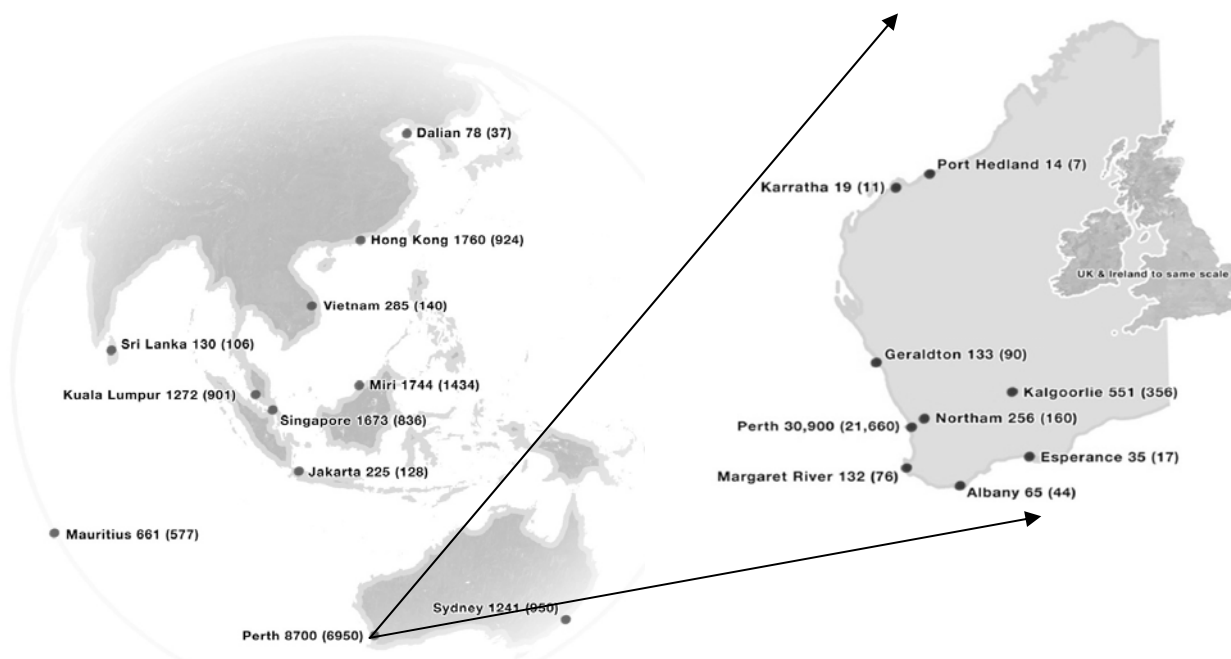


### 3. THE CURTIN LEARNING ENVIRONMENT

Curtin University is Western Australia's largest university with approximately 44,000 students, nearly 19,000 of whom are offshore and onshore international students. Figure 4, from Curtin's 2008 AUQA Portfolio, shows Curtin enrolments in Australia and beyond (numbers indicate headcount; brackets indicate fulltime equivalent students) and a comparison between the size of Western Australia and the United Kingdom.

Figure 4 Curtin enrolments in Australia and beyond



#### The teaching faculties

Courses at Curtin are offered from within the four faculties (Curtin Business School, Science and Engineering, Health Sciences and Humanities) as well as from other centres and campuses such as the Centre for Aboriginal Studies, Curtin Sydney, Curtin Sarawak and Curtin Singapore. Each Faculty comprises a number of schools and departments<sup>3</sup>. To view Curtin's organisational structure see page 80 or [www.ovc.curtin.edu.au/structure.html](http://www.ovc.curtin.edu.au/structure.html).

#### Students, courses and modes of study

Curtin enrolls students in face-to-face, online or external modes at its Australian and international campuses and partner institutions. Most students are undergraduates. Students enrol in a particular course (offered by a school within a Faculty) and can often take units from outside their school. Units are owned by a particular school, but many are taught in several courses (this is known as service teaching). Most of Curtin's students are internal: this means that they attend at least some, if not all, classes on campus. Students typically participate in face-to-face and online learning experiences supplemented by audio-visual and print resources. These include: FLECS-Blackboard sites, iLectures, audio-visual resources, Library resources, print resources, such as textbooks and readers, ordered through the Curtin Bookshop and Distance Education and Open Universities Australia resources.

<sup>3</sup> The generic term 'school' is used throughout this book.

## Study Periods

Curtin has many study periods on many campuses. Most teaching occurs at the Bentley campus in Semester 1 and Semester 2. Figure 5 shows the 2010 dates for Bentley, Perth City and West Australian School of Mines (Kalgoorlie) campuses:

**Figure 5 Bentley, Perth City and West Australian School of Mines campus dates for 2010**

Semester One 2010	
StartUp Week	22 – 26 February
Start of classes	1 March
Teaching Weeks (4 weeks)	1 March – 26 March
Tuition Free Weeks (including Good Friday)	29 March – 9 April
Teaching Weeks (8 weeks)	12 April – 4 June
eVALUate registration for teacher evaluation	12 April – 30 April
eVALUate survey period	17 May – 27 June
Study Week	7 June – 11 June
Examinations	14 June – 25 June
eVALUate online reports available	8 July
Semester Two 2010	
StartUp Week	26 July – 30 July
Start of classes	2 August
Teaching Weeks (4 weeks)	2 August – 27 August
Tuition Free Week	30 August – 3 September
Teaching Weeks (3 weeks)	6 September – 24 September
eVALUate registration for teacher evaluation	13 September – 1 October
Tuition Free Week	27 September – 1 October
Teaching Weeks (5 weeks)	4 October – 5 November
eVALUate survey period	18 October – 28 November
Study Week	8 November – 12 November
Examinations	15 November – 26 November
eVALUate online reports available	8 December



For all campuses see [www.students.curtin.edu.au/administration/dates/index.cfm](http://www.students.curtin.edu.au/administration/dates/index.cfm)  
For other important 2010 dates see [www.atu.curtin.edu.au/availabilities/dates.cfm](http://www.atu.curtin.edu.au/availabilities/dates.cfm)



**Campus class times:** Classes on all campuses generally start either on the hour or half hour. Classes scheduled for one hour must conclude after 50 minutes to allow students and staff to prepare for their next class. In the interest of good learning, classes scheduled for longer than an hour must include at least a 10 minute break (the timing of the break can be decided by negotiation with the majority of enrolled students). Classes are not scheduled between 12 noon and 2pm on Wednesdays, which is University common free time. University policy requires that during the tuition free weeks there are no scheduled compulsory student activities (with limited exceptions for practical, clinical or field experience).