

Course Selection 2026 Stage 6 Year 11 and 12 Courses

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Sydney Distance Education High School

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Please refer to the *Guide for Students and Supervisors* on our school website for up to date information about the school.
<https://sydneyh-d.schools.nsw.gov.au/about-our-school/rules-and-policies.html>

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Some of these courses are available for single course provision to other schools. Further information is available in the 2026 Single Course Provision Information Handbook.

Introduction

This booklet is designed to help students and supervisors make choices about courses for study in senior high school years.

The booklet contains:

- information about the courses available at this school for Year 11 and Year 12
- the requirements for study established by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA)
- information about entry into university or TAFE courses
- information about the voluntary school contribution and course contributions.

Please read this booklet very carefully before you select your courses for Year 11 or Year 12. Use the course selection points on the next page as a guide.

You are encouraged to contact the appropriate Head Teacher or Careers Adviser to discuss and plan your selection of courses.

Common terms and meanings

ATAR

Australian Tertiary Admission Rank

BDC

Board Developed Courses

BEC

Board Endorsed Courses

CEC

Content Endorsed Courses

EVET

Externally Delivered Vocational Education and Training

HSC

Higher School Certificate

NESA

New South Wales Education Standards Authority

RoSA

Record of School Achievement

RTO

Registered Training Organisation

SDBEC

School Designed Board Endorsed Courses

UAC

University Admissions Centre (NSW, ACT)

VET

Vocational Education and Training

Course selection

When choosing your courses consider carefully:

- what you are interested in studying
- your career aims
- your proven ability
- your potential
- any individual circumstances affecting the time available for schoolwork
- for each 2 unit course you need approximately four hours a week work time plus additional homework time
- a scientific calculator is needed for all senior Mathematics courses
- if Physics or Chemistry is selected it is recommended that you should be capable of studying at least the Mathematics Advanced course
- you can do a maximum of 6 units in Science.

Choosing courses – some things to think about

1

Do I have an interest in the subject matter of the course?

*You will be **motivated to perform your best** when you have a real interest in the course content and have a desire to achieve the course outcomes.*

2

Do I have the assumed knowledge and level of skill recommended to be successful in the course?

*Do I have the **ability and level of skill** to cope with the demands of this course? If there is doubt in your mind, discuss your concerns with a teacher who knows you, a Careers Adviser or with someone who has some experience in teaching that course.*

3

Will this course help prepare me for a particular occupation, career path or tertiary program of study?

4

Do I want to go to university when I finish Year 12?

*If yes, you will need to choose courses that form an **academic pattern of study** (ATAR).*

*If no, you can choose courses that form a **vocational pattern of study** (non ATAR) offering a pathway to further education/training and/or employment.*

Requirements for Year 11 and Year 12 courses

Senior studies include both Year 11 and Year 12 courses. Students must successfully complete a Year 11 course before they can move on to the Year 12 course in that subject.

The Year 11 Course is a **prerequisite** for most Year 12 courses.

Students must NOT submit Year 11 work, in any part, for any Year 12 assessment task or HSC examination.

What are units?

All courses offered for the Higher School Certificate have a unit value. Courses may have a value of 1 unit or 2 units. Most courses are 2 units.

Each unit equals 60 hours a year.

2 unit course

- This is the basic structure for all courses.
- 2 units equal 120 hours a year.

Extension course

- Extension courses build on the content of the 2 unit course and carry an additional value of 1 unit. They require students to work beyond the standard of the 2 unit course.
- English and Mathematics Extension Courses are available at Year 11 and Year 12 levels and must be studied with the 2 unit Advanced Course. Students must study the Year 11 extension course in these subjects before proceeding to the Year 12 extension courses (Extension 1 and Extension 2). The Extension 2 course requires students to work beyond the standard of the Extension 1 course.
- Year 12 extension courses in subjects other than English and Mathematics are offered and examined in Year 12 only.
- Students must NOT submit work, in any part, for any Year 12 assessment task or HSC examination, in any other course.

1 unit course

- 1 unit equals 60 hours a year.
- There are a number of 1 unit Board Endorsed Courses. These courses do not count in the ATAR.
- SDEHS offers 1 unit Studies of Religion which is a Board Developed Course and may count towards an ATAR.

In order to qualify for a Higher School Certificate, **both** the Year 11 course **and** the Year 12 course **must** include:

- at least 6 units from Board Developed Courses including at least 2 units of a Board Developed Course in English. English is mandatory
- at least three courses of 2 units or greater
- at least four subject areas (eg English is a subject area which includes a number of English courses)
- a maximum of 6 units of courses in Science.

For the award of the Higher School Certificate credential a student **must**:

- satisfactorily complete courses that meet the requirements of the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA). This includes the completion of the practical, oral or project works as well as the assessment requirements for each course.
- sit for, and make a serious attempt at, the required Higher School Certificate examinations
- study a minimum of 12 units in the Year 11 course
- study a minimum of 10 units in the Year 12 course
- achieve the HSC Minimum Standards.

ATAR eligibility and calculation from 2025

To be eligible for an ATAR in NSW, you must satisfactorily complete at least 10 units of HSC courses. These courses must include at least:

- 10 units of Board Developed Courses including at least 2 units of a Board Developed course in English. English is mandatory
- three Board Developed Courses of 2 units or greater
- four subject areas (eg English is a subject area which includes a number of English courses).

Your ATAR is then calculated from your:

- best 2 units of English
- best 8 units from your remaining units.

The Pathways alternative

If for some reason you are unable to complete all your courses in two years, then you can elect to complete them over three or more years. This is called a *Pathways* program.

There are many Pathways patterns of study available to you. If you are thinking about following the Pathways alternative for the Higher School Certificate, you must discuss your course selection with your Careers teacher or a member of the Careers Team.

Throughout Stage 6 there are regular reviews of students who are not meeting minimum outcomes for their courses. Students may then be placed into a Pathways study program.

Record of School Achievement (RoSA)

The Record of School Achievement (RoSA) is issued by the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA).

Students may request a RoSA (including grades for each course) if they leave school after satisfactorily completing their Year 10 or Year 11 studies.

If the student leaves during Year 11 or Year 12 without completing their courses, the RoSA will list the courses that they were enrolled in at that time. There will be no grades on this RoSA.

After satisfactory completion of the Year 12 courses, students will receive the Higher School Certificate or a RoSA.

Conditions of enrolment

Students and supervisors are reminded that, as a condition of continued enrolment in distance education, work must be submitted every week in all courses. Students are expected to have a minimum 75% return rate.

Late enrolments

Year 11

Year 11 students enrolling at SDEHS after the end of Term 1 are strongly recommended to enrol in a Pathways program unless they have 75% (or more) attendance at their previous school.

A student's attendance percentage and details of work completed *in each course* must be verified by the student's previous school.

All students enrolled in Year 11 are reviewed on a regular basis. If the submission of coursework is unsatisfactory, it is expected that the student may move to a Pathways pattern of study.

Year 12

Year 12 students enrolling at SDEHS at the end of Term 4 or later are strongly recommended to enrol in a Pathways program unless they have 75% (or more) attendance at their previous school.

A student's attendance percentage and details of work already completed *in each course* must be verified by the student's previous school.

All students enrolled in Year 12 are reviewed on a regular basis. If the submission of coursework is unsatisfactory, it is expected that the student may move to a Pathways pattern of study.



School Delivered Vocational Education and Training (VET) Courses

Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses are offered as part of the Higher School Certificate (HSC) or Record of School Achievement (RoSA). VET courses are designed to deliver workplace specific skills and knowledge and cover a wide range of careers and industries. VET courses for secondary students are developed by NSW Educational Standards Authority (NESA) and are based on national training packages.

VET courses allow students to gain an HSC or RoSA and a national qualification or statement of attainment as part of the Australian Qualification Framework (AQF). These qualifications are widely recognised by industry, employers, tertiary training providers and universities and will assist students to progress to various education and training sectors and employment.

Public Schools NSW RTOs (Registered Training Organisations) are accredited to deliver and assess VET qualifications to secondary students. It is mandatory for all students studying a VET course to create a Unique Student Identifier (USI) upon enrolment. Students will require a form of identification for the creation of the USI. Examples include a Medicare card, Australian birth certificate, driver license or a valid passport.

Assessment in all VET courses is competency based. The student is assessed on what they can do (skills) and what they know (knowledge) to equip them in the workplace. Students are deemed either “competent” or “not yet competent” by the teacher. Students who have successfully achieved competency will have the skills and knowledge to complete workplace activities in a range of situations and environments, to an industry standard expected in the workplace.

Assessment materials are designed to ensure that each learner has the opportunity to achieve outcomes to the level of the qualification. Students will receive documentation showing all competencies achieved for the VET course undertaken.

Board Developed Industry Curriculum Framework (ICF) courses usually count for 4 units of HSC credit, include 70 hours of mandatory work placement, and have an optional HSC examination. For a VET course to be included in the calculation for the ATAR, students must sit the HSC Examination.

Board Endorsed Courses (BECs) are courses based on national industry Training Packages endorsed by NESA. They do not count towards the ATAR and there is no HSC examination.

Work placement

All VET courses have a mandatory work placement requirement set by NESA. Students will:

- gain insights into the kind of career they would like to have
- make informed decisions about further training and study
- become more employable
- be better equipped for business and employment opportunities.

There are other VET opportunities including:

Externally Delivered Vocational Education and Training (EVET)

Information and courses available are listed at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/career-and-study-pathways/skills-at-school/external-vet-courses>. Talk to your school Careers Adviser about how to access EVET.

School Based Apprenticeships and Traineeships (SBAT)

Information about SBATs is available at <https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/career-and-study-pathways/school-based-apprenticeships-and-traineeships>. For further information about how to access an SBAT opportunity please speak with your Careers Adviser.

Important information to consider when selecting VET courses

All VET courses offered at SDEHS require a minimum of 35 hours of mandatory work placement each year.

Hospitality assessments are conducted in a simulated work environment. Skills are demonstrated in an operational food preparation area, requiring students to attend 2 - 3 days a term on site at Woolloomooloo. This occurs in the SDEHS Hospitality kitchen and food is prepared for the SDEHS school coffee shop.

Hospitality students are required to demonstrate their ability to work with other students.

EVET courses (Externally Delivered VET courses)

EVET courses are VET courses studied through TAFE NSW or other training providers. EVET is Externally Delivered Vocational Education and Training. VET delivered through TAFE is referred to as TVET.

Some EVET courses include an HSC exam which provides the opportunity for students to have this course contribute towards the calculation of their ATAR.

Courses run at various locations and are delivered either face to face, online or in blocks of time during the year.

If you have particular interest in a career or course, speak to a member of the Careers Team. All applications will be screened to ensure student suitability.

There is no guarantee that an EVET course will proceed, as viability will be determined by student demand and the Department of Education budget.

Applications will open at the beginning of Term 3. The Careers Team will be providing information at this time.

Year 10 students in Middle School moving into Stage 6

Middle School does not continue into Stage 6. In Stage 6 all students go into mainstream courses.

Year 10 Middle School is not adequate preparation for HSC (ATAR) courses in Stage 6. However, students are able to access courses suitable to their ability which will lead to an HSC.

If a student is from Year 10 Middle School, a pattern of study that involves enrolment in non ATAR courses for Stage 6 is strongly recommended. If students are not meeting minimum outcomes upon review each term the study program will be adjusted.

Life Skills courses

Life Skills courses are NESA Developed courses for students with special education needs, primarily those with a diagnosed intellectual disability. They are not examined externally and do not contribute to an ATAR. If students satisfactorily complete a Life Skills course they will be issued a Profile of Student Achievement from NESA.

Eligibility for HSC Life Skills Program at SDEHS

For a small percentage of students with special education needs, particularly those with an intellectual disability, it may be appropriate to develop a pattern of study that includes one or more Life Skills courses.

A student studying any Stage 6 Life Skills course will usually have completed Life Skills courses in Years 7-10.

Applicants for Stage 6 Life Skills will be assessed on an individual basis in discussion with the Head Teacher Secondary Studies (Years 7-9 with Life Skills) and the Learning and Support Team.

HSC Minimum Standards

What are the HSC Minimum Standards?

NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) has established the HSC Minimum Standards to help ensure that students have the key literacy and numeracy skills for life after school. Students in New South Wales need to demonstrate a minimum standard of literacy and numeracy to receive the HSC testamur. The HSC Minimum Standards are set at level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework (ACSF). These skills are essential for everyday tasks and learning after school such as writing a job application or understanding a mobile phone plan. The standards are assessed through online tests which take 45 minutes to complete. The tests include a multiple choice reading test, a multiple choice numeracy test and a short writing test.

Practice online tests are available to enable students to become familiar with the test structure and to help schools to determine student readiness to meet the minimum standards.

Students will have seven opportunities each year to sit the tests throughout Years 10, 11 and 12.

Students with additional learning needs may be eligible for extra provisions for the minimum standards online tests and students taking four or more Life Skills courses are exempt from meeting the HSC minimum standard.

For further Information visit the NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) website at <https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/hsc/hsc-minimum-standards>

HSC: All My Own Work

HSC: All My Own Work is a program designed to help HSC students follow the principles and practices of good scholarship. This includes understanding, valuing and using ethical practices when locating and using information as part of their HSC studies.

Students and supervisors will receive more information in Term 4 on how to complete the All My Own Work course. The course needs to be completed by the end of November before starting Year 11.

What types of courses can I select?

There are different types of courses that you can select in Years 11 and 12.

Board Developed Courses

These courses are developed by NESA. NESA provides the following information for each course.

- A syllabus containing the course objectives, structure, content and outcomes, as well as specific course requirements.
- Assessment and reporting documentation.
- Sample examination papers and marking guidelines.
- Performance band descriptions and the common grade scale.

All students entered for the HSC who are studying these courses follow the NESA requirements. All of these courses are examined externally at the end of the HSC course and will count towards the calculation of the Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR). Some Board Developed courses require students to sit for the HSC exam if they wish the course to count towards their ATAR.

Board Endorsed Courses

These courses are NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments from other schools.

There are two main types of Board Courses.

- Content Endorsed Courses (CEC) have syllabuses endorsed by NESA to cater for areas of special interest not covered in the Board Developed Courses.
- School Developed Board Endorsed Courses are specialised designed courses that meet student needs (SDBEC). These courses must be approved by NESA. Once approval is granted, schools offer selected courses to senior students as part of the Higher School Certificate. SDEHS does not offer any of these courses.

Some Board Endorsed Courses are one-year courses.

There is no external examination for any Content Endorsed Course or School Developed Board Endorsed Course, and these courses do not count toward an ATAR however they do count towards the HSC.

All courses studied for the HSC will appear on the HSC Record of Achievement.

Vocational Education and Training (VET)

VET courses can be studied either at school or through other training providers. You will need to check with SDEHS about which courses are available and the requirements of the different courses. All VET courses require a minimum number of 35 hours in the work place each year of study.

VET courses contribute towards your HSC and the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF) VET credentials. They are recognised by industry and employers throughout Australia. All Board Developed VET courses have an optional HSC exam. If you choose to sit the exam, your results will also contribute to the calculation of your ATAR.

Board Developed Courses

Courses with an asterisk (*) are not available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments from other schools.

Subject	Courses (2 unit)	Year 11 Extension Courses (1 unit)	Year 12 Courses (1 unit)
Aboriginal Studies	Aboriginal Studies		
Agriculture	Agriculture*		
Ancient History	Ancient History		History Extension 1 ⁴
Biology	Biology*		
Business Studies	Business Studies*		
Chemistry	Chemistry*		
Community and Family Studies	Community and Family Studies		
Design and Technology	Design and Technology*		
Earth and Environmental Science	Earth and Environmental Science		
Economics	Economics		
Engineering Studies	Engineering Studies		
English ¹	English Standard English Advanced English Studies	English Extension 1	English Extension 1
Enterprise Computing	Enterprise Computing*		
Food Technology	Food Technology		
Geography	Geography		
Health and Movement Science	Health and Movement Science		
Industrial Technology ¹	Industrial Technology - Multimedia		
Legal Studies	Legal Studies		
Mathematics ¹	Mathematics Standard* Mathematics Standard 1 ² Mathematics Standard 2 ² Mathematics Advanced	Mathematics Extension 1	Mathematics Extension 1 Mathematics Extension 2
Modern History	Modern History*		History Extension 1 ⁴
Music ¹	Music 1 Music 2		Music Extension ³

Subject	Courses (2 unit)	Year 11 Courses (1 unit)	Year 12 Courses (1 unit)
Physics	Physics		
Society and Culture	Society and Culture*		
Software Engineering	Software Engineering		
Studies of Religion ¹	Studies of Religion 1* Studies of Religion 2*	Studies of Religion 1*	Studies of Religion 2
Textiles and Design	Textiles and Design		
Visual Arts	Visual Arts		

Course notes

1. A student may select one course only from each of these subject groups.
2. In Year 12, students must choose between Mathematics Standard 1 and Mathematics Standard 2.
3. You must study Music 2 if you wish to study Year 12 Music Extension.
4. You must study Modern or Ancient History if you wish to study History Extension 1.

Additional information about courses and the HSC is available on the NSW Education Standards Authority website: <http://www.educationstandards.nsw.edu.au>

Vocational Education and Training

These courses are available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments from other schools.

Subject	Courses (2 unit)
Business Services	Business Services
Hospitality	Hospitality – Cookery
Retail Services	Retail Services

Board Endorsed Courses

Content Endorsed Courses

These courses are NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments from other schools.

Subject	Courses (2 unit)	Year 11 Courses (1 unit)	Year 12 Courses (1 unit)
Computing Applications	Computing Applications ²		
Exploring Early Childhood		Exploring Early Childhood	Exploring Early Childhood ¹
Financial Management	Financial Management		
Marine Studies	Marine Studies ²		
Numeracy	Numeracy ¹		
Photography, Video and Digital Imaging	Photography, Video and Digital Imaging ¹		
Sport Lifestyle and Recreation	Sport Lifestyle and Recreation ^{1, 2}	Sport Lifestyle and Recreation	Sport Lifestyle and Recreation ^{1, 2}
Visual Design	Visual Design ^{1, 2}		

These courses are available to Year 11 and Year 12 Single Course enrolments from other schools.

Subject	Courses (2 unit)	Year 11 Courses (1 unit)	Year 12 Courses (1 unit)
Work Studies	Work Studies ^{1, 2}		Work Studies ²

Course notes

1. Year 12 course is available to Single Course enrolments only if the Year 11 course is completed.
2. Can be studied as a Year 12 stand-alone course.

Completion of a course

Satisfactory completion of a course

For courses to be recorded on a RoSA, a student must satisfactorily complete the course. NESA indicates that satisfactory completion of a course indicates:

- the student has met all or some of the course outcomes
- the student has made a genuine attempt at assessment tasks
- the student has worked with sustained diligence and sustained effort.

In addition to this:

- the student has adhered to the assessment procedures as outlined in the school's Assessment Policy
- the student has participated in experiences, which are required by the syllabus, eg assignments, tests and examinations, major works, practical projects, effective participation in course work
- students have prepared themselves sufficiently to enable them to make a serious attempt at the external HSC examination.

Note: All VET Industry Curriculum Framework Courses, and some VET Board Endorsed Courses, also require students to undertake set work placement hours to develop industry competencies and practise learned skills. Students must complete any required work placement to complete these courses. If mandatory work placements are not completed, the school will issue the student with a non-completion of course determination.

You will receive a warning if your performance is unsatisfactory

If a student is in danger of not completing a course, the school will give the student written warning in time for them to meet the criteria above.

If the student does not complete a course:

- they will receive no results in that course
- the course will not appear on their NESA record
- the course will not count towards their pattern of study.

The school will tell them in writing and inform NESA if the Principal determines that they did not complete a course. The student will then have the right to appeal against this determination.

What do you get at the end?

The RoSA is a **cumulative credential** in that it allows students to accumulate their academic results until they leave school.

Eligible students who leave school before receiving their Higher School Certificate (HSC) will receive the NSW Record of School Achievement (RoSA).

Higher School Certificate (Year 12) credentials issued to eligible students upon completing their HSC include the following.

- Higher School Certificate testamur.
- Higher School Certificate Record of Achievement.
- VET certificate or statement of attainment (if a VET course was undertaken).
- Student learning profile (if a Life Skills course was undertaken).

Information about school contributions for Year 11 and Year 12 students

Voluntary General School Contribution

\$ 138 (halved if 6 units or fewer)

Course Contributions

- Voluntary General Course Contribution \$ 97
- Course Contributions Specific (may apply, if there is an extra course cost)
For each of the following courses there is an annual contribution for the duration of the course.
This covers kits and consumables used during the course.
 - Hospitality – Cookery (SIT20421) (*Year 11*) \$ 30
 - Hospitality – Cookery (SIT20421) (*Year 12*) \$ 30
 - Languages studied through NSW School of Languages (for 2 years) \$ 230
 - Textiles and Design (*Year 11 only*) \$ 30
 - Software Engineering - Mechatronics Kit (*Year 11 only*) \$ 85
 - Visual Arts – Senior Art Kit (optional) \$ 85
 - HSC students provide their own art materials for their Body of Work
 - Visual Design (*Year 11*) \$ 20
 - Visual Design (*Year 12*) \$ 20

Notes

- An invoice will be sent after the student is enrolled or promoted from Year 11 and Year 12.
- Pathways students studying 6 units or fewer in a year are requested to pay half the Voluntary General School Contribution. This is \$69 a year.
- Please contact the School Administrative Manager if you wish to discuss these contributions. All contributions are voluntary and financial student assistance is available for school and course contributions.

COURSE DESCRIPTIONS

Students must choose one of the mandatory Board Developed English courses.
Students choose their other courses from the Board Developed course options.

MANDATORY COURSE OPTIONS

English Standard

Course No: 11130 English Standard (2 units – Year 11)

15130 English Standard (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The English Standard course provides students, who have a diverse range of literacy skills, with the opportunity to analyse, study and enjoy a breadth and variety of English texts to become confident and effective communicators.

English Standard offers a rich language experience that is reflected through the integrated modes of reading, writing, speaking, listening, viewing and representing. Through study of the course modules students continue to develop their skills to analyse, reconsider and refine meaning and to reflect on their own processes of responding, composing and learning.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Students study the mandatory module, *Reading to Write: Transition to English Standard* and undertake the close reading of quality texts from a variety of modes and mediums. In doing so, they develop the knowledge to appreciate, understand, analyse and evaluate the ways texts convey complex ideas, relationships, endeavours and scenarios. Central to this focus area is developing student capacity to respond perceptively to texts through their own thoughtful writing and reflection on their knowledge and skills as writers. Through wide reading and the close study of texts, students develop insights into the world around them, deepen their understanding of themselves and the lives of others, and enhance their enjoyment of reading. Students also study two additional modules: *Contemporary Possibilities* and *Close Study of Literature*.

Year 12 course

This information is applicable to students completing the HSC in 2026.

- The Year 12 Common Content consists of one module *Texts and Human Experiences* which is common to the Year 12 Standard, the Year 12 Advanced and the Year 12 English Studies courses where students analyse and explore texts and apply skills in synthesis.
- Three additional modules emphasise particular aspects of shaping meaning. Students study, analyse, respond to and compose texts to extend their knowledge, skills and confidence as readers, writers and critical thinkers. These modules are *Language, Identity and Culture*, *Close Study of Literature*, and *Craft of Writing*.
- Common Module: Texts and Human Experiences – *Rainbow's End*, Jane Harrison.
- Module A: Language, Identity and Culture – *One Night the Moon*, Rachel Perkins.
- Module B: Close Study of Literature – *Feed*, M T Anderson.
- Module C: The Craft of Writing – At least two challenging short prescribed texts and a selection of texts from their own wide reading.

Course requirements

Across the English Standard Stage 6 course students are required to study:

- a range of types of texts inclusive of prose fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction, film, media and digital texts
- texts which are widely regarded as quality literature, including a range of literary texts written about intercultural experiences and the peoples and cultures of Asia
- a range of Australian texts, including texts by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander authors and those that give insights into diverse experiences of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- texts with a wide range of cultural, social and gender perspectives.

Year 11 course

Students are required to study:

- one complex multimodal or digital text in Module A, *Contemporary Possibilities*. This may include the study of film
- one substantial literary print text in Module B, *Close Study of Literature*, for example prose fiction, drama or a poetry text, which may constitute a selection of poems from the work of one poet
- a range of types of texts drawn from prose fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction, film, media and digital texts
- a wide range of additional related texts and textual forms.

Year 12 course

Students are required to study:

- at least three types of prescribed text, one drawn from each of the following categories: prose fiction; poetry or drama; film or media or nonfiction texts
- at least two additional prescribed texts from the list provided in *Module C: The Craft of Writing*
- at least one related text in the *Common Module: Texts and Human Experiences*.

English Advanced

Course No: 11140 English Advanced (2 units – Year 11)
15140 English Advanced (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

In the English Advanced course, students continue to explore opportunities to investigate complex ideas in challenging texts, to evaluate, emulate and employ powerful, creative and sophisticated ways to use language to make meaning, and to find enjoyment in literature.

The English Advanced course is designed for students who have a particular interest and ability in the subject and who desire to engage with challenging learning experiences that will enrich their personal, intellectual, academic, social and vocational lives.

Students refine their understanding of the dynamic relationship between language, texts and meaning. They do this through critical study and through the skilful and creative use of language forms and features, and of structures of texts composed for different purposes in a range of contexts. Through study of the course modules students continue to develop their skills to question, reconsider and refine meaning through language, and to reflect on their own processes of responding, composing and learning.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Students study the mandatory module, *Reading to Write: Transition to English Advanced* and undertake the close reading of quality texts from a variety of modes and mediums. In doing so, they develop the knowledge to appreciate, understand, analyse and evaluate the ways texts convey complex ideas, relationships, endeavours and scenarios. Central to this focus area is developing student capacity to respond perceptively to texts through their own thoughtful writing and reflection on their knowledge and skills as writers. Through wide reading and the close study of texts, students develop insights into the world around them, deepen their understanding of themselves and the lives of others, and enhance their enjoyment of reading. Students also study two additional modules: *Narratives that Shape our World* and *Critical Study of Literature*.

Year 12 course

This information is applicable to students completing the HSC in 2026.

- The Year 12 Common Content consists of one module *Texts and Human Experiences* which is common to the Year 12 Standard, the Year 12 Advanced and the Year 12 English Studies courses where students analyse and explore texts and apply skills in synthesis.
- Three additional modules emphasise particular aspects of shaping meaning and representation, questions of textual integrity and ways in which texts are valued.
- Common Module: Texts and Human Experiences – *The Crucible*, Arthur Miller.
- Module A: Textual Conversations – *King Richard III*, William Shakespeare and *Looking for Richard*, Al Pacino.
- Module B: Critical Study of Literature – *Emma*, Jane Austen.
- Module C: The Craft of Writing – At least two challenging short prescribed texts and a selection of texts from their own wide reading.

Course requirements

Across the English Advanced Stage 6 course students are required to study:

- a range of types of texts inclusive of prose fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction, film, media and digital texts
- texts which are widely regarded as quality literature, including a range of literary texts written about intercultural experiences and the peoples and cultures of Asia
- a range of Australian texts, including texts by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander authors and those that give insights into diverse experiences of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- texts with a wide range of cultural, social and gender perspectives.

Year 11 course

Students are required to study:

- a range of types of texts drawn from prose fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction, film, media and digital texts
- a wide range of additional related texts and textual forms.

Year 12 course

Students are required to study:

- at least four prescribed texts, one drawn from each of the following categories: Shakespearean drama; prose fiction; poetry or drama. The remaining text may be film or media or a nonfiction text or may be selected from one of the categories already used
- at least two additional prescribed texts from the list provided in *Module C: The Craft of Writing*
- at least one related text in the *Common Module: Texts and Human Experiences*.

English Studies

Course No: 30105 English Studies (2 units – Year 11)
15125 English Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Optional examination: English Studies students who intend to undertake the optional HSC examination must also be enrolled in:

15126 English Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

This course is designed to meet the specific needs of students who wish to refine their skills and knowledge in English and consolidate their literacy skills.

The English Studies course provides students with opportunities to become competent, confident and engaged communicators and to study and enjoy a breadth and variety of texts. Students explore the ideas, values, language forms, features and structures of texts in a range of personal, social, cultural, academic, community and workplace contexts. Through responding to and composing texts, students strengthen their ability to access and comprehend information, assess its reliability, and synthesise the knowledge gained from a range of sources for a variety of purposes.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Students study the mandatory module, *Reading to Write: Transition to English Studies* to develop their skills as writers. They engage with a wide range of texts to expand their skills of analysis and evaluation and develop insights into their world, deepen their understanding of themselves and the lives of others. Students also study 2-3 additional syllabus modules (selected based on their needs and interests).

Year 12 course

This information is applicable to students completing the HSC in 2026.

- The Year 12 Common Content consists of one module, *Texts and Human Experiences*, which is also common to the Year 12 Standard and the Year 12 Advanced courses where students analyse and explore texts and apply skills in synthesis.
- Students study 2 to 4 additional syllabus modules (selected based on their needs and interests).
- Common Module: Texts and Human Experiences *Rainbow's End*, Jane Harrison.
- Discovery and Investigations – English and the sciences.
- The Way We Were – English for exploring our past.
- We are Australians: English in citizenship, community and cultural identity.
- Part of the Family – English and exploring what is meant by “family”? (complexity and diversity).

Course requirements

Year 11 courses

Across Stage 6, the selection of texts must give students experience of:

- texts that are widely regarded as quality literature
- a range of Australian texts
- a range of texts authored by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- a range of types of texts, which could include prose fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction, film, media and digital texts
- texts with a wide range of cultural, social and gender perspectives, and popular and youth cultures
- integrated modes of reading, writing, listening, speaking, viewing and representing, where appropriate.

Students are required to study ONE substantial multimodal text, which could be film or media.

Students are required to study ONE substantial print text, which could be prose fiction, nonfiction, poetry or drama.

Year 12 course

Across Stage 6 the selection of texts must give students experiences of the following as appropriate:

- reading, viewing, listening to and composing a wide range of texts, including literary texts written about intercultural experiences and peoples and cultures of Asia
- Australian texts including texts by Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander authors and those that give insights into diverse experiences of Aboriginal and/or Torres Strait Islander Peoples
- texts with a wide range of cultural, social and gender perspectives, popular and youth cultures
- a range of types of text drawn from prose fiction, drama, poetry, nonfiction, film, media and digital texts.

In addition to the above requirements, students in Year 12 **only** are required to study ONE text from the prescribed text list and one related text for the Common Module - *Texts and Human Experiences*.

MANDATORY COURSE

Life Ready

Life Ready is a mandatory 25 hour course in Personal Development and Health in NSW government schools. It has been developed to address some of the personal and social issues that face young people in schools today.

The course focuses on six key areas – personal identity, relationships, mental health and wellbeing, drugs and alcohol, sexuality and health, and safe travel. There is considerable research suggesting that the wellbeing of young people is likely to be at risk during this time as they struggle to deal with change in most areas of their life.

Life Ready does not count towards the 12 units required in Year 11. The 25-hour Life Ready course is mandatory.

COURSE OPTIONS

Aboriginal Studies

Course No: 11000 Aboriginal Studies (2 units – Year 11)

15000 Aboriginal Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 course focuses on Aboriginal Peoples' relationship to the Land, Aboriginal heritage and identity, and an historical examination of colonialism, racism and prejudice from pre-contact times to the 1960s. The course also includes the development of skills in culturally appropriate research and inquiry methods. It involves case studies.

The Year 12 course provides for in depth study of legislation, policy, judicial processes and current events from the 1960s. During the course, students will undertake consultation with Aboriginal communities and will study the course through the experiences of national and international Indigenous communities. Students apply research and inquiry methods through the completion of a major project.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Part I: Aboriginality and the land**
 - Aboriginal Peoples' relationship to Country
 - Dispossession and dislocation of Aboriginal Peoples from Country
 - Impact of British colonisation on Country
- **Part II: Heritage and identity**
 - The Dreaming and cultural ownership
 - Diversity of Aboriginal cultural and social life
 - Impact of colonisation on Aboriginal cultures and families
 - Impact of racism and stereotyping
- **Part III: International Indigenous community: Comparative study**
 - Location, environment and features of an international Indigenous community
 - Comparison of the key experiences of the international Indigenous and an Australian Aboriginal community in relation to Aboriginality and the land; and Heritage and identity
- **Part IV: Research and inquiry methods: Local community case study**
 - Methods and skills relating to: community consultation; planning research; acquiring information; processing information; communicating information

Year 12 course

- **Part I – Social justice and human rights**
 - (a) Global perspective: Global understanding of human rights and social justice AND
 - (b) Comparative study: A comparative case study on an Aboriginal and international Indigenous community, in relation to both of the following topics: Health and Criminal Justice
- **Part II – Case study of an Aboriginal community**
 - Heritage and identity – Contemporary aspects of Aboriginal heritage and identity, government policies and legislation; non-Aboriginal responses
- **Part III – Research and inquiry methods – Major project:** Choice of project topic based on student interest

Course requirements

In both courses, students must undertake mandatory case studies. The project log will document all work completed, including the sequential development of the project and the nature and timing of community-based fieldwork.

PLEASE NOTE - This course requires ongoing contact with the student's local Aboriginal Community over 2 years. Students travelling overseas need to ensure they already have a relationship with the student's local Aboriginal community to give themselves the best opportunity to meet requirements of this course.

Agriculture

Course No: 11010 Agriculture (2 units – Year 11)*
15010 Agriculture (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

The Year 11 course combines applied biology, earth sciences and economics, relating to food and fibre production. This course assumes a basic understanding of Science at the Year 10 level. The course requires you to carry out plant and poultry growth practical projects and produce a report on each. You will also be expected to attend an arranged excursion to a farm near Camden.

The Year 12 course builds on the Year 11 course, while emphasising management, marketing, economics, sustainability and new technologies. You will also be expected to attend an arranged excursion to support a farm product study project.

Please note that both Year 11 and Year 12 Agriculture should be regarded as academic subjects. They require a substantial commitment to reading course work materials throughout both courses.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Overview and Farm case study (40%).
- Plant production (30%).
- Animal production (30%).

Topics include: It's a big field (an overview of Australian agriculture), Down to earth (on soils and plant science), On the case (farm case study), Hands on (poultry raising project), Looking at ewe (on fat lamb production), Crop this (on crop production).

Year 12 course

Core (80%)

- Plant/animal production (50%).
- Farm product study (30%).

Elective (20%)

Choose ONE of the following electives to study:

- Agri-food, fibre and fuel technologies.
- Climate challenge.
- Farming for the 21st century.

Topics include: Sustainable farm production, Cattle production (relating to beef), Farm product study, Grape production, Farming in the 21st Century (relating to current issues, new technologies and research methods in agriculture).

Course requirements

Practical experiences should occupy a minimum of 30% of both Year 11 and Year 12 course time.

Practical and other requirements

Year 11 course

The following are essential course requirements. Students are advised NOT to select this course if they are unlikely to be able carry out the following activities:

- have a suitable place to carry out an experimental plant growth study using vegetables grown in pots
- have a suitable place to raise chickens from day-old chicks for at least 6 to 8 weeks
- attend an arranged excursion to a farm near Camden
- use a computer with access to the Internet.

Year 12 course

The following are essential course requirements. Students are advised NOT to select this course if they are unlikely to be able carry out the following activities:

- have a suitable place to carry out an experiment relating to the optimum planting density of grazing oats grown in pots
- attend an arranged excursion to produce a farm product study report
- use a computer with access to the Internet.

Ancient History

Course No: 11020 Ancient History (2 units – Year 11)
15020 Ancient History (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 course provides students with opportunities to develop and apply their understanding of methods and issues involved in the investigation of the ancient past. Students have the opportunity to engage in the study of a range of features, people, places, events and developments of the ancient world.

The Year 12 course provides students with opportunities to apply their understanding of archaeological and written sources and relevant issues in the investigation of the ancient past. Through a core study, students investigate the cities of Pompeii and Herculaneum, and explore issues relating to reconstruction and conservation of the past. They also study the key features and sources of an ancient society, personality and historical period.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course comprises three sections.

- **Investigating Ancient History**
 - Students undertake at least one option from 'The nature of Ancient History', and at least two case studies.
 - (a) List A case study – Thera
 - (b) List B case study – Persepolis
- **Features of Ancient Societies**
 - Students study at least two ancient societies.
 - (a) Rome + Art and architecture
 - (b) Egypt + Death and funerary customs
- **Historical Investigation**

Historical concepts and skills are integrated with the studies undertaken in Year 11.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course comprises four sections.

- **Core study:** Cities of Vesuvius – Pompeii and Herculaneum.
- **One 'Ancient societies' topic** – Sparta.
- **One 'Personalities in their times' topic** – Xerxes (Near East).
- **One 'Historical periods' topic** – Greece 500–440 BC.

Historical concepts and skills are integrated with the studies undertaken in Year 12.

Course requirements

Year 11 course

In the Year 11 course, students undertake at least two case studies.

- One case study must be from Egypt, Greece, Rome or Celtic Europe.
- One case study must be from Australia, Asia, the Near East or the Americas.

Year 12 course

In the Year 12 course, students study from at least two of the following areas.

- Egypt.
- Near East.
- China.
- Greece.
- Rome.

Biology

Course No: 11030 Year 11 Biology (2 units – Year 11)*
15030 Year 12 Biology (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

The Year 11 course investigates cellular structure and provides a basis for understanding the way in which multicellular organisms transport and absorb nutrients and carry out gas exchange. Exploring variations in the structures and functions of organisms provides an understanding of the effects of the environment on living things and on biodiversity.

The Year 12 course investigates reproduction, inheritance patterns and the causes of genetic variation in both plants and animals. Applications of this knowledge in biotechnology and various genetic technologies are explored in the light of their uses in the treatment, prevention and control of infectious and non-infectious diseases.

The course is academically demanding and requires high level of literacy skills. A thorough comprehension and effective communication of the interconnectedness among concepts is essential for attaining excellence.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 1:** Cells as the basis of life.
- **Module 2:** Organisation of living things.
- **Module 3:** Biological diversity.
- **Module 4:** Ecosystem dynamics.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 5:** Heredity.
- **Module 6:** Genetic change.
- **Module 7:** Infectious disease.
- **Module 8:** Non-infectious disease and disorders.

Course requirements

Students are provided with 15 hours of course time for depth studies in both Year 11 and Year 12. During this time students undertake an investigation/activity that allows for the further development of one or more scientific concepts.

A depth study may be one investigation/activity or a series of investigations/activities. Depth studies may be included in one module or across several modules.

Practical investigations are an essential part of the Year 11 and Year 12 courses and must occupy a minimum of 35 hours of course time each year. Fieldwork is an integral part of the learning process.

Business Studies

Course No: 11040 Business Studies (2 units – Year 11)*
15040 Business Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

Business activity is a feature of everyone's life. The Business Studies syllabus encompasses the theoretical and practical aspects of business in ways students will encounter throughout their lives. It offers learning from the planning of a small business to the management of operations, marketing, finance and human resource in large businesses.

Contemporary business issues and case studies are embedded in the course to provide a stimulating and relevant framework for students to apply to problems encountered in the business environment. Business Studies fosters intellectual, social and moral development by assisting students to think critically about the role of business and its ethical responsibilities to society.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Nature of business:** The role and nature of business.
- **Business management:** The nature and responsibilities of management.
- **Business planning:** Establishing and planning a small to medium enterprise.

Year 12 course

- **Operations:** Strategies for effective operations management.
- **Marketing:** Development and implementation of successful marketing strategies.
- **Finance:** Financial information in the planning and management of business.
- **Human resources:** Human resource management and business performance.

Chemistry

Course No: 11050 Chemistry (2 units – Year 11)*
15050 Chemistry (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

The Year 11 course develops the knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to the properties and structures of matter, the types and drivers of chemical reactions and how we measure the quantities involved in these processes.

The Year 12 course builds on the concepts introduced in Year 11 by examining particular classes of chemicals, processes and a variety of chemical reactions which incorporate organic compounds and acid/base equilibrium reactions. The course challenges students to apply this knowledge to the investigation of a range of methods used in identifying and measuring quantities of chemicals which leads to an understanding of the structure, properties and trends of and between classes of chemicals.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 1:** Properties and structure of matter.
- **Module 2:** Introduction to quantitative chemistry.
- **Module 3:** Reactive chemistry.
- **Module 4:** Drivers of reactions.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 5:** Equilibrium and acid reactions.
- **Module 6:** Acid/base reactions.
- **Module 7:** Organic chemistry.
- **Module 8:** Applying chemical ideas.

Course requirements

Students are provided with 15 hours of course time for depth studies in both Year 11 and Year 12. During this time students may undertake an investigation/activity that allows for the further development of one or more scientific concepts.

A depth study may be one investigation/activity or a series of investigations/activities. Depth studies may be included in one module or across several modules.

Practical investigations are an essential part of the Year 11 and Year 12 courses and must occupy a minimum of 35 hours of course time each year.

The Chemistry Stage 6 course is academically demanding and requires well-developed literacy and numeracy skills. The course is designed for students who have at least a substantial or high achievement level in Year 10 Science (Grade B or above).

Community and Family Studies

Course No: 11060 Community and Family Studies (2 units – Year 11)
15060 Community and Family Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

Community and Family Studies is designed to develop in each student an understanding of the diverse nature and interdependence of families and communities, within Australian society. The course enables students to plan and manage resources effectively in order to address contemporary issues facing families and communities.

What students learn

Through the study of the Community and Family Studies course, students learn to develop:

- knowledge and understanding about resource management and its role in ensuring individual, group, family and community wellbeing
- knowledge and understanding about the contribution positive relationships make to individual, group, family and community wellbeing
- knowledge and understanding about the influence of a range of societal factors on individuals and the nature of groups, families and communities
- knowledge and understanding about research methodology and skills in researching, analysing and communicating
- skills in the application of management processes to meet the needs of individuals, groups, families and communities
- skills in critical thinking and the ability to take responsible action to promote wellbeing
- an appreciation of the diversity and interdependence of individuals, groups, families and communities.

Year 11 course

- **Resource management (20%):** Basic concepts of the resource-management process.
- **Individuals and groups (40%):** The individual's roles, relationships and tasks within and between groups.
- **Families and communities (40%):** Family structures and functions, and the interaction between family and community.

Year 12 course

- **Research methodology (25%):** Research methodology and skills culminating in the production of an Independent Research Project.
- **Groups in context (25%):** The characteristics and needs of specific community groups.
- **Parenting and caring (25%):** Issues facing individuals and groups who adopt roles of parenting and caring in contemporary society.

Year 12 modules

- **Individuals and work (25%):** Contemporary issues confronting individuals as they manage roles within both their family and work environments.

Course requirements

The Year 11 course consists of three mandatory modules and the indicative course time allocated to their study.

The Year 12 course consists of three mandatory modules representing 75 per cent of course time and one option representing 25 per cent of course time.

Students are required to complete a teacher facilitated Independent Research Project (IRP) in the context of the HSC core module – Research Methodology. This forms part of the HSC internal assessment.

Design and Technology

Course No: 11080 Design and Technology (2 units – Year 11)*
15080 Design and Technology (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

The Year 11 course involves the study of both designing and producing. This is explored through areas such as design theory and practice, design processes, environmental and social issues, communication, research, technologies, and the manipulation of materials, tools and techniques. The course involves practical activities which develop knowledge and skills in designing and producing. The Year 11 course includes the completion of two design projects. These projects involve the design, production and evaluation of a product, system or environment and includes evidence of the design process recorded in a design folio. The design folio can take a variety of different forms.

The Year 12 course applies the knowledge and understanding of designing and producing from the Year 11 course. It involves the development and realisation of a Major Design Project, a case study of an innovation, along with the study of innovation and emerging technologies. The study of the course content is integrated with the development of a Major Design Project, worth 60% of the HSC mark. This project requires students to select and apply appropriate design, production and evaluation skills to a product, system or environment that satisfies an identified need or opportunity. The written exam is worth 40% of the HSC mark. The case study of an innovation requires students to identify the factors underlying the success of the innovation selected, analyse associated ethical issues and discuss its impact on Australian society.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course involves both theory and practical work in designing and producing. This includes the study of design theory and practice, design processes, factors affecting design and producing, design and production processes, technologies in industrial and commercial settings, environmental and social issues, creativity, collaborative design, project analysis, marketing and research, management, using resources, communication, manufacturing and production, computer-based technologies, work health and safety, evaluation, and manipulation of materials, tools and techniques.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course involves the study of design theory and practice, design processes, environmental and social issues, communication, research, technologies, and the manipulation of materials, tools and techniques. It includes practical activities which develop knowledge and skills in designing and producing. The course includes development, realisation and documentation of design projects. The Major Design Project and supporting folio requires students to select and apply appropriate design, production and evaluation skills to a product, system or environment that satisfies an identified need or opportunity. Innovation and emerging technologies are included in the content.

Course requirements

In the Year 11 and 12 courses, all materials for practical projects must be supplied by students.

In the Year 11 course, students must participate in practical activities and undertake a minimum of two design projects. The projects will develop skills and knowledge to be further developed in the Year 12 course. Students will develop their knowledge of the activities within industrial and commercial settings which support design and technology and relate these processes to the processes used in their own designing and producing. Each project will place emphasis on the development of different skills and knowledge in designing and producing. This is communicated in a variety of forms, but students should be encouraged to communicate their design ideas using a range of appropriate media.

In the Year 12 course the activities of designing and producing that were studied in the Year 11 course are synthesised and applied. This culminates in the development and realisation of a Major Design Project and a case study of an innovation. Students should select and use the wide range of skills and knowledge developed in the Year 11 course, appropriate to their selected project. They must also relate the techniques and technologies used in industrial and commercial settings to those used in the development of design projects.

In Year 12 student-teacher meetings are required for ongoing supervision.

Technology and other requirements

- Computer, printer and Internet.
- Technological equipment necessary for individual Design Projects and Major Design Project development and realisation.
- Digital devices such as phone.
- Workshop or space for production of design projects.

Earth and Environmental Science

Course No: 11100 Earth and Environmental Science (2 units – Year 11)

15100 Earth and Environmental Science (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 course investigates compositional layers of the Earth, the origins of minerals, tectonic movements and energy transformations includes the study of human impact on the Earth's resources and its surface.

The Year 12 course investigates how the processes of plate tectonics, the formation of water and the introduction of life interact with the atmosphere, the formation of fossils, what fossils can tell us about earth history, hydrosphere, lithosphere and climate.

Investigation of hazards, the mitigation of their effects and resource management are also considered which leads to an understanding of the need to centralise the theme of sustainability for the long term welfare of our planet and all forms of life dependent upon it.

Students who have shown an achievement in, and/or aptitude for, any of the Stage 6 Science courses - Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science, Investigating Science or Physics - in Year 11, may choose to study Science Extension in Year 12.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 1:** Earth's resources.
- **Module 2:** Plate tectonics.
- **Module 3:** Energy transformations.
- **Module 4:** Human impacts.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 5:** Earth's processes.
- **Module 6:** Hazards.
- **Module 7:** Climate science.
- **Module 8:** Resource management.

Course requirements

Students are provided with 15 hours of course time for depth studies in both Year 11 and Year 12. During this time students may undertake an investigation/activity that allows for the further development of one or more scientific concepts.

A depth study may be one investigation/activity or a series of investigations/activities. Depth studies may be included in one module or across several modules.

Practical investigations are an essential part of the Year 11 and Year 12 courses and must occupy a minimum of 35 hours of course time each year.

Fieldwork is encouraged in both Year 11 and Year 12 and is an integral part of the learning process.

Economics

Course No: 11110 Economics (2 units – Year 11)
15110 Economics (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

Economics provides understanding for students about many aspects of how economies operate in the ever changing world.

Students need to be aware of current economic issues in both Australia and the global economy.

During the course, students will develop an ability to think critically, problem solve and gain aptitude for interpreting graphs and statistical data.

The Year 11 course is mainly microeconomic in nature focussing on aspects of the economic behaviour of consumers, business and government. Much of this behaviour is influenced by the operation of markets.

The focus of the course is on practical problems and issues. It provides both a theoretical and practical foundation for students to make informed judgement on economic issues and problems.

The Year 12 course builds on the fundamental concepts acquired in the Year 11 course. It emphasises the global economy and the impact of globalisation on individual economies with particular reference to Australia.

The focus of the course is on examining problems and issues that relate to the Australian economy and the macro and micro policies that government can implement to mitigate these issues.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Introduction to economics:** The nature of economics and the operation of an economy.
- **Consumers and business:** The role of consumers and business in the economy.
- **Markets:** The role of markets, demand, supply and competition.
- **Labour markets:** The workforce and role of labour in the economy.
- **Financial markets:** The financial markets in Australia, including the share market.
- **Government in the economy:** The role of government in the Australian economy.

Year 12 course

- **The global economy:** Features of the global economy and globalisation.
- **Australia's place in the global economy:** Australia's trade and finance.
- **Economic issues:** Issues including growth, unemployment, inflation, income and environmental sustainability, wealth.
- **Economic policies and management:** The range of policies to manage the Australian and global economy.

Engineering Studies

Course No: 11120 Engineering Studies (2 units – Year 11)
15120 Engineering Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

Both Year 11 and Year 12 courses offer students knowledge, understanding and skills in aspects of engineering that include communication, engineering mechanics/hydraulics, engineering materials, historical/societal influences, engineering electricity/electronics, and the scope of the profession. Students study engineering by investigating a range of applications and fields of engineering.

What students learn

Year 11 course

Students undertake the study of 4 compulsory modules.

THREE application modules based on engineering concepts and impacts through the study of engineering products. Engineering concepts and impacts are studied in each of the following categories:

- engineering fundamentals
- engineered products and
- braking systems.

ONE focus module relating to the field of biomedical engineering.

Year 12 course

Students undertake the study of 4 compulsory modules.

TWO application modules relating to the fields of:

- civil structures
- personal and public transport.

TWO focus modules relating to the fields of:

- aeronautical engineering
- telecommunications engineering.

Course requirements

Year 11 course

Students are required to produce an engineering reports in Module 2 (Engineering products), Module 3 (Braking systems), and Module 4 (Biomedical engineering).

Year 12 course

Students are required to produce one engineering report from either of the two engineering application modules, and one from either of the two engineering focus modules.

Technology requirements

Support material is supplied through our elearning site. Regular access to a computer and the Internet is essential.

English Extension 1

Course No: 11150 English Extension 1 (1 unit – Year 11)
15160 English Extension 1 (1 unit – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Prerequisites:

- 11150 English Extension (1 unit – Year 11) prerequisite for English Extension 1 in Year 12

Course description

The English Extension course provides students who undertake English Advanced, and are accomplished in their use of English, with the opportunity to extend their use of language and self-expression in creative and critical ways. The course is designed for students with an interest in literature and a desire to pursue specialised study of English.

Through engaging with increasingly complex concepts through a broad range of literature, from a range of contexts, students refine their understanding and appreciation of the cultural roles and the significance of texts and about the way that literature shapes and reflects the global world.

What students learn

Year 11 course

In the English Extension Year 11 course, students explore the ways in which aspects and concerns of texts from the past have been carried forward, borrowed from and/or appropriated into more recent culture. They consider how and why cultural values are maintained and changed.

The course has one mandatory module: *Texts, Culture and Value*, as well as an independent related research project.

- Students explore the ways in which aspects and concerns of texts from the past have been carried forward, borrowed from and/or appropriate into more recent culture. The module develops students' understanding of how and why cultural values are maintained and changed.
- Students also explore, analyse, and critically evaluate different examples of such texts in a range of contexts and media, including texts of their choosing.
- Related Project – This project provides opportunities for students to develop skills in independent investigation and critical and creative thinking. Students apply their knowledge about texts studied in this module to their own selected texts. They develop an understanding of research methodologies suitable to support a range of interpretive, analytical and imaginative projects.

Students select a key text and examine and evaluate manifestations of their selected texts in other contexts and media, while considering how and whether the values embedded in one text parallel, challenge or offer alternatives to the other.

Year 12 course

This information is applicable to students completing the HSC in 2026.

In the English Extension 1 Year 12 course, students explore, investigate, experiment with and evaluate the ways texts represent and illuminate the complexity of individual and collective lives in literary worlds.

Students must complete **one** elective chosen from the common module: *Literary Worlds*. The elective is *Literary Mindscapes*.

Common Module: Literary Worlds

In this module students explore, investigate, experiment with and evaluate the ways texts represent and illuminate the complexity of individual and collective lives in literary worlds. Students evaluate how ideas and ways of thinking are shaped by personal, social, historical and cultural contexts. They extend their understanding of the ways that texts contribute to their awareness of the diversity of ideas, attitudes and perspectives evident in texts.

Students explore, analyse and critically evaluate textual representations of the experiences of others, including notions of identity, voice and points of view; and how values are presented and reflected in texts. They deepen their understanding of how texts construct private, public and imaginary worlds that can explore new horizons and offer new insights.

Students consider how personal, social, historical and cultural context influence how texts are valued and how context influences their responses to these diverse literary worlds.

They appraise their own values, assumptions and dispositions as they develop further understanding of how texts make meaning.

In their study of literary worlds students experiment with critical and creative compositions that explore how language features and forms are crafted to express complex ideas and emotions, motivations, attitudes, experiences and values. These compositions may be realised in various forms, modes and media.

Students explore, analyse and critically evaluate a range of other texts that construct private, public and imaginary worlds.

Elective 4: Literary Mindscapes

In this elective, students explore and evaluate how literary texts can invite responders to engage with the interior worlds of individuals and how they perceive, think and feel about themselves and the societies in which they live. They analyse how texts communicate notions of identity and alternative ways of being and thinking through representations of the mind, including desires, motivations, emotions and memories. Students consider how these diverse textual representations enable the responder to experience insight into the lives of other groups and individuals, and other times and places. Students critically evaluate the values and assumptions embedded in texts and consider their own in relation to issues reflected in texts.

They reflect on the ways in which study of the texts may influence their own sense of identity. In their responding and composing, they explore, analyse, experiment with and critically evaluate their prescribed texts and other appropriate texts. They write their own imaginative compositions that represent the interior worlds of others.

In this elective, students are required to study at least three of the prescribed texts (including at least two extended print texts) as well as other texts of their own choosing. At least two related texts must be studied. Texts can be drawn from a range of times, contexts and media and should explore the interior world of others.

Enterprise Computing

Course No: 11175 Enterprise Computing (2 units – Year 11)* #
15175 Enterprise Computing (2 units – Year 12) #

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

The study of Enterprise Computing enables students to develop an understanding of the function and purpose of digital tools and processes, and the importance of data in enterprise information systems. This allows students to effectively use and manage digital tools and technologies in commercial and other settings.

Students develop an understanding of how computing technologies can be harnessed to provide effective user interaction and efficient access to information. Students perform project work and apply their knowledge and skills to develop an enterprise project.

Enterprise Computing encourages the understanding of the implications of responsible and ethical application of digital systems, and the application of appropriate standards in the development of solutions. They engage with technologies that improve access to, and participation in, computing technologies across a range of enterprises.

The Year 11 course provides students with the opportunity to develop and apply an understanding of enterprise computing systems in the safe and secure usage and storage of data. This is done by manipulating tools and resources while being aware of their social, ethical and legal implications.

The Year 12 course provides students with the opportunity to extend their knowledge and understanding of enterprise computing systems. This will then be applied to the development of a major enterprise project using project management skills.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Interactive media and the user experience.
- Networking systems and social computing.
- Principles of cybersecurity.

Year 12 course

- Data science.
- Data visualisation.
- Intelligent systems.
- Enterprise project.

Course requirements

Students must have access to Microsoft 365 and Adobe Creative Suite which will be used extensively throughout the course.

Food Technology

Course No: 11180 Food Technology (2 units – Year 11)
15180 Food Technology (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 and Year 12 Food Technology course aims to develop an understanding about food systems and skills that enable students to make informed decisions and carry out responsible actions. Students will also develop an appreciation of the importance of food to the wellbeing of the individual and to the social and economic future of Australia.

Students will develop:

- knowledge and understanding about food systems in the production, processing and consumption of food and an appreciation of their impact on society
- knowledge and understanding about the nature of food and human nutrition and an appreciation of the importance of food to health
- skills in researching, analysing and communicating food issues
- skills in experimenting with and preparing food by applying theoretical concepts
- skills in designing, implementing and evaluating solutions to food situations
- practical skills in planning, preparing and presenting food integrated throughout the core strands.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Food availability and selection (30%)**
The influence on food availability and factors affecting food selection.
- **Food quality (40%)**
Functional properties of food, safe preparation, presentation and storage of food, sensory characteristics of food.
- **Nutrition (30%)**
Food nutrition and diets for optimum nutrition.

Year 12 course

- **The Australian food industry (25%)**
Sectors, aspects, policies and legislations of the Australian food industry.
- **Food manufacture (25%)**
Production, processing, preserving, packaging, storage and distribution of food.
- **Food product development (25%)**
Reasons for and types of food product development, including steps, marketing and the factors impacting the development of food products.
- **Contemporary nutrition issues (25%)**
Nutrition, incorporating diet and health in Australia and the influences on nutritional status.

Course requirements

There is no prerequisite study for the 2 unit Year 11 course. Completion of the 2 unit Year 11 course is a prerequisite to the study of the 2 unit Year 12 course. In order to meet the course requirements, students study food availability and selection, food quality, nutrition, the Australian food industry, food manufacture, food product development and contemporary nutrition issues.

It is mandatory that students undertake practical activities. Such experiential learning activities are specified in the 'learn to' section of each strand.

Technology and other requirements

- A computer, printer and Internet.
- A practical kitchen work area and equipment.
- A digital device and photo editing software (recommended).

Geography

Course No: 11190 Geography (2 units – Year 11)
15190 Geography (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

Year 11 course

Students explore the intricate natural systems of our planet and discover how oceans, climates, and ecosystems shape the landscapes we observe today. They investigate the impacts of global land cover change, from vanishing rainforests to the encroachment of tropical waters. Students engage in a hands-on Geographical Investigation, empowering them to take charge of their learning journey. Students study the complexities of Geopolitics by tackling essential questions about conflicts, borders, and political influence - who controls space, why it matters, and what it means for the future.

Year 12 course

Students discover the dynamic world of HSC Geography, where students will gain a deep appreciation of geographical perspectives on contemporary issues like climate change and sustainability. This subject equips students with the knowledge to understand the characteristics, spatial patterns, and interactions of the geographical processes that shape our environment. Students will also explore the perspectives and connections of Indigenous Australians. Students engage in hands-on fieldwork and spatial technologies in and around the Sydney city and harbour. Join in HSC Geography to develop critical thinking skills and a greater awareness of the world around you!

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Earth's natural systems:** investigation into the interactions, functions and changes of Earth's interconnected components - the Atmosphere, Hydrosphere, Lithosphere and Ecosphere.
- **People, patterns and processes:** study of spatial patterns, human footprint, population change, resource consumption and international migration; investigation of systems of production, distribution and consumption.
- **Geographical investigation:** examination of the nature of engagement with geographical changes by research institutions, political debate, media and by individuals; focus on the nature of geographical inquiry and effective management of places and environments.

Year 12 course

- **Ecosystems and global biodiversity:** concepts, trends, values and management of biodiversity at a local and global scale; functioning of ecosystems, human-induced change and strategies for sustainable management.
- **Rural and urban places:** various types of settlements and places within both rural and urban settings; diverse case studies from Australia and around the globe; characteristics and functions of different environments; complexities of human geography and spatial dynamics.
- **Global sustainability:** environmental, cultural and economic sustainability examination underpinning the application of criteria to evaluate sustainability of one economic activity at a global scale.

Engage in hands-on fieldwork and spatial technologies in and around the Sydney city and harbour; develop critical thinking skills and a greater awareness of the world around us.

Course requirements

In senior Geography, students engage in fieldwork activities and in-depth research to complete a *Geographical Investigation* in Year 11, followed by an *Investigative Report* in Year 12.

Health and Movement Science

Course No: 11390 Health and Movement Science (2 units – Year 11)
15410 Health and Movement Science (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Health and Movement Science course is structured to provide students with opportunities to develop and apply their knowledge, understanding and skills of health and movement concepts. The course recognises the critical importance of each student developing a capacity to think about and act critically in regard to key issues related to health and movement. Emphasis is given to developing and applying the skills of collaboration, analysis, communication, creative thinking, problem-solving and research.

The Year 11 course is organised into 2 focus areas.

- Health for Individuals and Communities.
- The Body and Mind in Motion.

The Year 12 is organised into 2 focus areas.

- Health in an Australian and Global Context.
- Training for Improved Performance.

Depth studies are embedded in Years 11 and 12, and a Collaborative Investigation embedded in Year 11. The skills of collaboration, analysis, communication, creative thinking, problem-solving and research underpin the syllabus content.

What students learn

- Meanings of health and how health is measured.
- How body systems influence and respond to movement.
- Skills to support their own and others health and movement.
- How to evaluate the health status of Australians.
- The impact that chronic conditions and an ageing population have on the healthcare system.
- How athletes can train for sustained movement and performance.
- How to research and analyse a range of sources to make conclusions about health and movement concepts.

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course comprises 4 components. Students are required to study all 4 components of the course.

Core topics.

- Health for Individuals and Communities.
- The Body and Mind in Motion.
- Collaborative Investigation.
- Depth Studies (a minimum of 2).

Course requirements

The Year 11 Health and Movement Science course consists of 2 focus areas with the Depth Studies and Collaborative Investigation relating to these 2 focus areas.

The Collaborative Investigation is a compulsory part of the course. It is a requirement that students collaborate on a formally assessed task. The Collaborative Investigation task provides students with the opportunity to work collaboratively on an agreed topic, aligned with the content and concepts explored through coursework. Participation in the investigation allows students to build and extend their subject knowledge and develop a range of skills to apply their knowledge and understanding.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course comprises 3 components. Students are required to study all 3 components of the course.

Core topics.

- Health in an Australian and Global Context.
- Training for Improved Performance.
- Depth Studies (a minimum of 2).

Course requirements

The Year 12 Health and Movement Science Course consists of 2 focus areas with 2 Depth Studies, one of which will be formally assessed.

The Depth Studies provide students with opportunities to develop understanding of health and movement concepts.

History Extension

Course No: 15280 History Extension (1 unit – Year 12)
Board Developed Course

Note: Students interested in this course are required to apply to the Head Teacher History to discuss their eligibility before enrolment.

Course description

The History Extension course requires students to examine the way history is constructed and the role of historians. This involves reviewing the types of history that have been produced over time and the contexts in which they were developed. Students explore problems and issues associated with the construction of history through sampling the works of various writers, historians and others involved in the practice of history from ancient times to the present day. Students focus on an area of debate to consider how an historian's context, methodology and purpose shape their interpretation of a person, group, event or issue. Students apply their understanding and skills of historical inquiry by designing and conducting their own historical investigation. History Extension requires students to engage with complex historiographical ideas and methodologies and to communicate sophisticated, sustained and coherent historical arguments about the nature and construction of history.

What students learn

Year 12 Course

Part 1: Constructing History – key questions.

Part 2: Case study.

Part 3: History project – proposal, essay, bibliography, annotated sources and process log.

Course requirements

The course requires students to undertake:

one case study

the development of one History project.

Industrial Technology – Multimedia

Course No: 11200 Industrial Technology (2 units – Year 11)*
15200 Industrial Technology (2 units – Year 12)*

Board Developed Course

Note: * This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

Industrial Technology Stage 6 will develop a student's knowledge and understanding of the multimedia industry and its related technologies highlighting the importance of design, management and production through practical experiences.

The course consists of project work and an industry study that will develop a broad range of skills and knowledge related to the Multimedia focus area.

Multimedia Technologies is the only Industrial Technology focus area offered by SDEHS in 2026.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The following sections are taught in the Multimedia focus area.

- Industry study (15%).
- Design (10%).
- Management and communication (20%).
- Production (40%).
- Industry related manufacturing technology (15%).

This course centres on the Multimedia Technologies focus area. It aims to provide a broad range of skills and knowledge related to the multimedia industry including graphics, digital video, animation and interactive multimedia. Students are introduced to processes, skills and practices relevant to the design, management, communication and construction of practical projects. This course is delivered online and opportunities for face-to-face teaching and learning are also provided.

Year 12 course

The following sections are taught in the Multimedia focus area through the development of a Major Project and a study of a business/organisation associated with the multimedia industry.

- Industry study (15%).
- Major project (60%)
 - design, management and communication
 - production.
- Industry related manufacturing technology (25%).

The Year 12 Industrial Technology Multimedia course involves the development, management and communication of a major practical project and folio. Students will develop knowledge, skills and understanding related to the use of multimedia technologies including graphics, digital video, animation and interactive multimedia. This course is delivered online and opportunities for face-to-face teaching and learning are also provided. Students will also undertake the study of a business/organisation associated with the multimedia industry.

Course requirements

In the Year 11 course, students must design, develop and construct a number of digital projects. Each project will include a management folio. Students also undertake the study of a business/organisation within a focus area industry.

Practical assessment tasks are designed to develop and equip students with a broad range of multimedia skills in preparation for the HSC Major Project.

In the Year 12 course, students design, develop and construct a major project with a management folio. They will also undertake a study of a business/organisation related to the multimedia industry.

The final HSC result is composed of the following externally assessed components.

- Major project (60%).
- HSC examination (40%).

Technology requirements

Regular access to a computer, the Adobe Creative Cloud, the Microsoft Office Suite and the Internet is essential. Students will be provided with free access to both Adobe Creative Cloud and the Microsoft Office Suite.

Skill development

In the Year 11 course, students will gain a range of industrial design skills which can be applied to multiple industries. Practical skills include project management techniques, online communication and practice in the creation of video, animation, graphics, audio and websites using the Adobe Creative Cloud applications and other tools.

The Year 12 course provides opportunity for further development and demonstration of advanced skills using Adobe Creative Cloud applications and other tools. Students demonstrate their skills through a major project and an accompanying design folio, which are externally assessed and contribute to 60% of their HSC result for this course.

Other information

Industrial Technology Multimedia develops design skills for the creation of digital products using a range of technologies. It provides a solid foundation for students wishing to pursue a career or further education in the areas of digital media and graphical design.

Legal Studies

Course No: 11220 Legal Studies (2 units – Year 11)

15220 Legal Studies (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 course develops students' knowledge and understanding of the nature and functions of law and law-making, the development of Australian and international legal systems, the Australian constitution and law reform. It examines an individual's rights and responsibilities, how disputes are resolved and examines a contemporary issue concerning the individual and technology. Students have the opportunity to investigate issues that illustrate how the law operates in practice. This is achieved by investigating, analysing and synthesising legal information and investigating legal issues from a variety of perspectives.

The Year 12 course investigates the key areas of law, justice and human rights through a variety of focus studies which consider how changes in societies influence law reform.

Year 11 course

- **Part I:** The legal system.
- **Part II:** The individual and the law.
- **Part III:** The law in practice.

The Law in Practice Part III is designed to provide opportunities for students to deepen their understanding of the principles of law covered in the previous sections of the course.

Year 12 course

- **Core Part I:** Crime.
- **Core Part II:** Human rights.
- **Part III:** Two options
 - Consumers
 - Family.

Mathematics Standard 1

Course No: TBA Mathematics Standard (2 units – Year 11)*
15231 Mathematics Standard 1 (2 units – Year 12)

Optional examination: Mathematics Standard 1 Year 12 students who intend to undertake the optional HSC examination must also be enrolled in this course:

15232 Mathematics Standard 1 (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** The Year 11 Mathematics Standard course is NOT available to Single Course enrolments.

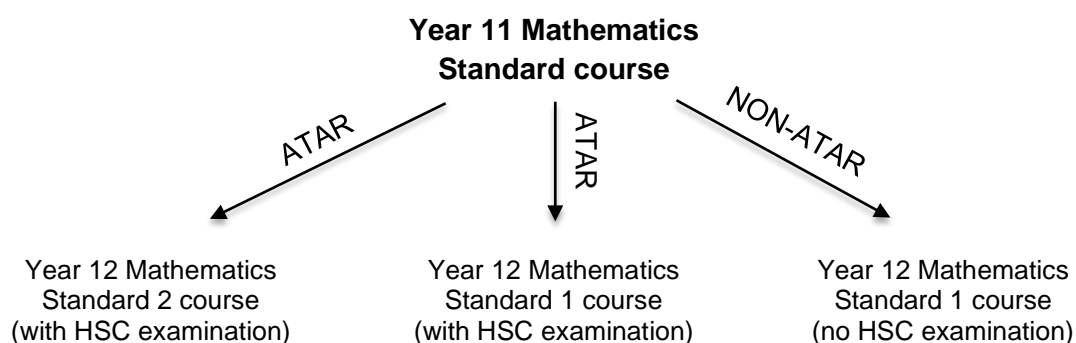
Mathematics Standard courses

The Mathematics Standard Year 11 course is a common course for all students studying the Mathematics Standard syllabus. In Year 12 students can elect to study either the Mathematics Standard 1 Year 12 course or the Mathematics Standard 2 Year 12 course.

Students studying the Mathematics Standard 1 course may elect to undertake an optional HSC examination.

To be eligible for an ATAR, students studying the Mathematics Standard 1 course must undertake a pattern of study to satisfy the ATAR requirements and complete the optional HSC examination.

All students studying the Mathematics Standard course in Stage 6 have the opportunity to enhance their numeracy skills and capabilities. The content of the course aligns with Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework.



Prerequisites:

The Mathematics Standard Year 11 course has been developed on the assumption that students have studied the content and achieved the outcomes of the *NSW Mathematics Years 7–10 Syllabus*.

Course description

Mathematics Standard students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how to work mathematically. Students develop understanding and competence in mathematics through real-world applications. These skills can be used in a range of concurrent HSC subjects.

Mathematics Standard 1 improves numeracy by building student confidence and making mathematics meaningful. Numerate students can manage situations or solve problems in everyday life, work or further learning.

What students learn

The study of Mathematics Standard 1 in Stage 6:

- enables students to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in working mathematically and in communicating concisely and precisely
- provides opportunities for students to consider various applications of mathematics in a broad range of contemporary contexts through the use of mathematical modelling and use these models to solve problems related to their present and future needs
- provides an appropriate mathematical background for students entering the workforce and/or undertaking further community and workplace training.

Year 11 course

The Mathematics Standard Year 11 course content comprises five areas of study, each divided into subtopics. In 2026 the NEW Mathematics Standard Year 11 course will be implemented. The topics and subtopics are:

Topic: Algebra

- Formulae and equations.
- Linear relationships.

Topic: Financial Mathematics

- Earning money.
- Managing money.

Topic: Measurement

- Applications of measurement.
- Time and location.

Topic: Networks

- Networks, paths and trees.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- Data analysis.

Year 12 course

The Mathematics Standard 1 Year 12 course content includes the same five topics. The topics and subtopics are:

Topic: Algebra

- Types of relationships.

Topic: Financial Mathematics

- Investment.
- Depreciation and loans.

Topic: Measurement

- Right-angled triangles.
- Rates.
- Scale drawings.

Topic: Networks

- Networks and paths.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- Further statistical analysis.

Mathematics Standard 2

Course No: TBA Mathematics Standard (2 units – Year 11)*
15236 Mathematics Standard 2 (2 units – Year 12)
Board Developed Course

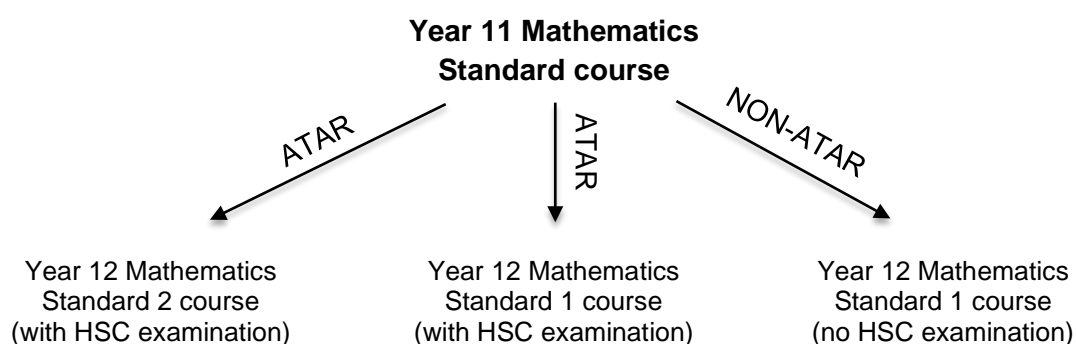
* **Note:** The Year 11 Mathematics Standard course is NOT available to Single Course enrolments.

Mathematics Standard courses

The Mathematics Standard Year 11 course is a common course for all students studying the Mathematics Standard syllabus. In Year 12 students can elect to study either the Mathematics Standard 1 Year 12 course or the Mathematics Standard 2 Year 12 course.

All students studying the Mathematics Standard 2 course will sit for an HSC examination.

All students studying the Mathematics Standard Year 11 course in Stage 6 have the opportunity to enhance their numeracy skills and capabilities. The content of the course aligns with Level 3 of the Australian Core Skills Framework.



Prerequisites:

The Mathematics Standard Year 11 course has been developed on the assumption that students have studied the content and achieved the outcomes of the *NSW Mathematics Years 7–10 Syllabus*.

Course description

Mathematics Standard students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how to work mathematically. Students develop understanding and competence in mathematics through real-world applications. These skills can be used in a range of concurrent HSC subjects.

In Mathematics Standard 2 students extend their mathematical skills beyond Stage 5 without the in-depth knowledge of higher mathematics that the study of calculus would provide. This course prepares students for a wide range of educational and employment aspirations, including continuing their studies at a tertiary level.

What students learn

The study of Mathematics Standard 2 in Stage 6:

- enables students to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in working mathematically and in communicating concisely and precisely
- provides opportunities for students to consider various applications of mathematics in a broad range of contemporary contexts through the use of mathematical modelling and use these models to solve problems related to their present and future needs
- provides opportunities for students to develop an understanding of and skills in further aspects of mathematics for concurrent HSC studies
- provides an appropriate mathematical background for students entering the workforce or undertaking further tertiary training.

Year 11 course

The Mathematics Standard Year 11 course comprises five areas of study, each divided into subtopics. In 2026 the NEW Mathematics Standard Year 11 course will be implemented. The topics and subtopics are:

Topic: Algebra

- Formulae and equations.
- Linear relationships.

Topic: Financial Mathematics

- Earning money.
- Managing money.

Topic: Measurement

- Applications of measurement.
- Time and location.

Topic: Networks

- Networks, paths and trees.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- Data analysis.

Year 12 course

The Mathematics Standard 2 Year 12 course content includes the same five topics. The topics and subtopics are:

Topic: Algebra

- Types of relationships.

Topic: Financial Mathematics

- Investments and loans.
- Annuities.

Topic: Measurement

- Non-right-angled Trigonometry.
- Rates and ratios.

Topic: Networks

- Network concepts.
- Critical path analysis.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- Bivariate data analysis.
- The normal distribution.

Mathematics Advanced

Course No: TBA Mathematics Advanced (2 units – Year 11)*
15255 Mathematics Advanced (2 units – Year 12)*
Board Developed Course

Note: * This course is ONLY available online.

Prerequisites:

The Mathematics Advanced Year 11 course has been developed on the assumption that students have studied the content and achieved the outcomes of the *NSW Mathematics Years 7–10 Syllabus* and, in particular, the Advanced Path outcomes.

Course description

Mathematics Advanced students will develop their knowledge and understanding of how to work mathematically.

The Mathematics Advanced course is a calculus based course focused on students:

- making connections in mathematics, across other subjects and in real world contexts
- enhancing their ability to problem-solve in familiar and unfamiliar situations
- extending their skills to communicate using the language of mathematics
- nurturing their ability to think logically, critically and creatively
- preparing them for a wide range of educational and employment opportunities, including the study of STEM-related fields at a tertiary level.

The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 11 course includes the Mathematics Advanced Year 11 course. The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 12 course includes the Mathematics Advanced Year 12 course.

All students studying the Mathematics Advanced course will sit for an HSC examination.

What students learn

The study of Mathematics Advanced in Stage 6:

- enables students to develop their knowledge, understanding and skills in working mathematically and in communicating concisely and precisely
- provides opportunities for students to consider various applications of mathematics in a broad range of contemporary contexts through the use of mathematical modelling and use these models to solve problems related to their present and future needs
- provides opportunities for students to develop ways of thinking in which problems are explored through observation, reflection and reasoning
- provides a basis for further studies in disciplines in which mathematics and the skills that constitute thinking mathematically have an important role
- provides an appropriate mathematical background for students whose future pathways may involve mathematics and its applications in a range of disciplines at the tertiary level.

Year 11 course

The Mathematics Advanced Year 11 course content comprises five topics, each divided into subtopics. In 2026 the NEW Mathematics Advanced Year 11 course will be implemented.

Topic: Functions

- Working with functions.
- Graph transformations.

Topic: Trigonometric Functions

- Trigonometry and measure of angles.
- Trigonometric identities and equations.

Topic: Calculus

- Introduction to differentiation.

Topic: Exponential and Logarithmic Functions

- Exponential and logarithmic functions.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- Probability and data.

Year 12 course

The Mathematics Advanced Year 12 course content includes four of the same topics, and the topic 'Financial Mathematics' in place of 'Exponential and Logarithmic Functions'.

Topic: Functions

- Graphing techniques.

Topic: Trigonometric Functions

- Trigonometric functions and graphs.

Topic: Calculus

- Differential calculus.
- Applications of differentiation.
- Integral calculus.

Topic: Financial Mathematics

- Modelling financial situations.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- Descriptive statistics and bivariate data analysis.
- Random variables.

Mathematics Extension 1

Course No: TBA Mathematics Extension 1 (1 unit – Year 11)*
15250 Mathematics Extension 1 (1 unit – Year 12)*
Board Developed Course

Note: * This course is ONLY available online.

Prerequisites:

The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 11 course has been developed on the assumption that students have studied the content and achieved the outcomes of the *NSW Mathematics Years 7–10 Syllabus* and, in particular, the Advanced and Extension 1 Path outcomes.

Course description

Mathematics Extension 1 is focused on enabling students to develop a thorough understanding of and competence in further aspects of mathematics. The course provides opportunities to develop rigorous mathematical arguments and proofs, and to use mathematical models more extensively.

The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 11 course includes the Mathematics Advanced Year 11 course. The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 12 course includes the Mathematics Advanced Year 12 course. At SDEHS the 3 units of Mathematics must be studied concurrently.

The Mathematics Extension 2 Year 12 course includes the Mathematics Extension 1 Year 12 course, and therefore also the Mathematics Advanced Year 12 course.

All students studying the Mathematics Extension 1 course will sit for an HSC examination.

What students learn

The study of Mathematics Extension 1 in Stage 6:

- enables students to develop thorough knowledge, understanding and skills in working mathematically and in communicating concisely and precisely
- provides opportunities for students to develop rigorous mathematical arguments and proofs, and to use mathematical models extensively
- provides opportunities for students to develop their awareness of the interconnected nature of mathematics, its beauty and its functionality
- provides a basis for progression to further study in mathematics or related disciplines and in which mathematics has a vital role at tertiary level
- provides an appropriate mathematical background for students whose future pathways may involve mathematics and its applications in such areas as science, engineering, finance and economics.

Year 11 course

The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 11 course content is comprised of three topics, each divided into subtopics. In 2026 the NEW Mathematics Extension 1 Year 11 course will be implemented.

Topic: Functions

- Further work with functions.
- Polynomials.

Topic: Trigonometric Functions

- Further trigonometric identities.

Topic: Combinatorics

- Permutations and combinations.
- The binomial theorem.

Year 12 course

The Mathematics Extension 1 Year 12 course includes the topics 'Trigonometric Functions' and 'Calculus' continued from Year 11 and introduces three different topics.

Topic: Proof

- Proof by mathematical induction.

Topic: Vectors

- Introduction to vectors.

Topic: Trigonometric Functions

- Trigonometric equations.

Topic: Calculus

- Further calculus skills.
- Applications of calculus.

Topic: Statistical Analysis

- The binomial distribution.

Mathematics Extension 2

Course No: 15260 Mathematics Extension 2 (1 unit – Year 12)*
Board Developed Course

Note: * This course is ONLY available online.

Prerequisites:

The Mathematics Extension 2 Year 12 course has been developed on the assumption that students have studied the content and achieved the outcomes of the Mathematics Advanced Year 11 course and the Mathematics Extension 1 Year 11 course. The Mathematics Extension 2 Year 12 course has also been constructed on the assumption that students are concurrently studying the Mathematics Advanced Year 12 course and the Mathematics Extension 1 Year 12 course.

This additional (4th) unit of Mathematics can be studied at SDEHS concurrently with 3 units of the Mathematics Extension 1 course or as a stand-alone 1 unit course.

Course description

Mathematics Extension 2 provides students with the opportunity to develop strong mathematical manipulative skills and a deep understanding of the fundamental ideas of algebra and calculus, as well as an appreciation of mathematics as an activity with its own intrinsic value, involving invention, intuition and exploration. Mathematics Extension 2 extends students' conceptual knowledge and understanding through exploration of new areas of mathematics not previously seen.

The Mathematics Extension 2 Year 12 course includes the Mathematics Extension 1 Year 12 course and the Mathematics Advanced Year 12 course.

The Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2 Stage 6 courses form a continuum.

All students studying the Mathematics Extension 2 course will sit for an HSC examination.

What students learn

The study of Mathematics Extension 2 in Stage 6:

- enables students to develop strong knowledge, understanding and skills in working mathematically and in communicating concisely and precisely
- provides opportunities to develop strong mathematical manipulative skills and a deep understanding of the fundamental ideas of algebra and calculus, as well as an awareness of mathematics as an activity with its own intrinsic value, involving invention, intuition and exploration
- provides opportunities at progressively higher levels for students to acquire knowledge, understanding and skills in relation to concepts within areas of mathematics that have applications in an increasing number of contexts
- provides a basis for progression to further study in mathematics or related disciplines, in which mathematics has a vital role at tertiary level
- provides an appropriate mathematical background for students whose future pathways will be founded in mathematics and its applications in such areas as science, engineering, finance and economics.

Year 12 course

The Mathematics Extension 2 course comprises five topics, each divided into subtopics.

Topic: Proof

- The nature of proof.
- Further proof by mathematical induction.

Topic: Vectors

- Further work with vectors.

Topic: Complex Numbers

- Introduction to complex numbers.
- Using complex numbers.

Topic: Calculus

- Further integration.

Topic: Mechanics

- Applications of calculus to mechanics.

Modern History

Course No: 11270 Modern History (2 units – Year 11)*
15270 Modern History (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

The Year 11 course provides students with opportunities to develop and apply their understanding of methods and issues involved in the investigation of modern history. Students have the opportunity to engage in the study of a range of people, ideas, movements, events and developments that have shaped the modern world.

The Year 12 course provides students with opportunities to apply their understanding of sources and relevant issues in the investigation of the modern world. Through a core study, students investigate the nature of power and authority 1919–1946. They also study key features in the history of one nation, one study in peace and conflict and one study of change in the modern world.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course comprises three sections.

- Investigating Modern History
 - Students undertake at least one option from ‘The nature of modern history’, and at least TWO case studies.
 - (a) List A case study – The decline and fall of the Romanovs
 - (b) List B case study – Decolonisation in Indochina to 1945
- Historical Investigation
- The Shaping of the Modern World
 - At least ONE study from ‘The shaping of the modern world’ is to be undertaken – World War I.

Historical concepts and skills are integrated with the studies undertaken in Year 11.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course comprises four sections.

- **Core Study:** Power and authority in the modern world 1919–1946.
- **One ‘National Studies’ topic** – Russia and the Soviet Union 1917–1941.
- **One ‘Peace and Conflict’ topic** – Conflict in Indochina 1954–1979.
- **One ‘Change in the Modern World’ topic** – Civil rights in the USA 1945–1968.

Historical concepts and skills are integrated with the studies undertaken in Year 12.

Course requirements

Year 11 course

In the Year 11 course, students undertake at least TWO case studies.

- One case study must be from Europe, North America or Australia, AND
- One case study must be from Asia, the Pacific, Africa, the Middle East or Central/South America.

Year 12 course

Students are required to study at least one non-European/non-Western topic from a set list of topics provided within the syllabus.

Music 1

Course No: 11280 Music 1 (2 units – Year 11)* #
15290 Music 1 (2 units – Year 12) #

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

While the course builds on the Stages 4 and 5 Music course, Music 1 provides an alternative course of study to Music 2. The curriculum structure is adaptable enough to meet the needs and interests of students with varying degrees of prior formal and informal learning in music and caters for students with less experience in Music.

What students learn

Year 11 course

In the Year 11 course, students study the concepts of music through the learning experiences of performance, composition, musicology and aural within the context of a range of styles, periods and genres.

Students study three topics in the Year 11 course. Topics are chosen from a list of 21 topics which covers a broad range of styles, periods and genres.

Year 12 course

In the Year 12 course, students study the concepts of music through the learning experiences of performance, composition, musicology and aural within the context of a range of styles, periods and genres.

Students study three topics in the Year 12 course which are different from those studied in the Year 11 course or two topics which are different from those studied in the Year 11 course and one topic from the Year 11 course in greater depth exploring new repertoire and including a comparative study. Topics are chosen from a list of 21 topics which covers a broad range of styles, periods and genres.

In addition to core studies in performance, composition, musicology and aural, students select three electives from any combination of performance, composition and musicology. These electives must represent each of the three topics studied in the course.

Course requirements

Students selecting Music 1 are required to keep a portfolio of the development of each of the components Core Composition and Elective Composition.

Students should have access to a digital audio player, a computer that has a USB connection and audio recording capability. If your computer has no in-built microphone, you will need an external microphone.

Students require Internet access in order to access the elearning course.

Music 2

Course No: 11290 Music 2 (2 units – Year 11)*
15300 Music 2 (2 units – Year 12)*

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

This course builds on the Stages 4 and 5 Music courses. It assumes that students have a substantial, formal background in music, have developed musical literacy skills and have some knowledge and understanding of musical styles.

What students learn

Year 11 course

In the Year 11 course, students study the concepts of music through the learning experiences of performance, composition, musicology and aural within the context of a range of styles, periods and genres.

Students study one mandatory topic covering a range of content and one additional topic in each year of the course.

In the Year 11 course, the mandatory topic is Music 1600–1900. The additional topic is chosen from a list of six topics which covers a broad range of styles, periods and genres.

Year 12 course

In the Year 12 course, students study the concepts of music through the learning experiences of performance, composition, musicology and aural within the context of a range of styles, periods and genres.

Students study one mandatory topic covering a range of content and one additional topic in each year of the course. The additional topic is chosen from a list of eight topics which covers a broad range of styles, periods and genres.

In the Year 12 course, the mandatory topic is Music of the Last 25 Years (Australian focus).

Course requirements

Students will be required to perform on an instrument or by voice in assessment tasks and examinations.

In addition to core studies in performance, composition, musicology and aural, students nominate one elective study in Performance, Composition or Musicology.

Submitted works and performances are required to reflect the mandatory and additional topic studied in the HSC.

The additional topic studied in the HSC must be different to the topic studied in the Year 11 course. Students selecting Composition or Musicology electives will be required to compile a portfolio of work as part of the process of preparing a submitted work.

All students will be required to develop a composition portfolio for the core composition.

Students should have access to a digital audio player, a computer that has a USB connection and audio recording capability. If your computer has no in-built microphone, you will need an external microphone.

Students require Internet access in order to access the elearning course.

Music Extension

Course No: 15310 Music Extension (1 unit – Year 12)*
Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is ONLY available online.

Prerequisites:

- Year 11 and Year 12 Music 2

Course description

Year 12 course

The Music Extension course builds on the Music 2 Year 11 course and extends the Music 2 Year 12 course. It assumes a high level of music literacy and aural ability as well as advanced performance or composition or musicology skills.

What students learn

Students specialise in Performance or Composition or Musicology and follow an individual program of study which is negotiated between the teacher and student.

Course requirements

Students selecting Performance as their area of specialisation will be required to present an ensemble piece within their performance program. Students selecting Composition or Musicology as their area of specialisation will be required to compile a portfolio of work as part of the process of preparing a submitted work.

Students should have access to a digital audio player, a computer that has Internet access, a USB connection and audio recording capability. If your computer has no in-built microphone, you will need an external microphone.

Physics

Course No: 11310 Physics (2 units – Year 11/12)
15330 Physics (2 units – Year 11/12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 course develops students' knowledge, understanding and skills relevant to the study of motion, how we describe it and what causes it. The course also examines energy in its different forms, and how we describe and measure electricity and magnetism and their interrelated effects.

The Year 12 course provides avenues for students to apply the concepts introduced in Year 11, and to study motion in two dimensions, electromagnetism, the nature of light, and the atomic properties of matter.

Students who have shown an achievement in, and/or aptitude for, any of the Stage 6 Science courses – Biology, Chemistry, Earth and Environmental Science, Investigating Science or Physics – in Year 11, may choose to study Science Extension in Year 12.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 1:** Kinematics.
- **Module 2:** Dynamics.
- **Module 3:** Waves and thermodynamics.
- **Module 4:** Electricity and magnetism.

Year 12 course

The Year 12 course consists of four modules.

- **Module 5:** Advanced mechanics.
- **Module 6:** Electromagnetism.
- **Module 7:** The nature of light.
- **Module 8:** From the universe to the atom.

Course requirements

The Physics course is designed for students who have a substantial or high achievement level in Year 10 Science (Grade B or above) and in Mathematics (Grade B or above).

Society and Culture

Course No: 11330 Society and Culture (2 units – Year 11)*
15350 Society and Culture (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

Society and Culture develops social and cultural literacy and a clear understanding of the interactions of persons, society, culture, environment and time, and how these shape human behaviour. The course draws on cross-disciplinary concepts and social research methods, and students undertake research in an area of particular interest to them. The research findings are presented for external assessment in the Personal Interest Project (PIP).

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **The social and cultural world:** The interactions between persons and groups within societies.
- **Personal and social identity:** Socialisation and the development of personal and social identity in a variety of social and cultural settings.
- **Intercultural communication:** How people in different social, cultural and environmental settings behave, communicate and perceive the world around them.

Year 12 course

Core

- **Social and cultural continuity and change:** The nature of social and cultural continuity and change as well as application of research methods and social theory to a selected country study.
- **The Personal Interest Project (PIP):** An individual research project.

Depth Studies

- **Belief systems and ideologies:** The relationship of belief systems and ideologies to culture and identity.
- **Social inclusion and exclusion:** The nature of social inclusion and exclusion as well as implications for individuals and groups in societies and cultures.

Course requirements

Completion of Personal Interest Project.

Software Engineering

Course No: 11345 Software Engineering (2 units – Year 11)*
15365 Software Engineering (2 units – Year 12)*
Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

Software Engineering provides students with the knowledge, understanding and thinking skills to develop and communicate solutions to real-world problems.

The course encourages each student to think creatively in developing and programming software solutions. It provides students with experience in tools for developing both screen-based and mechatronic solutions.

In the Year 11 course students develop and apply an understanding of the fundamental elements involved in creating software.

The Year 12 course provides students with opportunities to extend their knowledge, understanding and skills in the development of software. A major software engineering project provides students with the opportunity to further develop project management skills.

This course is delivered online.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Programming fundamentals.
- Programming mechatronics.
- The object-oriented paradigm.

Students will develop skills in using various software design tools and in creating well-structured software using a programming language such as Python. They learn to use tools for programming microcontrollers.

Year 12 course

- Secure software architecture.
- Programming for the web.
- Software automation.
- Software engineering project.

Course requirements

Course cost: Year 11 – \$85 Mechatronics kit.

Practical assessment tasks include designing a software solution for a specified problem and developing a practical mechatronics solution to a real-world problem.

Technology and other requirements

Regular access to a computer and the Internet is essential.

Information regarding programming languages will be made available to students at appropriate times.

Other information

Software Engineering is intended for students with an interest in coding computer programs. It provides a solid foundation in problem-solving and designing well-structured software, skills useful in further education and in demand in the work place.

Studies of Religion 1

Course No: 11350 Studies of Religion 1 (1 unit – Year 11)*

15370 Studies of Religion 1 (1 unit – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

Studies of Religion 1 promotes an understanding and critical awareness of the nature and significance of religion and the influence of belief systems and religious traditions on individuals and within society.

Year 11 introduces learners to the concepts of studies of religion. Learners have the opportunity to observe religious traditions objectively and to research contemporary religious issues.

In Year 12 learners develop an objective and comprehensive view of religious expressions and traditions that link directly with the life of adherents. They explore how religious traditions provide answers to the questions of human existence.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Nature of Religion and Beliefs:** The nature of religion and beliefs including Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' beliefs and spiritualities, as a distinctive response to the human search for meaning in life.

- **Religious Tradition Depth Studies**

- Islam

All students study this tradition.

Plus **ONE** of the following:

- Buddhism or
- Christianity or
- Hinduism or
- Judaism.

Each of the two religious traditions chosen will study:

- origins
- principal beliefs
- sacred texts and writings
- core ethical teachings
- personal devotion/expression of faith observance.

Year 12 course

- **Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post 1945:** Religious expression in Australia's multicultural and multifaith society since 1945, including an appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' spiritualities and their contribution to an understanding of religious beliefs and religious expression in Australia today.
- **Two religious depth studies:** These are consistent with those selected in Year 11:
 - significant people and ideas
 - ethical teachings in the religious tradition about bioethics or environmental ethics or sexual ethics
 - significant practices in the life of adherents.

Studies of Religion 2

Course No: 11360 Studies of Religion 2 (2 units – Year 11)*

15380 Studies of Religion 2 (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

Studies of Religion 2 promotes an understanding and critical awareness of the nature and significance of religion and the influence of belief systems and religious traditions on individuals and within society.

Year 11 introduces learners to the concepts of studies of religion. Learners have the opportunity to observe religious traditions objectively and to research contemporary religious issues.

In Year 12 learners develop an objective and comprehensive view of religious expressions and traditions that link directly with the life of adherents. They explore how religious traditions provide answers to the questions of human existence.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- **Nature of Religion and Beliefs:** The nature of religion and beliefs including Australian Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islanders People's beliefs and spiritualities, as a distinctive response to the human search for meaning in life.
- **Religious Tradition Depth Studies**
All students study these **TWO** traditions:
 - Islam
 - ChristianityPlus **ONE** of the following:
 - Buddhism
 - Hinduism
 - Judaism.Each of the 3 religious traditions chosen will study:
 - origins
 - principal beliefs
 - sacred texts and writings
 - core ethical teachings
 - personal devotion/expression of faith observance.
- **Religions of Ancient Origin:** The response to the human search for ultimate meaning in TWO religions of ancient origin from:
 - Aztec or Inca or Mayan
 - Celtic
 - Nordic
 - Shinto
 - Taoism
 - An Indigenous religion from outside Australia.
- **Religions in Australia pre-1945:** The arrival, establishment and development of religious traditions in Australia prior to 1945.

Year 12 course

- **Religion and Belief Systems in Australia post 1945:** Religious expression in Australia's multicultural and multifaith society since 1945, including an appreciation of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Peoples' spiritualities and their contribution to an understanding of religious beliefs and religious expression in Australia today.
- **Religion and Non-Religion:** The human search for meaning through new religious expression. Non-religious worldviews and the difference between religious and non-religious worldviews.
- **Three religious depth studies:** These are consistent with those selected in Year 11:
 - significant people and ideas
 - ethical teachings in the religious tradition about bioethics or environmental ethics or sexual ethics
 - significant practices in the life of adherents.
- **Religion and Peace:** The distinctive response of TWO religious traditions to the issue of peace.

Textiles and Design

Course No: 11370 Textiles and Design (2 units – Year 11)

15390 Textiles and Design (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

The Year 11 course involves the study of design, communication techniques, manufacturing methods, fibres, yarns, fabrics and the Australian textile, clothing, footwear and allied industries. Practical experiences, experimenting and product manufacturing are integrated throughout the content areas and include the completion of two Year 11 textile projects. These projects develop each student's creative abilities and skills in designing, manipulating, experimenting and selecting appropriate fabrics for an end use.

The Year 12 course builds upon the Year 11 course and involves the study of fabric colouration and decoration, historical design development, cultural factors that influence design and designers, contemporary designers, end-use applications of textiles, innovations and emerging textile technologies, appropriate textile technology and environmental sustainability, current issues and the marketplace.

The Year 12 course involves the development of a Major Textiles Project, worth 50% of the HSC mark. The project is selected from one of the five focus areas and enables students to explore an area of interest. The project has two components: the supporting documentation and the textile item(s).

Students are required to design, develop and manufacture a Major Textiles Project consisting of practical item/s and supporting written documentation to completion.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Design (40%).
- Properties and performance of textiles (50%).
- The Australian textiles, clothing, footwear and allied industries (10%).

Year 12 course

- Design (20%).
- Properties and performance of textiles (20%).
- The Australian textiles, clothing, footwear and allied industries (10%).
- Major Textiles Project (50%).

Course requirements

Year 11 course

Course cost: Year 11 – \$30

In the Year 11 course students will undertake two textile projects. Year 11 Project 1 is drawn from the Design area of study and focuses on the generation and communication of ideas, design modification, manipulative skills, evaluation of ideas and of the project, and management of time and resources. Students will select from the focus areas of non-apparel, furnishing or textile arts. Year 11 Project 2 is drawn from the Properties and Performance of Textiles area of study. It focuses on an analysis of fabric, yarn and fibre properties, experimental procedures, product design, fabric choice, manipulative and management skills, communication methods and the recording of information. Students will select from the focus areas of apparel or costume.

Study days and web lessons overview assessment task requirements and course content.

Year 12 course

In the Year 12 course, the Major Textiles Project allows students to develop a textile project from one of the following focus areas: apparel, furnishings, costume, textile arts, non-apparel. The selected focus area allows students to explore, in detail, one area of interest through a creative textile design process that integrates the areas of Design, Properties and Performance of Textiles and the Australian Textiles, Clothing, Footwear and Allied Industries.

- Study Day – Introduction to the Major Textiles Project (MTP) and Year 12 course; view display of previous HSC selected Major Textiles Projects. Mandatory attendance.
- Manufacture of Major Textiles Project item/s.
- Completion of supporting written documentation for Major Textiles Project.
- Student / teacher meetings for ongoing supervision of Major Textiles Project management.
- Study days and web lessons overview assessment task requirements and course content.

Technology requirements

- Digital access and literacy – Internet access for online learning, email, web lessons, web based research and digital documentation of portfolio work.
- Digital device such as camera, phone or tablet and/or scanner for photographic evidence.
- Access to a sewing machine (mandatory) and overlocker (preferable). Ability to source materials and equipment for practical textiles projects and documentation.

Other information

The course provides students with knowledge, understanding and skills that form a valuable foundation for a range of courses at university and other tertiary institutions relating to fashion and design.

Visual Arts

Course No: 11380 Visual Arts (2 units – Year 11)
15400 Visual Arts (2 units – Year 12)

Board Developed Course

Course description

Visual Arts involves students in artmaking, art criticism and art history. Students critically and historically investigate artworks, critics, historians and artists from Australia and from other cultures, traditions and times. Students develop their own artworks, culminating in a 'Body of Work' in the Year 12 course.

What students learn

Year 11 course

The Year 11 course is broadly focused, while the Year 12 course provides for deeper and more complex investigations.

Year 11 course learning opportunities focus on:

- the nature of practice in artmaking, art criticism and art history through different investigations
- the role and function of artists, artworks, the world and audiences in the artworld
- the different ways the visual arts may be interpreted and how students might develop their own informed points of view
- how students may develop meaning and focus and interest in their work
- building understandings over time through various investigations and working in different forms.

While the course builds on Visual Arts courses in Stages 4 and 5, it also caters for students with less experience in Visual Arts.

Year 12 course

Year 12 course learning opportunities focus on:

- how students may develop their practice in artmaking, art criticism, and art history
- how students may develop their own informed points of view in increasingly independent ways and use different interpretive frameworks in their investigations
- how students may learn about the relationships between artists, artworks, the world and audiences within the artworld and apply these to their own investigations
- how students may further develop meaning and focus in their work.

Course requirements

Senior Art Kit (Optional): \$85

Year 11 course

- Artworks in at least two expressive forms and use of a process diary.
- A broad investigation of ideas in art making, art criticism and art history.
- Attendance at Study Days and Excursions, for example the ArtExpress exhibition.
- Students require a computer with internet access in order to access the elearning course and a digital camera to enable efficient, ongoing communication with their teachers.

Year 12 course

- Development of a body of work and use of a process diary.
- A minimum of five case studies (4 to 10 hours each).
- Deeper and more complex investigations in art making, art criticism and art history.
- Attendance at Study Days, for example Body of Work development, exam preparation and evaluation workshops.
- Attendance at Excursions, for example the ArtExpress exhibition.
- Students require a computer with Internet access in order to access the elearning course, and a digital camera to enable efficient, ongoing communication with their teachers.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) COURSE OPTIONS

Business Services



NSW Department of Education RTO 90333

2026 Business Services Course Descriptor BSB30120 Certificate III in Business	
<i>This information may change due to the Training Package and NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) updates. Notification of variations will be made in due time with minimal impact.</i>	
Course: Business Services Industry Curriculum Framework (ICF) Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) eligible course	HSC credit – 4 units (2 units x 2 years) Board Developed Course (240 hour)
By enrolling in this VET qualification with the NSW Department of Education RTO 90333, you are choosing to participate in a program of study which will provide you a pathway towards, HSC accreditation and a nationally recognised qualification (dual accreditation). To receive this qualification, you must meet the assessment requirements of BSB30120 Certificate III in Business https://training.gov.au/training/details/bsb30120 . You will be expected to complete all the requirements of the Registered Training Organisation (RTO) and NESA. To gain the full qualification, you must achieve 13 units of competency. To meet NESA course hours the program includes 14 units. A statement of attainment towards the qualification is possible if at least one unit of competency is achieved. Students may apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and/or Credit Transfer (CT) provided suitable evidence is submitted.	
Transferrable industry skills gained in this course	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> working within the business services industry involves customer (client) service using technology to organise information creativity critical thinking problem solving 	
Examples of occupations in the business services industry	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> medical administration clerical worker office administration receptionist information desk operator records and information administration 	
VET requirements	
Competency-Based Assessment In this course you will work to develop the skills and knowledge described in each unit of competency. To be assessed as competent you must demonstrate your ability to satisfactorily complete the tasks required in the assessments.	
Appeals and Complaints You may lodge a complaint or an appeal about a decision (including assessment decisions) by following the Appeals and Complaints Guidelines	
HSC requirements	
Mandatory course requirements You must complete 240 indicative hours of course work and a minimum of 70 hours work placement. Not meeting these requirements will incur an 'N' determined as required by NESA.	
External Assessment (optional HSC examination for ATAR purposes) The Higher School Certificate examination for Business Services is only available after completion of 240 indicative hours and will involve a written examination consisting of multiple-choice, short answers and extended response items. The examination is independent of the competency-based assessment undertaken during the course and has no impact on your eligibility to receive a vocational qualification.	
Consumable costs: Preliminary - \$0 HSC - \$0	Refunds N/A
A school-based traineeship is available in this course. For more information: https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/career-and-study-pathways/school-based-apprenticeships-and-traineeships	
Exclusions: Students can only undertake the Business Services (120 indicative hours) course or the Business Services (240 indicative hours) course. General information about NESA VET course exclusions can be found https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/vet/course-exclusions .	

Hospitality



NSW Department of Education RTO 90333

2026 Cookery Course Descriptor SIT20421 Certificate II in Cookery	
<i>This information may change due to the Training Package and NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) updates. Notification of variations will be made in due time with minimal impact.</i>	
Course: Hospitality (Cookery) Industry Curriculum Framework (ICF) Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) eligible course	HSC credit – 4 units (2 units x 2 years) Board Developed Course (240 hour)
By enrolling in this VET qualification with the NSW Department of Education RTO 90333, you are choosing to participate in a program of study which will provide you a pathway towards, HSC accreditation and a nationally recognised qualification (dual accreditation). To receive this qualification, you must meet the assessment requirements of SIT20421 Certificate II in Cookery https://training.gov.au/training/details/SIT20421 . You will be expected to complete all the requirements of the Registered Training Organisation and NESA. To gain the full qualification you must achieve 13 units of competency. A statement of attainment towards the qualification is possible if at least one unit of competency is achieved. Students may apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and/or Credit Transfer (CT) provided suitable evidence is submitted.	
Transferrable industry skills gained in this course	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> teamwork attention to detail organisational skills adaptability communication problem solving 	
Examples of occupations in the hospitality industry	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> assistant cook short order cook food preparation cook chef breakfast cook sandwich hand 	
VET requirements	
Competency-Based Assessment In this course you will work to develop the skills and knowledge described in each unit of competency. To be assessed as competent you must demonstrate your ability to satisfactorily complete the tasks required in the assessments.	
Appeals and Complaints You may lodge a complaint or an appeal about a decision (including assessment decisions) by following the Appeals and Complaints Guidelines	
HSC requirements	
Mandatory course requirements You must complete 240 indicative hours of course work and a minimum of 70 hours work placement. Not meeting these requirements will incur an 'N' determined as required by NESA.	
External Assessment (optional HSC examination for ATAR purposes) The Higher School Certificate examination for Hospitality is only available after completion of 240 indicative hours and will involve a written examination consisting of multiple-choice, short answers and extended response items. The examination is independent of the competency-based assessment undertaken during the course and has no impact on your eligibility to receive a vocational qualification.	
Consumable costs: Preliminary - \$30 HSC - \$30 <i>Sample inclusions- food, packaging, cleaning products.</i>	Refunds Refund arrangements are on a pro-rata basis. Please refer to your school refund policy
A school-based traineeship is available in this course. For more information: https://education.nsw.gov.au/schooling/students/career-and-study-pathways/school-based-apprenticeships-and-traineeships/traineeships/certificate-ii-hospitality-kitchen-operations	
Exclusions: In this Framework, students can only undertake the Hospitality (120 indicative hours) course or the Hospitality (240 indicative hours) course. General information about NESA VET course exclusions can be found https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/vet/course-exclusions	

2026 Course Descriptor Cookery - SIT20421 Certificate II in Cookery Version 0.3

Disclaimer: If you require accessible documents, please contact your VET Coordinator for support

Retail Services



NSW Department of Education RTO 90333

2026 Retail Services Course Descriptor SIR30216 Certificate III in Retail	
<i>This information may change due to the Training Package and NSW Education Standards Authority (NESA) updates. Notification of variations will be made in due time with minimal impact.</i>	
Course: Retail Services Industry Curriculum Framework (ICF) Australian Tertiary Admission Rank (ATAR) eligible course	HSC credit – 4 units (2 units x 2 years) Board Developed Course (240 hour)
<p>By enrolling in this VET qualification with the NSW Department of Education RTO 90333, you are choosing to participate in a program of study which will provide you a pathway towards HSC accreditation and a nationally recognised qualification (dual accreditation). To receive this qualification, you must meet the assessment requirements of SIR30216 Certificate III in Retail https://training.gov.au/Training/Details/SIR30216. You will be expected to complete all requirements of the Registered Training Organisation and NESA. To gain the full qualification you must achieve 13 units of competency. A statement of attainment towards the qualification is possible if at least one unit of competency is achieved.</p> <p>Students may apply for Recognition of Prior Learning (RPL) and/or Credit Transfer (CT) provided suitable evidence is submitted.</p>	
Transferrable industry skills gained in this course	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> maintain store operations using technology to organise information meeting organisational expectations customer service skills teamwork problem solving 	
Examples of occupations in the retail services industry	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> frontline sales assistant shop assistant team leader customer service representative retail supervisor senior sales assistant administration 	
VET requirements	
Competency-Based Assessment In this course you will work to develop the skills and knowledge described in each unit of competency. To be assessed as competent you must demonstrate your ability to satisfactorily complete the tasks required in the assessments.	
Appeals and Complaints You may lodge a complaint or an appeal about a decision (including assessment decisions) by following the Appeals and Complaints Guidelines	
HSC requirements	
Mandatory course requirements You must complete 240 indicative hours of course work and a minimum of 70 hours work placement. Not meeting these requirements will incur an 'N' determined as required by NESA.	
External Assessment (optional HSC examination for ATAR purposes) The Higher School Certificate examination for Retail Services is only available after completion of 240 indicative hours and will involve a written examination consisting of multiple-choice, short answers and extended response items. The examination is independent of the competency-based assessment undertaken during the course and has no impact on your eligibility to receive a vocational qualification.	
Consumable costs: Preliminary - \$0 HSC - \$0	Refunds N/A
A school-based traineeship is available in this course. For more information: https://education.nsw.gov.au/public-schools/career-and-study-pathways/school-based-apprenticeships-and-traineeships	
Exclusions: In this framework students can only undertake the Retail Services (120 indicative hours) course or the Retail Services (240 indicative hours) course. General information about NESA VET course exclusions can be found https://educationstandards.nsw.edu.au/wps/portal/nesa/11-12/stage-6-learning-areas/vet/course-exclusions	

CONTENT ENDORSED COURSE OPTIONS

Computing Applications

Course No: 35021 Computing Applications (2 units – Year 11) *
35023 Computing Applications (2 units – Year 12) *
35023 Computing Applications (2 units – Year 12 only) *

Content Endorsed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 or Year 12 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

Computers and related information technology permeate all aspects of contemporary life. Computer technology has become an integral part of the workplace and it has also become an increasingly obvious part of our entertainment and recreation.

Students can undertake 1 unit (60 hours) or 2 units (120 hours) courses in Year 11 and/or in Year 12.

What students learn

Computing Applications is a 'hands-on' skills-based course aimed at developing the student's abilities to use hardware and software to complete a range of practical experiences in a broad range of topic areas. Students will develop their knowledge and understanding of the role of computing in completing tasks that enable them to be confident users of the technology. Students will also develop skills in evaluation and be able to discriminate in the use of this technology to accomplish a defined task.

It is expected that the target group for Computing Applications is those students who have had little practical experience in using computers.

Year 11 course

- Hardware and software skills.
- Desktop publishing 1.
- Graphics 1.
- Multimedia 1.

Year 12 course

- Excel 1 and 2.
- Databases.
- Desktop publishing 2.
- Graphics 2.
- Multimedia 2.

Course requirements

Computing Applications cannot be studied with the Board Developed Courses – Enterprise Computing or Software Engineering.

As stated by NESA: 'Exclusions: Board Developed Courses — Enterprise Computing, Software Engineering and courses within the Information Technology Curriculum Framework.'

Practical assessment tasks are embedded throughout the course.

Technology requirements

Regular access to laptop/desktop computer and the Internet is essential.

Students must use their student portal email to download to their computers the free software – Microsoft 365 and Adobe Creative Suite. This will be used extensively in both Year 11 and Year 12.

Other information

This course is best suited for students who did not study Year 9/10 Information Software Technology.

Exploring Early Childhood

Course No: 31009 Exploring Early Childhood (1 unit – Year 11)*
31011 Exploring Early Childhood (1 unit – Year 12)

Content Endorsed Course

*** Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

Our society is increasingly recognising that children's experiences in the early childhood years form the foundation for future growth, development and learning.

This course explores issues within an early childhood context and considers these in relation to the students themselves, their family and the community.

What students learn

Through the study of Exploring Early Childhood, students learn to develop:

- knowledge and understanding about the physical, social-emotional, behavioural, cognitive and language development of young children
- knowledge and understanding about the environmental factors that have an impact on young children's growth and development
- knowledge and understanding about the development and maintenance of positive behaviours and relationships with young children
- skills in communication and interaction, research and analysis and decision-making and evaluation
- respect for the individuality and uniqueness of young children and their families
- an appreciation of the value and importance of supportive and responsible relationships with young children.

Course requirements

The course comprises a compulsory common core and optional modules. The core comprises 45 indicative hours of study. Fourteen optional modules are included in this course.

The time allocated to each optional module is flexible within the range of 15–30 hours depending on the number of units for the course and the way in which the course is delivered.

Financial Management

Course No: 64354 Financial Management (2 units – Year 11)* #
64356 Financial Management (2 units – Year 12) #

Content Endorsed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

Year 11 course

Are you ready to take control of your financial future? Financial Management is designed to empower you with skills to make informed financial decisions and to cultivate positive financial habits. This course is your gateway to mastering personal financial management, covering basic financial literacy and advanced concepts like financial psychology and investment strategies.

Building and Managing Finances: Learn how to set financial goals, create budgets, track expenses, manage debt, save for emergencies, and invest for the future using various tools like shares, cryptocurrencies, and retirement accounts.

Budgeting and Income Management: Learn to calculate net income, create a realistic budget, track expenses, and manage debt effectively by prioritising high-interest obligations and exploring repayment strategies.

Saving, Investing, and Financial Security: Understand the importance of saving for emergencies and long-term goals, basic investing principles, tax planning, and building a financial safety net.

Building and Managing Investments: Learn the relationship between risk and return, assess risk tolerance, explore asset allocation and diversification, and choose suitable investment vehicles like shares, bonds, and ETFs to meet financial goals.

Strategic Investing: Understand tax-efficient investing, retirement planning, behavioural finance, portfolio monitoring and rebalancing, and how economic factors influence investment decisions.

Managing Debt: Learn about various types of debt, repayment strategies (eg snowball and avalanche methods), budgeting for repayments, credit management, and options like debt consolidation and refinancing.

Responsible and Ethical Borrowing: Understand consumer rights, socially responsible borrowing, the role of financial service providers, and ethical considerations to avoid predatory lending and make informed, value-aligned borrowing decisions.

Year 12 course

The Financial Management course is designed to introduce students to investing in assets such as shares, cryptocurrency and property. Learn how to make your money work for you through strategies such as investing in ETFs, dollar cost averaging into Bitcoin, and investing in certain types of property.

Evaluating Financial Health: Learn to assess net worth, analyse income and expenses, review debt and savings, interpret financial statements, and monitor key financial health indicators like savings rate and debt-to-income ratio.

Setting Goals and Managing Credit: Understand how to prioritise financial goals, evaluate debt impact, regularly review credit reports, and recognise the role of credit scores in overall financial well-being.

Exploring Financial Technologies: Learn about the rise of FinTech and its impact on traditional finance through topics like blockchain, cryptocurrencies, robo-advisors, digital payment systems, and the role of AI in money management.

FinTech Research: Conduct a research project analysing a FinTech innovation, exploring its workings, benefits, challenges, and implications for financial institutions, while applying academic research and financial terminology.

Understanding Real Estate Fundamentals: Learn key aspects of the real estate market, including terminology, pricing factors, financing options, property valuation methods, legal and ethical considerations, risk management, and property ownership models.

Real Estate Investment: Develop a detailed investment proposal for a selected property, including financial analysis, market research, risk assessment, and legal and ethical considerations, supported by real-world case studies and documentation.

Investing Foundations and Strategies: Learn the basics of investing, including setting goals, understanding risk and return, exploring various investment types, and applying strategies like diversification and long-term planning.

Socially Responsible Investing: Understand how to align investments with personal values by incorporating environmental, social, and governance (ESG) factors, while exploring the benefits, challenges, and ethical considerations of SRI.

What students learn

Year 11 course

- Financial psychology and behaviour (20 hours).
- Financial goal setting (15 hours).
- Develop a personal financial plan (20 hours).
- Keep part of what you earn (15 hours).
- Savings and investment strategies (15 hours).
- Debt management (15 hours).
- Know your enemies (20 hours).

Year 12 course

- Know where you are now (15 hours).
- Financial technology (30 hours).
- Real estate finance, buying a property depth study (Assessment Task) (20 hours).
- Taxation, risk management and insurance (15 hours).
- Financial planning and retirement (20 hours).
- Becoming an investor (20 hours).

Course requirements

Students require a computer with Internet access in order to access the elearning course.

Marine Studies

Course No: 33503 Marine Studies (2 units – Year 11)*
33505 Marine Studies (2 units – Year 12)*
33505 Marine Studies (2 units – Year 12 only)*

Content Endorsed Course

*** Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 or Year 12 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

The oceans cover more than 70% of the earth's surface and influence all forms of life on this planet. Oceans are alternatively viewed as areas rich in minerals and marine life, which can supply our needs virtually without limit, or as convenient dumping grounds for agricultural, industrial and domestic waste.

The growing demands of urbanisation, industry, recreation and tourism have increased the pressures on marine facilities and our fragile water ecosystems. There is a need for wise management practices and a responsible, realistic approach to conservation of marine resources into the future.

What students learn

Marine Studies provides an opportunity for students to view these issues in a comprehensive and global perspective.

Marine Studies provides an educational context, linked to the needs of a significantly coastal and waterways-based population, fostering links to tertiary study and vocational pathways. Further, this syllabus brings a wide range of marine-based leisure experiences to students in a safe setting. Marine Studies provides for both practical and theoretical learning and students acquire skills to solve real life problems.

Through Marine Studies students will develop:

- knowledge, understanding and appreciation that promote sound environmental practices in the marine environment
- the ability to cooperatively manage activities and communicate in a marine context
- the ability to apply the skills of critical thinking, research and analysis
- knowledge and understanding of marine industries and their interaction with society and with leisure pursuits
- knowledge, understanding and skills in safe practices in the marine context.

Year 11 course

- Marine safety and first aid.
- The marine environment.
- Life in the sea.
- Humans in water.
- Marine and maritime employment.
- Dangerous marine creatures.
- Oceanography.
- Antarctica and the Southern Ocean.
- Anatomy and physiology of marine organisms.

Year 12 course (if you have completed the Year 11 course)

- Coral reef ecology.
- Marine archaeology.
- Sea birds of our coast.
- Marine aquarium.
- Aquaculture.

Year 12 course only

- Marine safety and first aid.
- The marine environment.
- Life in the sea.
- Humans in water.
- Marine and maritime employment.
- Dangerous marine creatures.
- Oceanography.
- Seafood handling and processing.
- Anatomy and physiology of marine organisms.
- Coral reef ecology.
- Sea birds of our coast.

Course requirements

Internet access is required for research.

The Marine Studies course is a non ATAR course. It is designed for students with a basic level of achievement or above in Year 10 Science (Grade D or above).

Numeracy

Course No: 30130 Numeracy (2 units – Year 11)*
30140 Numeracy (2 units – Year 12)

Content Endorsed Course

*** Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

It is anticipated that students undertaking Mathematics Advanced or higher courses have already consolidated essential numeracy skills and would not benefit from studying this course.

The Numeracy course does not replace the study of any other course in the suite of Mathematics syllabuses. It may be studied as a stand-alone course or in conjunction with the Mathematics Standard course, where the student would benefit from additional learning opportunities to strengthen their numeracy development. The Mathematics Advanced, Mathematics Extension 1 and Mathematics Extension 2 Stage 6 courses are based on an assumed level of numeracy.

Course description

The Numeracy course builds on the knowledge, skills and understanding presented in the K–10 curriculum. It supports students to develop the functional numeracy skills required to become active and successful participants in society.

The Numeracy course is designed to offer opportunities for students to reason numerically and think mathematically. Numerical reasoning and mathematical thinking are supported by an atmosphere of questioning, communicating, reasoning and reflecting and are engendered by opportunities to generalise, challenge, find connections and to think critically and creatively.

The Numeracy course provides opportunities for students to develop knowledge, skills, understanding, values and attitudes. As part of this, students are encouraged to learn to use appropriate technology as an effective support for numerical and mathematical activities.

What students learn

The course enables students to build on existing numeracy skills and to develop and improve their capability to:

- interpret and use numerical information
- solve problems using visual, spatial, financial and statistical literacy skills
- think mathematically in practical situations
- represent and communicate information
- use the context to determine the reasonableness of solutions in order to manage situations and solve problems relating to their present and future needs.

Year 11 course

The Numeracy Year 11 course content comprises 2 modules. The modules are divided into content areas.

- Each content area may be delivered sequentially, or integrated within the module, and should be applied in contexts that are meaningful and of interest to students.
- It is likely students will need to revisit content descriptors a number of times, and in different contexts, to ensure they develop the breadth and depth of understanding that is required.
- Modules 1 and 2 are designed to support students to learn and use the Numerical Reasoning and Mathematical Thinking (NRMT) process. This process is modelled and taught explicitly within these two modules.
- Students should be provided with regular opportunities that involve the integration of technology to enrich the learning experience.

Module 1:

- Whole numbers.
- Operations with whole numbers.
- Distance, area and volume.
- Time.
- Data, graphs and tables.

Module 2:

- Fractions and decimals.
- Operations with fractions and decimals.
- Metric relationships.
- Length, mass and capacity.
- Chance.

Year 12 course

The Numeracy Year 12 course content comprises 2 modules. The modules are divided into content areas.

- Each content area may be delivered sequentially, or integrated within the module, and should be applied in contexts that are meaningful and of interest to students.
- It is likely students will need to revisit content descriptors a number of times, and in different contexts, to ensure they develop the breadth and depth of understanding that is required.
- Modules 3 and 4 are designed to support students to use the Numerical Reasoning and Mathematical Thinking (NRMT) process with autonomy.
- Students should be provided with regular opportunities involving the integration of technology to enrich the learning experience.

Module 3:

- Percentages
- Operations with numbers
- Finance
- Location, time and temperature
- Space and design

Module 4:

- Rates and ratios
- Statistics and probability
- Exploring with NRMT

Photography, Video and Digital Imaging

Course No: 35226 Photography, Video and Digital Imaging (2 units – Year 11)* #
35228 Photography, Video and Digital Imaging (2 units – Year 12) #

Content Endorsed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

This course is ONLY available online.

Course description

Photography, Video and Digital Imaging offers students the opportunity to explore contemporary artistic practices that make use of photography, video and digital imaging. These fields of artistic practice resonate with students' experience and understanding of the world and are highly relevant to contemporary ways of interpreting the world. The course offers opportunities for investigation of one or more of these fields and develops students' understanding and skills, which contribute to an informed critical practice.

The course is designed to enable students to gain an increasing accomplishment and independence in their representation of ideas in the fields of photography and/or video and/or digital imaging and understand and value how these fields of practice invite different interpretations and explanations.

Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills through the making of photographs, and/or videos and/or digital images that lead to and demonstrate conceptual and technical accomplishment. They also develop knowledge, understanding and skills that lead to increasingly accomplished critical and historical investigations of photography and/or video and/or digital imaging.

What students learn

Modules may be selected in any of the following two broad fields.

- Video.
- Digital imaging.

Modules may include the following.

- Camera techniques.
- Landscape photography.
- Manipulated forms.
- Narrative portraiture.
- Photo documentary.
- Temporal accounts.
- Make it big/make it small.
- Photographic competitions.
- Time and place.
- Photographic portfolio.

The Occupational Health and Safety Module is mandatory and is delivered as an integrated module. The additional module, Individual/Collaborative Project, extends students' learning experiences and may reflect students' increasing interests and desire to specialise in one or more of these fields, or explore the connections further between the fields.

Course requirements

- Students are required to keep a diary throughout the course.
- Students require access to some kind of camera. A Digital SLR is an advantage but not a requirement.
- Computer capable of running Photoshop (free to download through student portal).
- Students require Internet access in order to access the elearning course.

Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation

Course No: 35015 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (2 units – Year 11)*
35014 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (1 unit – Year 11)*
35017 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (2 units – Year 12)**
35017 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (2 units – Year 12 only) *
35016 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (1 unit – Year 12)**
35016 Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies (1 unit – Year 12 only) *

Content Endorsed Course

* **Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 or Year 12 Single Course enrolments.

** This course is available to Single Course enrolments only if the Year 11 course is completed.

Course description

Students learn about the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle and recognise the need to be responsible and informed decision-makers. This course enables students to further develop their understanding of, and competence in, a range of sport and recreational pursuits. They are encouraged to establish a lifelong commitment to being physically active and to achieving movement potential.

What students learn

Through the study of the Sport, Lifestyle and Recreations course, students learn to develop:

- knowledge and understanding of the factors that influence health and participation in physical activity
- knowledge and understanding of the principles that affect quality of performance
- an ability to analyse and implement strategies to promote health, physical activity and enhanced performance
- a capacity to influence the participation and performance of self and others
- a lifelong commitment to an active, healthy lifestyle and the achievement of movement potential.

The course provides the opportunity to specialise in areas of expertise or interest through optional modules (ranging from 20–40 hours in duration) such as:

- aquatics
- athletics
- dance
- first aid and sports injuries
- fitness
- games and sports applications
- gymnastics
- healthy lifestyle
- individual games and sports applications
- outdoor recreation
- resistance training
- social perspectives of games and sport
- sports administration
- sports coaching and training.

Course requirements

The Sport, Lifestyle and Recreation Studies course comprises 15 optional modules. There is no prescribed core component.

The time allocated to each optional module is flexible within the range of 20–40 hours, depending on the number of units for the course and the way in which the course is delivered.

Visual Design

Course No: 35101 Visual Design (2 units – Year 11)*
35103 Visual Design (2 units – Year 12)
35103 Visual Design (2 units – Year 12 only)*

Content Endorsed Course

*** Note:** This course is NOT available to Year 11 Single Course enrolments.

Course description

This course provides students with opportunities to exploit the links between art and design, by designing and making images and objects in which aesthetic qualities and symbolic meanings are as important as utilitarian function. It encourages students to explore the practices of graphic, wearable, product, and interior/exterior designers in contemporary societies and promotes imaginative and innovative approaches to design within the context of the Australian environment and culture.

Through the critical and historical study of designed images and objects, students are able to analyse and make informed judgements about the designed works that surround them – works which reflect and construct the image they have of themselves, others and their world.

The course is designed to enable students to gain an increasing accomplishment and independence in their representation of ideas in different fields of design and to understand and value how graphic design, wearable design, product design, and interior/exterior design, invite different interpretations and explanations. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills through the making of works in design that lead to and demonstrate conceptual and technical accomplishment. They also develop knowledge, understanding and skills that lead to increasingly accomplished critical and historical investigations of design.

What students learn

Modules may be selected in any of the following four broad fields.

- Graphic design.
- Wearable design.
- Product design.
- Interior/exterior design.

The additional module Individual Project extends students' learning experiences and may reflect students' increasing interests and desire to specialise in one or more of these fields or explore the connections further between the fields. The Occupational Health and Safety Module is mandatory in any course.

Course requirements

Course cost: Year 11 - \$20 / Year 12 - \$20

Students are required to keep a diary throughout the course.

- Students require a computer with Internet access in order to access the elearning course.
- Students require access to a camera or appropriate device in order to submit photographic evidence of created works.

Work Studies

Course No: 35201 Work Studies (2 units – Year 11)*
35203 Work Studies (2 units – Year 12)*
35203 Work Studies (2 units – Year 12 only)**
35202 Work Studies (1 unit – Year 12 only)**

Content Endorsed Course

* **Note:** This course is available to Year 11 or Year 12 Single Course enrolments.

**This course is available to Single Course enrolments who have not studied in Year 11.

Course description

Work in all its forms – paid and unpaid – plays a central role in our lives. Technological, social and economic factors are rapidly changing the nature of work, the traditional patterns of work organisation and how individuals engage in work. The successful transition of students from school to the workforce and further education and training is essential for individuals and for society.

Individuals will need to be flexible and responsive to change along their career pathway. Opportunities for workers to change jobs, develop new skills and to obtain new experiences will be part of the future world of work.

The Work Studies syllabus is designed to assist students in their transition from school to work. It develops knowledge and understanding of the issues faced by students in the transition to work and the skills needed for effective career planning and performance of tasks in the work environment. Integral to the Work Studies syllabus is a focus on the development of essential workplace skills. They are central to the core module and each of the elective modules. Students have an opportunity to practise these skills in appropriate work contexts.

The Work Studies course will assist students to:

- recognise the links between education, training, work and lifestyle, and to recognise the economic and social factors that affect work opportunities
- develop an understanding of the changing nature of work and the implications for individuals and society
- undertake work placement to allow for the development of specific job-related skills
- acquire general work-related knowledge, skills and attitudes, transferable across different occupations
- develop their skills in accessing work-related information, presenting themselves to potential employers, and functioning effectively in the workplace.

What students learn

The Work Studies syllabus is available for study as a 1 unit 60 hour course (Year 12 only); a 2 unit 120 hour course; or a 2 unit 240 hour course.

- **Core:** My working life.
- **Modules:** There are 11 elective modules which explore issues about work and work-related skills. Modules are studied for 15 to 30 hours.