Computer Science and Information Technology Orientation
Thursday 16 – Thursday 23 February
www.rmit.edu.au/compsci/orientation

• Once you have done your first registration, you can make changes right up to the day of the activity. So do not worry if you are not sure of other commitments.
• It is essential that you book into the workshops as there are limited places. Most activities will be repeated because they are so important for new students.

What is orientation all about?
It is a week of labs, workshops and activities designed to prepare you for your university studies. It is free for all CS&IT students and highly recommended for all commencing students.

Choose your own schedule
You will still have time to attend RMIT University wide orientation and get yourself settled.

Why are some activities compulsory?
Your lecturers and tutors will assume that you have attended this recommended minimum and that you understand the concepts presented and have practiced the skills. Of course you will still be able to get assistance if you cannot remember particular procedures. Lab assistants and tutors will answer any question if it will help you get going with your learning.

Who runs these classes?
Many of the workshops are run by tutors and students who understand what a new students needs – they were in your position not that long ago. Course Lecturers and Teaching and Learning advisors will also conduct workshops, those focussed on preparing you for university study.

What is so special about learning at university?
An "independent learning" approach is used; each student will need to develop their own study routines based around formal lectures, labs and tutorials. No one is going to tell you what to do each day. Most of your study time will be spent on reading, programming practice, problem solving, reviewing lecture material, answering tutorial questions and doing assignments. This happens when you are not in class – very different from school or TAFE.

Even if you have studied at RMIT or at university before – orientation is essential. You will get to know your way around the school and the rest of the campus. You will meet other students, very important for forming study groups. There will be specific workshops to help you revise your skills and to prepare for the next stage.

Students who have completed a TAFE Diploma or Advanced Diploma before articulating into a Degree Program benefit greatly from orientation attendance. There is so much that is different, from the way labs are organised, to how much you need to do in each assignment, to how quickly you move through the different topics..

All activities are free
Not only do you not have to pay, you will meet so many students and staff members, by the end of orientation you will really feel like you are a university student. This means that when you go to your first class you can concentrate on what it is you need to learn.
CS&IT Orientation and Week Zero Workshops

Lab Induction for all new students
Learn the skills you need to use the CS & IT systems and find your way around the online resources. You will receive a comprehensive manual that will become a useful reference in your first semester.

You must attend this workshop before you can do any other labs.

Unix Survival Skills Lab
Learn the basic UNIX skills you need, as it is assumed that all students in CS&IT can work in a UNIX environment. Practise now when there is help on hand. Don't find out you can't use the system on the day you have a test or assignment to submit!

You are advised to attend at least one 3 hour session

Academic Integrity
Understand what plagiarism is and learn what you need to do to ensure you don't plagiarise. This challenging and interactive workshop includes referencing your sources in programming and protecting your own work. Academic Integrity is highly valued by the School and this session is compulsory for all new students.

New Student Welcome
Your official welcome to the School of Computer Science and Information Technology. You will hear from both a current student representing all students and the Head of School.

Java Boost
A series of graded sessions to reinforce your current proficiency in Java programming. At the session, you will be required to complete a mini assignment. These self-paced assignments will start at a basic level and progressively increase in complexity. Topics covered will include object-oriented programming with classes, interfaces using arrays, file I/O, structures, data structures (linked lists, etc.), functions, formatting and coding standards.

Students enrolled in Programming 2 or Java for Programmers or Java for C Programmers are advised to attend these labs. Unsuitable for beginners.

More things To Do in your first week

RMIT Orientation 2012
Don't miss out on the RMIT City Campus Big O Day on Thursday 23 February from 13.00 to 17.00 on Bowen Street www.rmit.edu.au/students/orientation.

myRMIT
This is your student portal to information and services you need as an RMIT student. Take a tour now www.rmit.edu.au/students/services/myrmittour.
Learning Online at RMIT and other study resources

Video introductions to the RMIT systems you will use anytime, anywhere including myRMIT studies which is your access to course materials

www.rmit.edu.au/students/studyresources

Course Guides

Each course publishes a course guide and you must be familiar with all of the information in the Part B Course Detail section for the current semester. You can access this through myRMIT Studies, or Enrolment Online or by searching here

www.rmit.edu.au/students/courses/he

Make sure you use this document to plan your study, it includes your assignment due dates!