - which is half a year -and normally include 14)\_\_\_\_\_ and tutorials every week.

Person #2: What's the difference between a 15)\_\_\_\_\_ and a tutorial?

Narrator: A lecture is usually held in a large theatre where a teacher gives a 16)\_\_\_\_\_. A tutorial is more like a small class with fewer students and more 17)\_\_\_\_\_ interaction.

Person #2: Do 18)\_\_\_\_\_ have anything to do with lectures and tutorials?

Narrator: Sort of, a unit is the way ANU determines how much each course is worth in your 19)\_\_\_\_\_. So a course is worth six units in most cases. Full-time 20)\_\_\_\_\_ normally take four courses each 21)\_\_\_\_\_ - which is 24 units for the length of their degree.

Person #1: I have another course question ...what is a major and minor that I've heard people refer to. Is that like a group of similar 22)\_\_\_\_\_?

Narrator: Exactly. A major is a group of eight courses in a particular 23)\_\_\_\_\_. A minor is a group of four courses in a single 24)\_\_\_\_\_. Now, depending on what you're studying, whether it is Biology or International Relations, there will be different major and 25)\_\_\_\_\_ requirements. Generally most degrees will require that you do at least one major.

Person #2: Ok, so what courses can I take in my majors and minors?

Narrator: Most 26)\_\_\_\_\_ and minors give you lots of courses to choose from, and these are listed on the Programs and Courses website. Choosing your 27)\_\_\_\_\_ based on what you're interested in is the really fun part.

Person #1: Does every course I do need to fit into a major or a minor?

Narrator: No, you can take what are called '28)\_\_\_\_\_ courses'. Depending on what degree you are enrolled in, there will be different amounts of electives to choose from. Check the Programs and Courses 29)\_\_\_\_\_ for more information.

Person #2: Can I study courses in any order?

Narrator: Not exactly. Think of a 30)\_\_\_\_\_ as a building. You need to lay the foundation before you can build the walls. So more difficult courses require you to have some prior 31)\_\_\_\_\_, which you get by doing pre-requisite courses. For example, you need to do Psychology 1 and Psychology 2 before you can do Developmental Psychology. Make sense?

Person #1: Yup.

**II Match the words from two columns to make collocations used in the text. Use four collocations in your sentences.**

|     |                  |    |                        |
|-----|------------------|----|------------------------|
| 1.  | get              | a) | a course               |
| 2.  | complete         | b) | to Commercial Law      |
| 3.  | Bachelor of      | c) | program                |
| 4.  | Bachelor of Arts | d) | block                  |
| 5.  | undergraduate    | e) | studies                |
| 6.  | graduate         | f) | a talk                 |
| 7.  | Doctoral         | g) | lectures and tutorials |
| 8.  | building         | h) | student                |
| 9.  | Introduction     | i) | and Courses website    |
| 10. | include          | j) | degree                 |
| 11. | give             | k) | the foundation         |
| 12. | personal         | l) | course                 |

|     |               |    |                       |
|-----|---------------|----|-----------------------|
| 13. | full-time     | m) | courses each semester |
| 14. | take four     | n) | course                |
| 15. | Programs      | o) | degree                |
| 16. | elective      | p) | degree                |
| 17. | lay           | q) | interaction           |
| 18. | pre-requisite | r) | Qualification         |
| 19. | do            | s) | Arts                  |

### III Fill in the gaps with the prepositions.

*On; onto; of; for; of; in; between; from; to; in; of; with; of; of; to; on; in*

1. It's important to understand that here is the difference \_\_\_\_\_ a 'course' and a 'degree'. Students get an undergraduate degree when they complete their studies, for example they can receive a Bachelor \_\_\_\_\_Arts degree.
2. Depending \_\_\_\_\_what you're studying there will be different major and minor requirements. Students choose majors and minors based \_\_\_\_\_what they're interested \_\_\_\_\_.
3. Before you go \_\_\_\_\_ University, you need to get familiar \_\_\_\_\_some terms and concepts.
4. Courses are the building blocks \_\_\_\_\_a degree, for example, "Introduction \_\_\_\_\_Commercial Law" is a course.
5. A group \_\_\_\_\_eight courses is called a major.
6. Undergraduate courses usually include lectures that are held \_\_\_\_\_a large theatre where a professor gives a talk and tutorials that have fewer students and more personal interaction. Full-time students normally take four courses each semester - which is 24 units \_\_\_\_\_the length \_\_\_\_\_their degree.
7. Then students can move \_\_\_\_\_ graduate programs like Master and Doctoral degrees.
8. A minor is a group \_\_\_\_\_four courses \_\_\_\_\_a single subject.
9. Students can also choose \_\_\_\_\_different elective courses.

### IV Put the sentences from Task III in the logical order.

**V OVER TO YOU.** Read the text below. Choose the correct option in *italics* and underline the correct words. Choose the option in **bold** that is true for your studies. Fill in the gaps with your ideas (names of the courses you study at your university, the subjects you are interested in).

Now I'm in my (**first/second/third**) year studying for my *Bachelor/Master/PhD* degree, it's an *undergraduate/postgraduate* degree. When

I complete my studies for a *Bachelor of (Arts/Sciences/Theology/Medicine)* program, then I will receive a *Bachelor of (Arts/Sciences/Theology/Medicine)* degree. Then I can move onto *graduate/undergraduate* programs like Master and *Doctoral/Bachelor* degrees.

*Courses/lesson/degrees* are the building blocks of my degree. For example, this year I study "Introduction to \_\_\_\_\_". Undergraduate courses usually go for one *semester/summer* - which is half a *year/week* -and normally include *lectures/exams* and practical classes every week.

Undergraduate courses usually include lectures that are held in a large *theatre/field* where a professors give a *talk/tests* and practical classes have more *personal/professional* interaction. Full-time students normally take \_\_\_\_\_ (**3/4/6**) courses each semester. A group of eight courses is called a *major/main*. A *minor/minority* is a group of four courses in a single subject. I can choose majors and minors based on what I'm *interested/invested* in. I want to major in \_\_\_\_\_. I want to minor in \_\_\_\_\_. I can also choose from different *elective/elections* courses. I want to do such elective courses as \_\_\_\_\_.