If you're reading this, you've successfully passed the first test: navigating your way to the fun bit of the guide. #clevergoals

Although we're known for our focus on practical skills and career development at La Trobe, it's not all about the classroom here: it's also about making new friends, trying new experiences and finding your – dare we say – own kind of clever. Whether that's joining a club, attending a cultural event on campus or volunteering for a cause you care about, there are plenty of options at La Trobe.

But, this doesn't mean your experiences always have to be deep and meaningful. Sometimes you just need the metaphorical equivalent of a Netflix binge, the odd sugary treat or a Vine compilation (RIP). As we know, all work and no play...

Ready to take a breather? Just turn the page...
University survival guide

Starting uni can feel really stressful (trust me, I've been there). You've no doubt heard heaps of stories about it but you might be wondering, what's it actually like?

Well, I faced a uni "survival guide“ online (people written by some dude in the 90's) and made it my own. Read on to find out what you can really expect when you start living the uni life.

– Jane

Seven steps to succeed at university

1. Make sure to prepare early. Read your subject information documents before the first day of class, and order your set texts early. University is very self-directed; you're in charge of your own learning, so do not slack off and fall behind.

2. Respect your lecturers. Arrive early for your lectures and tutorials, and absolutely do not miss them. There will be no teachers chasing you up should you not attend your class and no one will hold your hand anymore.

3. Use your free time wisely. Create a weekly schedule and prioritise your study. If you have a break between classes, use the time to catch up on assignments. On weekends and days with no classes, make a habit of studying in the library.

4. Read all your materials thoroughly. Read all the required and recommended texts as well as all reference material. Make sure to keep a reference when you read by creating one-page summaries.

5. Become acquainted with the library. Spend time getting to know your campus library. You will be spending a lot—if not most—of your time there. You can access most journals and books online, which is good for working from wherever you want.

6. Keep your head down, in class. Your lecturers are the experts, so keep your head down and your mouth shut. Don't interrupt their class with your questions.

7. Eat well and exercise. Make sure to get your 5 vegetables and 3 fruits a day, be in bed as early as possible and start your morning with some light exercise. Remember, you came to university to excel in your studies—not spend hours at the university bar.

Life hack: just a few quick tips before you head off.

1. Remember that it's okay to balance your social life with your study.

2. This feels sounds like my mum telling me what to do.
For tips on how to handle uni jitters, check out this article: latrobe.edu.au/starting-uni
raychen23: Many good times had here 😊
anya.anil: I love the Eagle Bar!
rustybeale: @anya.anil best place to relax after classes...
kevinneau: @mia635 @ajasayism hangs?
mia635: @kevinneau for sure! Gonna drop into learning support now, meet you after.

mial635: Omg cute!! Have definitely almost been late to class taking photos of them before
jacob.neary: @mial635 typical 😄
kevinneau: I love seeing these guys around campus.
duchess.pheobe03: anyone know what these are called?
kevinneau: duchess.pheobe03 I think they're called wood ducks or maned geese? Pretty sure they're ducks tho…

kate_gills: @ajasayism I wish….train issues…don't think I'm saved one for you
ajasayism: @kate_gills I'll be there soon!!
daniel_22: 9am lecture feels 😓
abbyc: @daniel_22 the struggle is real
zoaoblue: This is my lecture theatre!
ajasayism: @abbyc save me a spot... on my way
abbyc: @ajasayism slept in again? 😅 all good I already saved one for you
ajasayism: @abbyc I wish...train issues...don't think I'm gonna make it. Take some notes for me?
abbyc: @ajasayism gotcha. Meet me at the library after?
ajasayism: @abbyc 😛

jessss: WHERE do I get this!!
samzabrowski: @jessss It's food truck day on campus! So good 😍
sophia016: Yummm. Pretty keen for pizza for lunch today tbh
jessss: @samzabrowski omg I totally forgot! Gonna go down and get a burger after my prac 🤣
kate_gills: @jackslate23 I'll be there soon!!
daniel_22: Doing my readings for the tute
kate_gills: @jackslate23 I'll be there soon!!
abbyc: @daniel_22 the struggle is real
zoaoblue: This is my lecture theatre!
ajasayism: @abbyc save me a spot... on my way
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Clubs and societies

Making friends is so much easier when you’ve got things in common, and that’s where joining a club or society comes in. At La Trobe, there are over 90 clubs spanning interests like yoga, coding, politics, anime, sustainability, sport and more. Whether you want to learn new skills, meet like-minded people or kick back at a social event, joining a club or society’s the best way to do it. Read on to learn more about La Trobe’s massive range of clubs and societies from some current members and get ready to find your people.

Dion, Chemistry Krew
‘Being part of a club has given me the opportunity to meet people of similar interests to mine and feel like part of a community. I’ve met many amazing people through social events who have been more than willing to provide insights and encouragement. If there was one reason to join a club or society, this would be why.’

Juck, Craft Beer and Home-Brewing Society
‘Before moving to Australia for university, I knew that things would be different and I was wondering if I’d even be able to make any friends. Joining a club allows people to do that. I met friends that will last a lifetime. Being surrounded by such a solid crew of individuals gave me something to look forward to during hectic times around exams and other pressures.’

Imogen, The Patch
‘I’ve really enjoyed learning about gardening: how to plant seeds, make compost, prepare soil before planting and propagate plants. I’ve also really liked meeting people from different countries, of different ages and ethnic backgrounds. It’s a great way to have new experiences and learn and grow as a person.’

Chetna, A Look Into African Society (ALIAS)
‘As club president, I’ve learned how to become a leader and fulfil my dreams of positively reaching others by working as a team. I’ve developed independence and organisational skills that I take with me to work.’

Want to learn more about the range of clubs and societies at La Trobe, or even find out how to start your own? For more info, visit: latrobesu.org.au/clubs
You might dismiss crosswords as a thing of the past, but just like everything good in fashion and culture, they're having a revival. In 2019, crosswords aren't just a bit of kitsch. They're relevant, a bit irreverent and, in this case, a way to learn something you didn't know while testing out your pop culture knowledge. It's the kind of thinking we value at La Trobe, combining creativity and problem-solving with information you can trust and skills to boot.

Across
3. Dr. Jekyll's alter ego and a famous park, home to our Sydney Campus.
9. Famous newspaper cartoonist and recipient of an honorary degree from La Trobe.
11. Hometown of fruit cups, tinned peaches and the setting for Victoria's first Rural MD program.
13. Name of the prestigious prize won by the late Emeritus Professor Rhys Isaac.
15. The setting of American Horror Story Season Two and a historical building at the edge of our Melbourne Campus.
16. The 1st Lieutenant-Governor of Victoria (and La Trobe's namesake) who shares a first name with Will and Harry's father.
18. Author of The Weather Makers, climate change activist and La Trobe graduate.
20. An ancient stronghold to protect the Neck and an iconic feature of the Melbourne Campus.
21. The original red Wiggle and a river running by two of our regional campuses.

Down
1. Popular hangout for zombies and a landmark near the Melbourne Campus.
2. A film starring Brad Pitt and the total number of La Trobe campuses.
4. Where A$AP Rocky wears his grillz and the focus of a five-year professional course at our Bendigo campus.
5. Nobel Peace Prize winner and speaker at the largest crowd ever for a University public lecture at La Trobe.
6. The namesake of a western AFL team and La Trobe's mascot (and favourite watering hole).
7. The music played by Exo and BTS, and the focus of a popular La Trobe club.
8. Victorian city that hosts Groovin the Moo and home to Victoria's largest regional campus.
9. Where you'll often find Madam Pince and many of our hardworking students.
10. Doing your own washing, cooking healthy meals and going to all of your lectures.
12. Ernie's favourite rubber toy and something frequently spotted on campus.
14. The way to the Chamber of Secrets and something found under La Trobe's Melbourne Campus.
17. A public meeting place in Ancient Greece and a theatre and food court at the heart of La Trobe's largest campus.
19. A bookish Roald Dahl character and an emotionally intelligent robot developed by the La Trobe Research Centre for Computers.

Double bonus
Want to win one of 20 cinema gift vouchers to the value of $40? Unscramble the blue letters to unlock the secret URL to our competition draw.

www.latrobe.edu.au/_ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _ _
Becoming a highly employable graduate isn’t something that happens overnight. You have to work at it and stay focused. As tempting as binging the new season of Game of Thrones might be, that assignment won’t write itself. Your challenge, should you accept it, is to traverse the procrasti-MAZE and collect enough career-ready experiences to graduate (that’s 300 points). But stay vigilant, as the road to graduation is perilous and littered with distractions. The struggle is real.

- Industry placement: 100 points
- LinkedIn Learning course: 50 points
- Joined a club or society: 50 points
- Career Ready Mentoring: 50 points
- Handled assignment early: 50 points
- Attended a 9am lecture: 50 points
- Netflix binge: -25 points
- Too many cat videos: -25 points
- Missed a class: -50 points
- Questionable meal choices: -25 points
- Internet black hole: -50 points
- One too many late nights: -50 points