

YEAR 11 SUBJECTS - UNITS 1 & 2 See below for Year 12 subjects (Unit 3 and 4)

ART - Unit 1 emphasis is placed on structured and directed tasks to introduce students to practical methods, techniques and different art media, e.g. collage and printmaking. Unit 2 students work on their own thematic concepts using a variety of media. Theoretical aspects of the course are based on analysing the 'formal elements' of art works as well as researching, investigating and writing about artists from diverse cultural backgrounds.

BIOLOGY This course studies all living organisms: plants, animals and microorganisms, in the context of how they interact with their living and non-living environments and the nature of the cells that build these organisms. Complex organisms, like animals and plants, are studied in relation to the structure and function of their organ systems, the specialisations of their cells and the mechanisms used to adapt to, and survive in, changing environmental conditions. Completion of both units is recommended before undertaking units 3 & 4.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT Unit 1: Small business management provides an opportunity for students to explore the operations of a small business and its likelihood of success. Unit 2: Communication and management: focuses on the importance of effective communication in achieving business objectives. Students investigate communication both internal and external to the business. They develop knowledge of aspects of business communication and are introduced to skills related to its effective use in different contexts.

CHEMISTRY Unit 1 - Big Ideas of Chemistry: examines the periodic table, atomic theory and bonding. Unit 2 - Environmental Chemistry: focuses on water and the atmosphere, including quantitative chemical calculations.

CLASSICAL STUDIES In Unit 1 students explore the myths of Ancient Greece, their expressions in art, literature and religious practices and the archaeological discoveries that have illuminated these myths. In Unit 2 we focus on the history of the Classical Period, the 5th century BCE and the achievements of Athens in its Golden Age.

DRAMA In Unit 1 learners use their expressive skills to develop and perform characters, analyse their own performances and analyse ways characters are developed in professional performance. In Unit 2 learners create an ensemble performance, analyse the process of creating an ensemble performance and evaluate a professional performance.

ENGLISH When students study English they not only complete one of the compulsory VCE subjects, they also develop key reading and writing skills needed in most other academic areas and in everyday life. The course presents classical and contemporary books, plays, films from Australia and beyond. Students respond to these in written and oral form, in order to become confident, articulate communicators, able to coherently structure material, synthesize complex ideas, and critically analyse persuasive language used in arguments. Studying the mechanics of language supports this process. Ideally, studying English helps equip students for participation in a democratic society and the global community.

FOUNDATION ENGLISH The Foundation English course is designed for students who may require a more vocationally orientated approach to English or may be aiming to directly enter the workforce upon completing their post-compulsory secondary studies. It may also be suited to students who need additional time and assistance to strengthen and refine their literacy skills to support their study in VCE English/EAL, VCE Literature, or VCE English Language Units 1–4 and in other VCE studies.

GEOGRAPHY - Geography enables students to examine natural and human phenomena, how and why they change, their interconnections and the patterns they form across the Earth's surface. In doing so, they develop

a better understanding of their own place and its spaces and those in other parts of the world. These spatial perspectives, when integrated with historical, economic, ecological and cultural perspectives, deepen understanding of places, environments and human interactions with these.

HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT - Unit 1 explores the health and individual human development of Australia's youth. Issues that impact on youth will be investigated. Unit 2 focuses on health and development during childhood, adulthood and issues facing the current healthcare system. The impact of a range of determinants including biological and behavioural factors, as well as physical and social environments will be explored in both unit 1 and 2.

HISTORY, 20TH CENTURY - Twentieth Century History Unit 1 looks at political, social and cultural change in the period between the World Wars - at how political changes after World War 1 led to World War 2, and social and cultural changes were reflected in the art, literature, film, music etc. of the period. Unit 2 looks at the 2nd half of the 20th Century focusing on the causes and consequences of the 'Cold War', and how traditional systems / orders have been challenged by political and popular movements.

LEGAL STUDIES This course provides an introduction to the need for, and the nature of law, through an examination of criminal and civil law. Learners will gain knowledge about the judicial system. Learners will also have the opportunity to observe a case being heard at either the County or Supreme Court.

LITERATURE Unit 1 involves the study of short stories, poetry, a play and a film. Unit 2 includes the study of plays and poetry. Learners explore their own preferences in literature and will extend the range, understanding and enjoyment of what they read.

MATHEMATICS

Foundation Mathematics

Foundation Mathematics provides for the continuing mathematical development of students entering VCE, who need mathematical skills to support their other VCE subjects, including VET studies, and who do not intend to undertake Unit 3 and 4 studies in VCE Mathematics in the following year. Provision of this course is intended to complement General Mathematics and Mathematical Methods. It is specifically designed for those students who are not provided for in these two courses. Students completing this course would need to undertake further mathematical study in order to attempt Further Mathematics Units 3 and 4.

General Mathematics

General Mathematics provides courses of study for a broad range of students and may be implemented in a number of ways. Some students will not study Mathematics beyond Units 1 and 2, while others will intend to study Further Mathematics Units 3 and 4. Others will also be studying Mathematics Methods Units 1 and 2 and intend to study Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4 and, in some cases, Specialist Mathematics Units 3 and 4 as well. The areas of study for Unit 1 and Unit 2 of General Mathematics are 'Arithmetic', 'Data analysis and simulation', 'Algebra', 'Graphs of linear and non-linear relations', 'Decision and business mathematics' and 'Geometry and trigonometry'.

Mathematical Methods

Mathematical Methods Units 1 and 2 are designed as preparation for Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4. The areas of study for Unit 1 are 'Functions and graphs', 'Algebra', 'Rates of change and calculus' and 'Probability'. At the end of Unit 1, students will be expected to have covered the material outlined in each area of study given below, with the exception of 'Algebra' which should be seen as extending across Units 1 and 2.

This material should be presented so that there is a balanced and progressive development of skills and knowledge from each of the four areas of study with connections among and across the areas of study being developed consistently throughout both Units 1 and 2.

MEDIA - This course serves as an introduction to the study of the mass media. Unit 1 explores the nature and use of technology in the media, implications of changing technologies, the way the media constructs its view of teenagers, sport, celebrities and family. Unit 2 focuses on media production as a series of specialist stages and roles. It introduces students to a variety of productions and issues within the Australian media industry.

PHILOSOPHY - This course explores fundamental issues, such as the difference between knowledge and belief, the meaning of existence, and what makes a particular act morally right or wrong. Unit 1 focuses on understandings of existence and knowledge, drawing on ideas from historical philosophers. Unit 2 examines the ethical tradition and values identified within philosophy, and how ethical dilemmas continue to arise within contemporary society.

PHYSICS - 'Why is it so?' This course studies the explanations physics can offer for physical events we see around us. Unit 1 focuses on the study of electricity, radioactivity and nuclear energy. Unit 2 explores movement and light. Year 10 Maths is a prerequisite.

PREPARING FOR YEAR 11 MATHEMATICAL METHODS - This course is aimed at learners who want to study Mathematical Methods in Year 11, but who need to develop and reinforce, or refresh the relevant mathematical skills before doing so. There will be an emphasis on algebra and graphing. Topics include arithmetic, irrational numbers, equations, substitution, expansion, factorisation, algebraic fractions and simultaneous equations.

PSYCHOLOGY - These units introduce psychology as the scientific study of behaviour and mental processes. Unit 1: How are behaviour and mental processes shaped? Human development involves changes in thoughts, feelings and behaviours. In unit 1 we investigate the structure and functioning of the human brain and the role it plays in the overall functioning of the human nervous system. We explore concepts such as brain plasticity, brain damage and the complex nature of psychological development and relate this to classical and contemporary studies. Unit 2: How do external factors influence behaviour and mental processes? A person's thoughts, feelings and behaviours are influenced by a variety of biological, psychological and social factors. We investigate areas such as perception, illusions and distortions. We evaluate the role social cognition plays in a person's attitudes, perception of themselves and relationships with others as well as exploring a variety of factors and contexts that can influence the behaviour of an individual and groups..

SOCIOLOGY - This is a broad ranging subject investigating human behaviour in social interactions, how societies are organized, and how they develop and change. Unit 1 focuses on the experiences of youth, definitions of family and how these have changed over time. Unit 2 explores different views on issues of concern in societies, such as divorce, crime and punishment. The impact of government policies on Australian society is considered throughout the course.

VISUAL COMMUNICATION & DESIGN - Unit 1 & 2 Visual Communication & Design focuses on the development of visual and design skills to communicate messages through the use of observational, visualisation and presentation drawings. Through this course learners build on their drawing and design skills, exploring the application of design elements and principles to meet a specific design needed for CAE.

Year 12 – Units 3 & 4

ART - Each unit has two equal components – the learner’s own practical work and art appreciation. This course focuses on the study of artists and the way artworks relate to the culture in which they are made. Learners are required to produce a folio of work in a preferred style and/or medium, research selected artists and develop the ability to talk about art in an informed manner. Previous studies in art, or presentation of a portfolio of work is strongly recommended.

BIOLOGY - Unit 3 studies the cellular and molecular basis of living things, the regulation of biochemical processes in cells, and an organism’s cellular and molecular responses to infectious agents. Unit 4 focuses on the structure and function of DNA, the nature of genes and genetic inheritance, how genetic engineering works, and the processes underlying biological evolution. It is strongly recommended that learners complete units 1 & 2 Biology to gain a grounding in general biological principles and processes before undertaking this course.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT - This course examines the environment in which large scale organisations conduct their business and how the operations of the business are managed. Learners develop an understanding of the complexity and challenges of managing large scale organisations. There is a focus on the human resource management function, its key aspects and strategies used to most effectively manage human resources. The course concludes with an analysis of the management of change.

CHEMISTRY - Unit 3, chemical pathways, volumetric, gravimetric, spectroscopic and chromatographic techniques used to analyse chemical products are investigated. Organic chemical reaction pathways and their role in the formation of biomolecules, biofuels and medicines are introduced. In Unit 4, chemistry at work, factors affecting the industrial production of chemicals are considered. Energy sources, and the energy changes associated with chemical reactions and electrochemical cells are explored.

CLASSICAL STUDIES - Many aspects of Western Civilisation (Art, Literature, Law, History, Philosophy, Religion and Science) have significant foundations in classical societies. This course focuses on Ancient Greece, particularly Athens. Learners will examine artistic and literary works from this society in order to understand their significance for both the past and the present.

DRAMA - Unit 3 explores non-naturalistic dramatic form through the creation of an ensemble performance, drawing on contemporary and cultural performance traditions. Unit 4 focuses on the making and development of solo performance drawing on an understanding of traditions of performance from a range of historical, cultural and social contexts. Also included is an analysis of a professional performance.

ENGLISH - When students study English they not only complete one of the compulsory VCE subjects, they also develop key reading and writing skills needed in most other academic areas and in everyday life. The course presents classical and contemporary books, plays, films from Australia and beyond. Students respond to these in written and oral form, in order to become confident, articulate communicators, able to coherently structure

material, synthesize complex ideas, and critically analyse persuasive language used in arguments. Studying the mechanics of language supports this process. Ideally, studying English helps equip students for participation in a democratic society and the global community.

ENGLISH LANGUAGE - English Language Unit 3 looks at how people vary the style of their language according to contextual factors and social purposes. Students look at the distinctive stylistic features of formal and informal language in both spoken and written modes, and think about how / why speakers and writers choose to vary their style to suit particular social purposes and contexts. Unit 4 looks at the relationship between language and identity – how language varieties in contemporary Australian society contribute to a shared national identity, and how language is used to express individual identities and show membership of particular social groups.

GEOGRAPHY - Geography enables students to examine natural and human phenomena, how and why they change, their interconnections and the patterns they form across the Earth's surface. In doing so, they develop a better understanding of their own place and its spaces and those in other parts of the world. These spatial perspectives, when integrated with historical, economic, ecological and cultural perspectives, deepen understanding of places, environments and human interactions with these.

GLOBAL POLITICS - This course looks at contemporary history; the world as it is happening at the present moment. Four areas are studied: UN and multinational corporations, power in the Asia Pacific region, human rights and, the environment. The course involves gathering information from the internet, watching documentaries and reading newspapers critically. Students collect and gain knowledge from engagement with current affairs.

HEALTH & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT - Unit 3 will focus on the health status of Australians, the impact of a range of determinants, and approaches taken to improve the health status of Australians. In unit 4 the concepts of global health, human development, sustainability and their interrelationships will be explored along with a range of strategies that are designed to promote health and sustainable human development globally.

ANCIENT HISTORY - Units 3 & 4 - Egypt, Greece and Rome were major civilisations of the ancient Mediterranean. They have bestowed a powerful legacy on the contemporary world. In each of Units 3 and 4, students explore the structures of one of these societies and a period of crisis in its history. Life in these ancient societies was shaped by the complex interplay of social, political and economic factors. Trade, warfare and the exchange of ideas between societies also influenced the way people lived. Furthermore, all three societies experienced dramatic crises which caused massive disruption. During these times of upheaval, individuals acted in ways that held profound consequences for themselves and for their society.

AUSTRALIAN HISTORY - In VCE Australian History students explore four periods of time in which the nature of Australian society changed and modern Australia was created. The first slice of time begins in the 1830s with the expansion of European control over much of southern Australia as squatters appropriated country inhabited by Aboriginal peoples. The focus is on Melbourne and the Port Phillip District between 1834 and 1860. The second time period covers the creation of the Australian nation and its development between 1890 and 1920, including the federation of the Australian colonies in 1900 and the tragedy of World War I (1914 to 1918). The third deals with the crisis of World War II between 1939 and 1945, and the fourth addresses two significant changes in Australia in the post-1945 period. In 2016 they will be Aboriginal land rights and new patterns of immigration. Students will complete detailed studies using the following headings: A New Land: Port Phillip District; Nation, Race and Citizen; Testing the New Nation, and Debating Australia's Future.

HISTORY, REVOLUTIONS - Units 3 and 4 History Revolutions look at the historical causes and consequences of political revolutions. Students look at how ideas, events, individuals and popular movements cause / trigger revolutions, and the consequences of revolutions - the challenges faced by new regimes and changes to post-revolutionary societies. These concepts are explored through a study of the Russian Revolution of October 1917, and the Chinese Revolution of 1949.

LEGAL STUDIES - This course is about the way the law relates to and serves both individuals and the community. Unit 3 is titled Law Making, and examines the role of our lawmakers and how individuals can influence change. Unit 4 looks at how disputes are resolved and involves an evaluation of our legal system.

LITERATURE - This course will appeal to learners who enjoy reading and would like to develop their reading and analytical skills further. The course includes opportunity for both creative and critical responses to texts. Novels, plays, short stories and poetry from different periods will provide rich material for study.

MATHEMATICS

FURTHER MATHEMATICS - The core part of this course involves the study of statistics, correlation, regression and time series. There are also three optional modules from Number Patterns, Geometry and Trigonometry, Graphs and Relations, Business Related Mathematics, Networks and Matrices. The course is not necessarily designed for those wishing to continue with tertiary mathematics, but as an aid to the mathematics used in other subject areas. Year 11 mathematics is necessary.

MATHEMATICAL METHODS - This course continues the study of functions and graphs, algebra, calculus, and probability undertaken in Units 1 & 2. It is strongly recommended that learners anticipating doing this course have a strong background in maths up to Year 11, particularly in algebra and Units 1 & 2 (or equivalent) are a prerequisite.

SPECIALIST MATHEMATICS - Units 3 and 4 are designed to be taken in conjunction with Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4, or following previous completion of Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4. The areas of study extend content from Mathematical Methods Units 3 and 4 to include rational and other quotient functions as well as other advanced mathematics topics such as complex numbers, vectors, differential equations, mechanics and probability and statistics.

MEDIA - The mass media plays a significant role in our society. This course examines the way our values and beliefs are shaped by the media and are reflected by it. In Unit 3, learners explore how story and production elements contribute to constructing narrative in feature films. Learners will also be involved in the design process of a production which they will undertake later in the course. In Unit 4 learners will produce a media product from the production design prepared in Unit 3. They will also study social values in media texts and discussions on the influence of the media.

PHILOSOPHY - The word 'philosophy' means "love of wisdom". So, what is wisdom? Is it knowing what is true, how we should live, or our place in nature? This course introduces critical methods of argument, analysis and evaluation that have been developed by philosophers over time in response to these central questions, and encourage use of these methods in attempting to answers those questions that have always been relevant to life, and their participation in contemporary society.

PHYSICS - Physics involves the study of sound, motion, gravity, structures and materials, ideas about light and matter, electronic systems, electric power, and principles of investigation. Unit 3 topics include sound, electric

power, electronic systems. Unit 4 topics are motion, gravity, structures and materials, ideas about light and matter. Through class presentations, discussions and practical work (including a learner report on their practical work), learners will gain knowledge in how to respond to written material, and solve problems.

PSYCHOLOGY - VCE Psychology enables students to explore how people think, feel and behave through the use of a biopsychosocial approach. Students explore the connection between the brain and behaviour by focusing on several key interrelated aspects of the discipline: the interplay between genetics and environment, individual differences and group dynamics, sensory perception and awareness, memory and learning, and mental health.

SOCIOLOGY - This study explores expressions of culture and ethnicity in Australian society, together with the idea of community. In Unit 3 Australian indigenous culture is contrasted with the culture of migrant groups. It also offers a critical exploration of the historical suppression of Australian indigenous culture. Ethnicity is also studied as a key sociological category. Unit 4 focuses on the idea of community and how various forms of community are experienced.

STUDIO ARTS - Studio Arts is designed to develop a range of studio skills, including formal aspects of art and design, the development and refinement of specialised skills to produce studio works, the ability to analyse and discuss studio work (your own and other people's), and an understanding of the visual arts industry. Learners will produce studio works and research related methods and practice.

VISUAL COMMUNICATION & DESIGN - This course involves the development of design from the initial concept to folio piece. Learners work with briefs to solve communication objectives with creativity and imagination and use design elements and principles to create appealing and effective presentations. By using the design process, learners evaluate solutions and produce work specified in a design brief.