New qualification

Associate Degree in Information Technology

What is an Associate Degree?
An Associate Degree is a two year higher education qualification that can be undertaken after year 12 or following a Certificate III or IV. It offers a guaranteed pathway into a relevant bachelor degree.

Associate Degrees are a relatively new qualification in Australia. The degrees are broad-based and graduates develop employment-related skills relevant to the discipline/s.

Why choose an RMIT Associate Degree?
An Associate Degree will give graduates a qualification with good employment outcomes and a guaranteed place in a relevant RMIT degree. School leavers can benefit from smaller classes with more support from teachers to accelerate their career development or fast track their way into further study. Existing workers may gain recognition for current skills and competencies (Recognition of Prior Learning).

Pathways
The Associate Degree in Information Technology provides graduates with guaranteed entry into the final year of the Bachelor of Applied Science (Information Technology).

Graduates will receive advanced standing in degrees including:
- Information Technology
- Computer Science
- Games and Graphics Programming
- Computing and Internet Technology

Students who choose not to continue on will graduate from the Associate Degree with a standard equivalent to two years of Higher Education. Graduates will have completed a number of vocational units that are industry relevant, recognised and required by today's Information Technology professional.

Features
This program is an excellent start to your IT professional future. You will be introduced to the computer field through an exciting blend of theory and hands on practical courses. Students will quickly develop a broad-based range of skills in computer hardware and software, networking, database concepts, and programming including web programming. Students will also complete a number of vocational units that provide industry recognised employable skills.

Smaller classes offer students the additional help they may require to reach their potential. This approach also prepares them for entry into the third year of the bachelor degree.

Mode and duration
Two years full-time. Intakes in February and July.

Career outlook
Graduates will be well equipped to meet the growth in industry demand for professionals in IT, having completed a number of industry relevant vocational units.

The IT industry increasingly wants graduates with industry recognised training particularly in the networking area. This Associate Degree will serve the needs of those wishing to pursue a career in System Administration, Networking, Information Technology, Technical Support, Computer Programming, Database Administration and further study.

Professional Recognition
The Associate Degree prepares students to sit for the internationally recognised CISCO networking certifications including: CCNA Intro, CCNA ICND, Compton’s A+, CCNP Advanced Routing, and CCNP Multilayer Switching. www.cisco.com

Student profile—Takahisa Shinke
Takahisa Shinke is in his final semester.

“I was originally interested in the CISCO suite of programs (CCNA/CCNP). One of the best aspects of this course is that it covers such a broad range of computer skills from computer basics, programming, through to networking.

“All the teachers are knowledgeable, friendly and willing to help and support you. I found this especially beneficial, as I was able to build up my communication skills while expanding my knowledge in computers. With the small class sizes students can ask questions freely and interact with each other and their teachers in this supportive environment.”
Computer Science and Information Technology at RMIT

The world is an exciting place for IT professionals. Constant advances in hardware, software and networking make computers cheaper and more powerful each day—and this creates strong demand for people who can harness this power.

Recent industry research* confirms that increasing IT staff numbers in this area are major priorities for many organisations. This means that the employment outlook for graduates is excellent, with IT careers continuing to grow across a range of industry sectors.

RMIT has always had its finger on the industry's pulse and course content is developed to anticipate trends, not simply meet needs. RMIT programs are developed and delivered in close collaboration with industry leaders, ensuring students develop both practical and theoretical skills employers need and value. At the same time, RMIT has a very strong computing research area, ensuring you gain a solid grounding in the theoretical and algorithmic foundations that help you move with this rapidly changing industry.

* Source: Australian Jobs 2006, Department of Employment and Workplace Relations

Entrance requirements

Current Year 12 prerequisite units 3 & 4 English (any) and Mathematics (any). Non-Year 12 applicants are encouraged to apply and may be required to have relevant employment or evidence of experience and/or ability to meet the demands of the program.

Application procedures

Applicants must apply through VTAC and are advised to check detailed information on entrance requirements, application procedures and closing dates. Applicants must meet all extra requirements and selection procedures listed on the VTAC website.

Application closing dates: 28 September (timely), 16 November (late), 14 December (very late)

Apply via: Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC)
VTAC Infonet: www.vtac.edu.au
VTAC Infoline: 1300 364 133

Note: RMIT program codes listed in this brochure should not be used when applying through VTAC.

Fees

Information is available at: www.rmit.edu.au/programs/fees.

International/non-Australian residents

International/non-Australian resident applicants need to obtain separate information on the programs available at RMIT.
Further information: www.rmit.edu.au/international
Tel. +61 3 9925 5156 Email: isu@rmit.edu.au

Further information

Graham Timmins, Program Manager
Building 51, Level 6, 80 Victoria St, Melbourne
Tel. 03 9925 4732
Email: graham.timmins@rmit.edu.au

RMIT Open Day— Sunday 10 August 2008

Disclaimer: Applicants are advised to confirm details with the relevant RMIT School before making an application. Prepared: August 2007 by RMIT Publishing and Design, GPO Box 2476V, Melbourne, VIC 3001. Image credit: Daga Mikolaj.