

# The King David School

## Senior School: Years 10 - 12

# Information Handbook



THE KING DAVID SCHOOL



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# General Information

## Welcome from the Principal

Dear Students and Parents,

VCE provides students, and parents alike, with a daunting set of acronyms, jargon, rules, clauses and sub-clauses that can be confusing and intimidating. Often lost in the discussion of ATARs, SACs, SATs, GATs and Study Scores is the realisation that the VCE can present a wonderful opportunity for learning for those in the final years of Secondary School. While helping to negotiate the system is a crucial way that The King David School can help, students are encouraged to keep sight of what the system is designed for – their education.

While we encourage all our students to strive to achieve their personal best in their studies, the VCE can present significant challenges in terms of increased workloads, challenging deadlines and high stakes test situations.

As such, students need to maintain a clear focus, dedication and a cool head. During this period, considered application of sensible work habits proves to be beneficial. When this is coupled with regular exercise, family life and other social pursuits, students are most likely to reap the rewards they seek from the VCE.

In this challenging period, it is crucial that students maintain a sense of balance. Students need to ensure that their work-life balance is managed as it shifts progressively throughout the year. The emphasis should be on a carefully developed and regularly re-evaluated routine. Students should assess whether they are achieving the targets they have set and if not, implement new strategies to meet the goals.

A dedicated study space, a study timetable that is shared and discussed with parents, and a willingness to give it one's best shot are all essential. Most importantly, students need to know that it will be tough, but that the demands can be met with commitment and sincere application.

The teaching team at The King David School is comprised of educators whose extensive professional experience and passion enables students to receive meaningful and well-targeted instruction that can be implemented. The teachers work as a team to support and challenge students and to encourage them to make this period the most educationally exciting and rewarding they have yet experienced.

Students, I wish you the very best for the journey ahead. I implore you to take the time to enjoy the many school highlights and milestones you will celebrate on the way. I hope that you feel supported and challenged to achieve your personal best and know that we are proud of all you achieve and who you are becoming as the finest of young people.

**Marc Light**  
Principal

## Welcome from the Head of Senior School

Dear Students and Parents,

The Senior School at King David is an exciting place to be. It's a place for enthusiastic students and passionate educators. We strive to strike a meaningful balance between the rigours of senior academic assessment and a focus on the holistic development of each student. The King David Senior School is a place where diligent students achieve extraordinary results, but we proudly reject the idea of becoming any kind of 'VCE factory'. We focus on so much more than a student's ATAR at the end of Year 12. For us, the final years of secondary school are about students acquiring a nuanced understanding of themselves and the world around them.

In terms of academic development, we maintain a rigorous focus on study and set high standards. We encourage students to move beyond simply understanding course material to developing mastery of skills and knowledge. We offer an environment that positions students to effectively transition from the closely-supported learning experiences of the Middle School toward intellectual autonomy. The centerpiece of this effort is our caring and dedicated staff who offer students support in and out of the classroom in a way that encourages them to take ownership of their learning journeys. We want our students to feel confident tackling the educational and employment opportunities they choose to take up when they leave school.

In terms of personal development, we recognise that the move to independence in the senior years also involves developing social and emotional autonomy. To this end, we foster meaningful student-teacher relationships, offer varied co-curricular opportunities, and combine classroom instruction with comprehensive pastoral, wellbeing and Jewish life programs.

Our ultimate goal in the senior years is to work in partnership with parents to see our students graduate as independent, principled, resilient and insightful young adults.

**David Robinson**  
**Head of Senior School**

## Jewish Life

As students move through the Senior School, Jewish life continues to permeate every week of the school calendar. Kabbalat Shabbat and the Jewish calendar are observed and celebrated, with opportunities for *tikkun olam* (social justice) offered regularly. Students in Year 10 participate in the Derech (Hebrew for 'path') program. During this class, students focus on Hadracha (leadership training) and taking responsibility for their community and broader world. Students attend a Hadracha Shabbaton (weekend camp) to develop their leadership skills. They also explore their connection with Israel and prepare for their Yesh Israel trip at the end of the year.

Yesh, The King David School's Israel program for Year 10 students, offers a unique opportunity for students to immerse themselves in Israel - its places, culture, society, politics and people - for four weeks. Through deep engagement and rich experiences, students are able to explore their Jewish identity and their connection with the land, people and state of Israel, while also developing personal, emotional and social skills, such as independence, resilience and flexibility, associated with group-living away from home.

While Years 11 & 12 bring a focus on subject choices and academic pursuits that will create opportunities for post-school pathways, here at The King David School we place immense value on continuing the holistic education on offer. Students in Year 11 participate in Mifgash and Year 12 students in Ofek. These sessions offer choices to delve into particular areas of Jewish life, culture, Israel education and hands-on practical activities. Leadership capacity and opportunities are fostered at various levels (see below). Year 12 students participate in a weekend Shabbaton in which questions of Jewish life and identity after graduation are explored in an informal setting.

## Student Leadership

### Hadracha program for Year 10 students

Student leadership, activism and voice are promoted. All Year 10 students participate in Derech, in which leadership capacity is developed through explicit training and opportunities to facilitate sessions with younger students and their community. This includes learning about issues such as climate change, reconciliation with First Nations Peoples, and creating an inclusive society for all regardless of disability or gender.

### Year 11 Amit Program

Encouraging students to be 'upstanders' who, now and in the future, will assume leadership roles within the School, the Jewish community and beyond, is of central importance in the School. Student leadership, activism and voice are promoted through a number of avenues.

Year 11 students have the opportunity to mentor Year 7 students in Amit, our peer leadership program. Students in Year 11 opt-in to this opportunity and participate in a series of training programs alongside facilitating programs for all Year 7 students. The program is aimed at establishing positive and respectful relationships between Years 7 and 11 students as well as guiding Year 7 students through the opportunities and challenges of life.

### Hanhagah Program for Years 11&12 Students

As Year 11 students approach their final year in the School, they are offered the opportunity to stand for a position in the *Hanhagah* leadership program, the School's peak student leadership body consisting of representatives (*Manhigim*). During this journey, *Manhigim* develop a variety of leadership skills in all stages of project management, from ideation to actualisation and reflection. They also learn about what it takes to represent a community and make responsible decisions. Additionally, the team consistently considers the needs of their community and discusses ways to address these needs. The *Hanhagah* are role models for engagement in all aspects of the school community. *Manhigim* develop skills in ideation, facilitation, planning, delegation, teamwork and communication.

The *Hanhagah* is divided into four *Va'adot* (sub-committees). Each *Va'ad* focuses on a different aspect of school life: *Yahadut* (Jewish Life); *Ruach* (School Spirit & House Culture); *Tarbut* (The Arts), and *Tikkun Olam* (Repairing the World/Social Justice).

Each *Va'ada* has 1-2 *Rashei Va'ada* (heads of committee). These *Rashim* (heads) will be responsible for the facilitation of *Va'ada* meetings, serve as points of contact and will oversee the initiatives of the *Va'ada*. *Rashim* will receive additional support in order to fulfil these responsibilities.

The *Hanhagah* meets weekly with *Tzev Lev* (Jewish Experiential Education team) to plan initiatives and events. It plays a central role in driving student engagement in Jewish life activities and building school spirit and culture. Members are offered leadership training and mentoring.

## Wellbeing

The Senior School Wellbeing program furthers students' social, emotional development and teaches specific skills on a range of topics including health (alcohol, drugs, sexual education, nutrition, sleep, exercise), relationships (positive friendships, intimate relationships), cyber safety, values and personal safety. The Positive Education movement continues to influence the curriculum through the teaching of skills such as mindfulness and gratitude. Students are encouraged to explore a range of practical strategies to maintain their own sense of wellbeing through workshops on Tai Chi, and yoga, sport and music.

The Homeroom program in the Senior School is called *Kesher* (Hebrew for connection). It is an opportunity for students to focus on their sense of wellbeing, mindfulness and social connection.

The aim of *Kesher* is to support the social and academic development of the cohort (class and year level), in order to build community.

The *Kesher* program focuses on activities with the following goals:

- Positive Emotion – fun, energisers, *ruach* (spirit)
- Opportunities – student voice, initiative, leadership
- Relationships – peer to peer, student to teacher
- Environment – physical and atmospheric
- Support – academic and personal

The *Kesher* teachers are the first port of call for student wellbeing. This important pastoral care role ensures that all students feel supported at school.

## Co-Curricular Programs

There are many opportunities for students to be involved in activities outside their regular timetabled classes. Participation is encouraged and recorded through the Kinor David program. Activities on offer include Instrumental Music, before school gym training, Robotics (MERIT) and a large variety of lunch time clubs. For a comprehensive guide, please refer to the Co-Curricular information book. Further details about the schedule are available on myKDS at the start of each Term. Below are some highlights of the Co-Curricular Program offered at the School.

### Debating

Students have the opportunity to participate in the Debaters Association of Victoria's (DAV) Schools Competition, which is the largest English-language debating competition in the world. In this competition, students participate in 3-on-3 style debates against students from other schools in their region, e.g. Caulfield. Students in Years 10 to 12 have the opportunity to debate both prepared and secret topics. Each evening that the students debate, they receive individual and team-directed feedback from trained DAV adjudicators, which they can consider before the next round. The debates are held off-campus, e.g. at Caulfield Grammar School, and families are welcome to listen to the debates. Participation by students is a wonderful opportunity for the students to develop logical and critical thinking, intellectual and emotional resilience, courage, and to improve their public speaking skills.

Similarly, the DAV runs a Junior Secondary Program (JSP). The JSP is an introduction to debating for students in Years 7 and 8. The program is designed to provide training in the basic skills and structure of debating, whilst also giving students an opportunity to participate in three 'friendly' inter-school debates.

### Outdoor Education

The King David School operates Outdoor Educational activities from Years 3-11. Outdoor education is experiential learning in the outdoors that also encompasses skills from the formal studies of Mathematics, Science, Humanities and Jewish Studies. Students are given the opportunity to participate in a range of activities located in the outdoor environment. During their schooling, students will participate in activities from ropes courses, hiking, climbing, water-based activities, use of tents and cooking in a bush setting. An important aspect of the School's outdoor education philosophy is to encompass the Indigenous Australians' view of the land and animals.

As well as specific skills, the Outdoor Education activities are designed to challenge students on a personal and a group level. Students look at how to negotiate to achieve the best result, what is a safe level of risk, how to work best as an individual and as a team, how to lead others in challenging situations, and develop skills that they will be able to utilise throughout their lifetime.

### Performing Arts

#### Ensemble Program

All students are invited to be part of Ensemble programs. Each year, ensemble students participate in a broad range of concerts and events including Spring Concert, Assemblies and Presentation Evening. All Years 10 - 12 students who take individual instrumental lessons are required to take part in an ensemble. This provides students with regular opportunities to play with other musicians and to refine the skills that playing within a group provides. All students at The King David School are invited to sing in our Choral groups, and to audition for our yearly school Musicals. Full details are to be found in the Co-Curricular Handbook.

#### Instrumental Music Lessons

Private Instrumental music lessons for a wide variety of instruments are available. To enrol your child please utilise the form on myKDS under myStudents. For further information please refer to the Co-Curricular Information book.

#### Productions

The Performing Arts Co-Curricular program offers students exposure to a variety of theatre styles over their school years. Our productions offer students diverse opportunities to develop their understanding of a range of theatre styles in order to best prepare them for VCE Theatre Studies and/or a career in the Performing Arts.

Students can look forward to a rich cycle of productions, including:

- biannual Magid Campus Musical – open to students in Years 6 - 12
- biannual Magid Campus Production – a staged play presentation for students in Years 8 - 10

alternating with:

- biannual Middle School Musical – open to students in Years 6 - 9
- biannual Senior School Musical – open to students in Years 9 - 12

Auditions are held prior to the beginning of the rehearsal period and are widely publicized. KDS productions are inclusive of all students who wish to audition as long as they are able to meet the rehearsal commitments and required expectations. Students are also invited to be part of the crew in production roles such as stage management, backstage crew, lighting, sound, costume and makeup. Sign-up for cast and crew roles can be found on the Performing Arts Page.

## **MERIT (Making, Engineering, Robotics and Innovative Technologies).**

The MERIT program (Making, Engineering, Robotics and Innovative Technologies) offers students a range of STEM opportunities. These include: lunchtime clubs such as Game of Drones (Drone Club), coding challenges and making competitions and university / industry gateway programs. Additionally, students have the opportunity to learn and use Technology Centre tools such as 3D printers and laser cutters for both personal and curriculum learning projects.

## **Sport**

### **Inter-School Sports**

Sport is a very important part of all adolescent development. It provides students with increased fitness, a focus on health, team skills and sportsmanship. Years 10, 11 and Year 12 (Year 12's for one season only) compete in the Eastern Independent Schools Melbourne (EISM) competition. Our students compete with students from range of schools within the competition. There is a wide range of sports offered each season as well as through various one day competitions. Students also have the ability to be selected for the EISM Swimming, Athletics and Cross Country Carnivals Teams.

Beyond these regular competitions the School also competes in the Victorian Jewish Schools Sports Association. There is also a series of other competitions which are advertised from time to time to give students even further opportunities in this area.

### **Before School and Lunchtime Gym**

A qualified gym and Pilates coach is available for Senior School students before school (7.30am - 8.30am) and lunchtime (1:00pm - 1:45pm) every day.

### **Snow Sports**

The King David School provides a range of opportunities for students to compete and participate socially in Snow Sports.

Each year the School participates in the ABL Jewish Inter-School Snow Sports Competition at Mt Buller, which is supported by our voluntary Ski Camp. The school also takes part in the Victorian Interschools competition for those students with advanced skills in skiing and snow boarding who wish to compete.

## **Youth in Philanthropy Program**

The Lord Mayor's Charitable Foundation's Youth in Philanthropy program was established in 2002. The aim of the program is to inspire young people to use their enthusiasm, creativity and energy to begin a life-long engagement in philanthropy and social change, and to develop the necessary skills and abilities to work with a diverse range of people from all cultures and social groups. The King David School has been participating in this program for more than a decade and this specific program is open to Year 11 students who receive training in philanthropy, social entrepreneurship and bringing about change to better society.

## **Library Resources**

The Michele Bernshaw Resource Centre is a gateway to a wide variety of physical and virtual resources, available to all members of the KDS community.

Resources available include:

- A vibrant and diverse fiction collection boasting a broad range of recreational reading options. From graphic novels, young adult and general fiction to poetry and modern classics, this collection offers compelling reading
- The non-fiction collection gives library users the resources necessary to extend their research across a wide variety of subjects. An extensive Jewish collection, Biography and Holocaust Literature collection are the strengths of the non-fiction area
- Languages Other Than English (LOTE) are supported with Hebrew and French collections
- The Teacher's Reference collection supports staff with a range of current and past text books and manuals. Students may borrow from this collection with the permission of their teacher
- Students and staff are invited to approach library staff with research questions. A short informal reference interview assists staff to retrieve the relevant information from a variety of print and online sources. Delivering quality, peer-reviewed information is our goal
- Online editions of *The Age* are available through the library portal. The Australian Jewish News is delivered each Thursday. Full text databases of Australian and New Zealand newspaper articles are available on request
- Library staff offer referencing and citation assistance as well as time management and organisational advice
- Support with printing, computing and simple IT troubleshooting is available on request

## Student Services

Psychological Support & Learning Support is available throughout VCE at The King David School to students experiencing issues in areas of behaviour, learning, and social and emotional development. In consultation with the Homeroom teacher, VCE Coordinator, Head of School, and/or parents and student, a referral may be made to the Student Services Team and the appropriate course of action will be determined. This may be an educational assessment, psychological assessment, counselling and/or ongoing learning support.

- Students may also choose to self refer to seek the assistance of the School Psychologists
- The School Psychologists are available to assist students with various difficulties such as study skills, stress management, social media, anxiety and relationship problems
- Learning Support provides extra assistance via a help desk and via some individual tutorial support

## Technology

Students are required to bring their own device (BYOD) to school. Students are reminded that access to the network is according to School Policy guidelines that forbid access to inappropriate sites. Students are also to abide by the Mobile phone policy. These policies can be found here: <https://my.kds.vic.edu.au/homepage/1822>

Mobile phones should be kept in lockers.

## Timetable

While every effort is made to arrange a timetable that allows students their full range of first choices, it is not always possible to achieve that outcome. There may be some cases in which students will have to make choices between subjects, both of which they would like to undertake. The School works extremely hard to ensure that no student is denied the ability to take a subject that is a prerequisite for a tertiary course. Options are available if a clash in timetabling occurs.


## Uniform

Senior School students are the leaders of the school community. Accordingly, they are expected to wear their school uniform with pride, at school and on their way to and from school. Uniforms must be clean and in good repair. Students should meet appearance standards set out in the uniform policy. For example, being cleanly shaven or wearing a maximum of two piercings in each ear. For Senior School students, blazers must be worn to and from school everyday unless it is over 30 degrees when they are arriving or leaving.

Sport Uniform can only be worn for interschool sports competition days and any practical Physical Education or Sport Science class where the teacher requests it to be worn.

## Standards of Behaviour

The King David School expects a high standard of behaviour from all students. This standard is governed by four principles as described below. We strive to regularly articulate, model and reflect on this standard of behaviour, by explicitly referencing the four governing principles, so students have a clear idea of what is expected of them.

<b>Principle governing Positive Behaviour</b>	<b>In the Classroom</b> בתוך הכיתה	<b>Outside of the Classroom</b> מחוץ לכיתה	<b>In General</b> באופן כללי
<b>Respect</b> כבוד  Respect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We demonstrate regard for other people's ideas, values, and contributions</li> <li>We listen attentively to our teachers and fellow students</li> <li>We value the learning and teaching time of the whole class</li> <li>We contribute to a focused learning environment</li> <li>We treat personal and shared resources with care, including classroom materials and equipment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We communicate appropriately with staff and peers ie. language and tone</li> <li>We cooperatively share space</li> <li>We wait patiently and considerately for staff to arrive</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We honour others' personal boundaries</li> <li>We use polite language, and appropriate manners in all interactions</li> <li>We are mindful and considerate of everyone's personal space and safety</li> <li>We wear our school uniform correctly and with pride</li> </ul>
<b>Community Mindedness</b> קהילתיות  Community Mindedness	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We wait for our turn to speak</li> <li>We actively include all students in group activities, discussions, fostering a sense of belonging for all</li> <li>We work cooperatively with all of our peers</li> <li>We offer assistance or support to classmates when needed, creating a collaborative and helpful learning environment</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We invite others into group activities</li> <li>We are considerate of others as we move around the campus ie. standing aside and waiting patiently so others can pass, opening doors for other people</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We maintain a positive social environment by avoiding negative behaviours such as gossiping or disrespectful comments</li> <li>We act as an upstander</li> <li>We act to include others</li> <li>We choose to be actively involved in our school community</li> </ul>
<b>Honesty</b> ישר  Honesty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We maintain academic integrity in all assignments and assessments by ensuring our work is our own and that it meets the requirements</li> <li>We own our mistakes and are open to learning from them</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We know the rules and we follow them because we understand that they help create a better learning environment, which is safe for all</li> <li>We recognise our mistakes, admit when we are wrong and take appropriate action</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We are sincere and transparent about mistakes or misunderstandings in our social relations</li> <li>We always communicate truthfully and openly, both in words and actions</li> </ul>
<b>Responsibility</b> אחריות  Responsibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We demonstrate we are ready for learning by being punctual to class, with essential stationery, books and charged devices.</li> <li>We actively seek help when needed</li> <li>We participate fully in the learning process putting in effort to produce quality work</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We ensure the safety of others</li> <li>We keep shared spaces, corridors and locker areas clean and tidy</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>We find opportunities to lead by setting good examples</li> <li>We accept responsibility for our own actions</li> <li>We represent our school positively in public</li> </ul>

The School's Positive Behaviours policy aims to help students meet the standards described above. We know that students will make mistakes as they develop and it is important for the school to provide a system which helps students to be their best. The types of behaviours the policy addresses are listed below.

Type of Misbehaviour	Examples
<b>Misbehaviour in the classroom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Distracting others</li> <li>• Disrupting lessons</li> <li>• Rudeness</li> <li>• Calling out</li> <li>• Not following instructions</li> <li>• Teasing</li> <li>• Low-level harassment</li> <li>• Mishandling of property</li> </ul>
<b>Misbehaviour outside the classroom</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Truancy on-site</li> <li>• Low-level physicality with other students</li> <li>• Teasing</li> <li>• Harassment</li> <li>• Mistreatment of or damage to property</li> </ul>
<b>Major Misbehaviour</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Truancy off-site</li> <li>• Swearing at a staff member</li> <li>• Repeated rudeness toward staff members</li> <li>• Repeated failure to comply with staff instruction</li> <li>• Repeated misbehaviour in class</li> <li>• Threats of physical violence or other forms of harassment</li> <li>• Physical violence towards students or staff</li> <li>• Wilful damage to school or student property</li> <li>• Theft of school or student property</li> <li>• Possession of prohibited items at school (inc. weapons).</li> <li>• Smoking, vaping, drinking alcohol or consuming illicit drugs</li> <li>• Actions or behaviours that bring the School into disrepute online or in person</li> <li>• Consistently behaving in a manner that interferes with the educational opportunities of any other student or students</li> <li>• Behaving in a way that threatens the good order of school programs</li> <li>• Engaging in discriminatory behaviour either in person or online, including bullying or comments made on the basis of race, sexuality, gender.</li> </ul>
<b>Infringements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Not adhering to the School's uniform policy</li> <li>• Not adhering to the School's phone use policy</li> <li>• Not adhering to the School's lateness policy</li> <li>• Not adhering to the School's gum policy</li> </ul>

For the various areas, there are appropriate and relevant consequences. See the School's Positive Behaviour Policy for full details.

By providing a supportive and nurturing environment, along with appropriate consequences we aim to help our young people learn from their mistakes, grow personally, and develop into well-rounded individuals who contribute positively to society.

## Promotions Policy

### Promotions Policy - Years 10 to 11

Students who wish to undertake Year 11 must have satisfied the following criteria:

- Satisfied the School's attendance requirement throughout Year 10
- Timely submission of all Year 10 assessment tasks
- Students will need to satisfy the specific prerequisites for entry into VCE Units 1&2 Studies. These are documented in this handbook

### Promotions Policy - Years 11 to 12

Students who wish to undertake Year 12 must have satisfied the following criteria:

- Satisfied the School's attendance requirement throughout Year 11
- Timely submission of all Year 11 assessment tasks
- Satisfactory completion of at least eight VCE Unit 1&2 level units (including at least one in English or Literature), that will lead into four Unit 3&4 sequences in Year 12 (including English or Literature)
- Students will need to satisfy the specific prerequisites for entry into VCE Units 3&4 Studies. These are documented in this handbook

## Careers

The King David School provides a carefully developed program of career advice in Years 10 to 12. The School's Pathways Advisor, who is also a member of the teaching team, oversees the students' Career Development program over the three years.

All students participate in the Senior School Careers Day at the start of Term 2. Students attend sessions with KDS Alumni Mentors who present their experiences at a range of university courses and details of their career journeys so far in a diverse range of industries. Students have the opportunity to ask questions and discover the different pathways taken by previous KDS graduates.

Representatives from different universities attend the Careers Day to highlight their course offerings, facilities and application processes.

All Year 10 students complete a diagnostic test, the Morrisby Report. This report provides a profile of the abilities of each student and helps students identify the types of work which

match their interests, aptitudes and preferences. The outcomes of this report are discussed individually with the student and their parents, forming the basis for VCE subject selection. Students are individually counselled in designing a VCE program that is suited to their individual requirements in terms of abilities and tertiary entrance requirements for courses of interest to them.

In Years 11 & 12, the Pathways Advisor is closely involved in the process of subject selection for students entering VCE. With the support of the Pathways Advisor, students ensure that prerequisite subjects which are necessary for entry to their preferred tertiary courses are chosen. Year 12 students attend a workshop on how to research tertiary course options within Victoria and interstate. A Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) information evening is held annually for parents and students in Year 12 to familiarise them fully with the process of the selection of tertiary courses through VTAC.

Even after graduation, the KDS Pathways Advisor is available to assist and counsel students who wish to change their original preferences.

Senior School students receive weekly KDS Pathways newsletters covering updates to tertiary course offerings, profiles on different careers and tertiary courses as well as information sessions for gap years, Open Days, scholarship opportunities and other relevant events.

## VCE Structure & Requirements

The VCE is central to students' academic program in the Senior School. The VCE is primarily undertaken by students when they are in Years 11 & 12. The King David School prepares students for the demands of the VCE by developing their study and research skills, essay and report writing and examination skills in each of their core and elective subjects in Year 10.

In their VCE, students will complete between 16 and 24 units of study. Each unit of study is one semester in length. Most studies, or subjects, are made up of four units. Typically students complete Units 1&2 in Year 11 and Units 3&4 in Year 12. It is not necessary for students to take all four units in a particular study however some studies require the completion of Units 1&2 before moving into Units 3&4. Students are able to complete Units 1&2 as single units, however, Units 3&4 must be completed together as a sequence.

It is possible for students to complete a VCE Unit 1&2 level study in Year 10 and follow this with a VCE Units 3&4 level study in Year 11, if they meet certain prerequisites. This is referred to as an Early Commencement Study and will be explained later.

To achieve a Satisfactory result for a unit, students must demonstrate they have met all outcomes listed within the subject's study design. The study design for each subject is produced by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) and is publicly available online. In most cases, students will be required to complete an assessment task to demonstrate that they have met an outcome. In Unit 1&2 studies, we refer to these assessment tasks as Outcome Tasks; in Units 3&4 studies we refer to these assessment tasks as School Assessed Coursework (SACs) or School Assessed Tasks (SATs). A student is awarded an S (Satisfactory) or N (Not satisfactory) for each outcome based on their performance on the associated assessment tasks. In Units 3&4 level studies, they are also awarded a numerical score which contributes to their study score for the subject, and ultimately their Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR).

Outcome Tasks, SACs and SATs can take a variety of forms such as:

- multimedia presentations
- essays
- research assignments
- practical work
- examinations

To achieve their VCE, students must satisfactorily complete a minimum of 16 units.

This group of units must include:

- at least three units of English and/or Literature
- a Unit 3&4 sequence of English or Literature
- at least three other Unit 3&4 sequences

### VCE at King David

The King David School offers a comprehensive range of VCE studies based on the interests of our students and our ability to deliver a program of excellence.

In Year 11, we require that students complete six units in Semester One and six units in Semester Two. In Year 12, we require that students complete four or five units in Semester One and four or five units in Semester Two. This will position students to graduate with 20-22 units, provided they have satisfactorily met all outcomes.

Any variations to this subject loading should only be considered after consultation with the VCE Coordinator and/or the Pathways Advisor.

In each study, students will be provided with a list of assessment tasks with due dates for their completion at the commencement of each semester. Students' results will be available to parents via myKDS as they become available throughout each semester.

### Attendance

Students are required to attend all classes in each VCE study they are enrolled in, unless they are ill or there are other extenuating circumstances. If a student's attendance in a VCE study falls below 80%, they may be asked to meet with the VCE Coordinator and/or provide documentation of their absences to maintain their enrolment or before they can progress to the subject at a higher level. Students who are absent on the day of a SAC task in a Units 3&4 study must submit a medical certificate to their subject teacher to qualify for a replacement task.

## Planning a VCE Course

When designing a course, students are advised to select subjects that:

- Interest them
- They are confident in
- They have achieved strong results in
- Are prerequisites for promotion to a higher level of study (Eg: Units 1&2 are required to study Unit 3)
- Relate to their tertiary study and career aspirations
- Are prerequisites for their tertiary study aspirations

Students are advised not to select based on:

- What their friends are selecting
- Who they predict the teacher might be
- Which subjects' scores have historically been inflated by scaling

## Commencing VCE in Year 10

If they meet certain prerequisites, students may commence their VCE in Year 10 by enrolling in a Unit 1&2 study (Year 11 subject) as one of their electives. This is called an Early Commencement Study. This can then position them to go on to complete a Unit study (Year 12 subject) in Year 11. The advantage of completing an Early Commencement Study is that it can position a student to complete an additional Unit sequence by the time they graduate, which will contribute to their ATAR. It also affords students insight into the rigours of VCE curriculum and assessment a year early, so they can begin to prepare.

However, the decision to complete an Early Commencement Study should be given careful consideration as it is not beneficial for every student. This is an extremely demanding option and may impact negatively on a student's total performance in VCE. Students may also be put under undue stress and under-perform in their Year 10 subjects if they complete an Early Commencement Study that they are not ready for.

In order to qualify for an Early Commencement Study in Year 10, students must satisfy the following criteria in their Year 9 studies:

- Achieve a minimum of a B average in all subjects and in all examinations
- Submit all work by the due date and to a high standard
- Perform consistently in examinations and continuous assessment
- Have maintained at least 90% attendance in all subjects

In addition they must meet the specific subject prerequisites listed in the Curriculum Overviews section of this handbook.

The Unit 1 & 2 studies open to Year 10 students to complete as Early Commencement Studies are:

- Applied Computing / Software Development (available in 2028)
- Business Management
- Geography
- Politics
- Health & Human Development
- Hebrew
- Mathematical Methods (by invitation only)
- Physical Education
- Psychology
- Religion & Society
- Systems Engineering (available in 2027)

Students may only complete one Unit 1 & 2 study in Year 10. The school may provide special permission for a student to complete two Unit 1&2 studies in Year 10 if they have been invited to enrol in Unit 1&2 Mathematical Methods and wish to complete another Unit 1&2 study in addition to this.

## Vocational Education and Training (VET)

VET in Schools programs are practical, vocation-based subjects traditionally offered in TAFE settings that students can elect to complete as part of their VCE. They are designed to give students an awareness of the world of work, a broader range of skills, and practical workplace experience. Through enrolling in a VET subject, students can make more informed choices about jobs and career pathways. Students will also build up valuable networks with TAFE providers and industry. VET subjects can add qualifications and experience to a student's resume, giving the competitive edge for entrance into the workforce or tertiary study.

A VET subject is two years in length and is credited as part of a student's VCE. Usually students complete the first year of their VET study in place of Units 1&2 of a VCE study, followed by the second year of a VET study in place of Units 3&4 of a VCE study. If students elect to complete a VET subject, they almost always complete it in Years 10 & 11. However, students may choose to complete a VET subject in Years 11 & 12 if they wish. Students are permitted to enrol in a VET subject in Years 10 & 11 in addition to a Early Commencement Study in their VCE.

The school offers a Certificate in Applied Language in Hebrew, VET Business and VET Events as VET subjects on-site, which students will complete as part of their timetable. Students may also elect to enrol in a VET subject at a registered training organisation outside of the school. These external VET subjects are typically completed on Wednesday afternoons in the Senior School, in place of participation in the school's Sport program. Examples of VET subjects offered by external organisations include certificates in: Fashion Design, Tourism, Hospitality, Beauty Services, Building and Construction, Animal Care and Acting. These external VET subjects require an additional fee payable by a student's parents.

Any student considering enrolment in a VET subject should book an appointment with the school's Pathways Advisor to discuss this option.

## General Achievement Test (GAT)

All students enrolled in one or more Units 3&4 studies must sit the General Achievement Test (GAT). The GAT is a two-part examination set by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA) that consists of written tasks and multiple-choice questions. It is used as a checking procedure to make sure exam scores and other assessment methods are accurate. GAT results are reported separately and do not form part of the student's ATAR score. The GAT can be used as one of a suite of measures to derive an exam score in the event that a student is ill or unable to complete an end-of-year Units 3&4 examination. The VCE Coordinator will ensure all students are prepared for the GAT.

## Australian Tertiary Admissions Rank (ATAR)

The Victorian Tertiary Admissions Centre (VTAC) is responsible for the handling of tertiary admissions at the completion of Year 12. VTAC is also responsible for calculating a student's ATAR at the completion of Year 12 based on the study scores calculated by the Victorian Curriculum and Assessment Authority (VCAA). To be eligible for an ATAR, and to submit course preferences for tertiary study, students will have to set up an online VTAC account when they are in Year 12. The Pathways Advisor will guide them through this process.

The ATAR is a number between 0 and 99.95 awarded to a student when they graduate their VCE. It is derived only from their performance in Units 3&4 studies, not in Units 1&2 studies. The ATAR is not a numerical score; it is a ranking. It is a measure of the percentage of students in Victoria that a student has outperformed. For example, an ATAR of 70 indicates a student was in the top 30% of students who completed their VCE that year. A student's ATAR rank is derived from their VCE aggregate score. VCAA determines a student's VCE aggregate score in the following way:



It is essential that students become familiar with the requirements of any tertiary course they are interested in undertaking, as many courses have special requirements for entry beyond the ATAR. These requirements include: prerequisite studies, interviews, folios, exams, etc.

# Curriculum Overviews

## Year 10 Curriculum Overview

The Year 10 Program is designed to allow students to build on the skills developed during Year 9 and to prepare for entering VCE. The King David School Curriculum for Year 10 is divided into two sections – core and elective. Students will complete the core units listed below as well as choosing units from an exciting array of elective offerings. Electives are organised as semester-long units.

Students complete four Year 10 electives per semester. If they have been permitted to complete an Early Commencement VCE subject in Year 10, this replaces two Year 10 electives per semester. A student in this case will complete one VCE subject and four electives over the course of a year.

<b>Core Subjects</b>	
English	
History	
Jewish Studies	
Mathematics	
Science	
Sport	
<b>Elective Subjects</b>	
Systems Engineering - VCE Unit 2	Semester 1
Systems Engineering - VCE Unit 1	Semester 2
Art	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Business Management – VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Business Management – VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Drama	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Event Management VET (Certificate II)	Continuous subject
Geography – VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Geography – VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Geopolitics - 10 Maps that Explain the World	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Politics - VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Politics - VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Health & Human Development – VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Health & Human Development – VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Hebrew – VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Hebrew – VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Hebrew VET (Certificate II in Applied Languages)	Semester 1
Hebrew VET (Certificate II in Applied Languages)	Semester 2
History of Crime	Semester 1 or 2 or both
It's all About Food	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Learning Essentials (Intervention - by invitation only)	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Literature	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Mathematical Methods – VCE Unit 1 (by invitation only)	Semester 1
Mathematical Methods – VCE Unit 2 (by invitation only)	Semester 2
Media	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Memories in Motion - Holocaust in Film	Semester 1 or 2 or both

Music (Classroom)	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Physical Education – VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Physical Education – VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Psychology – VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Psychology – VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Religion and Society– VCE Unit 1	Semester 1
Religion and Society– VCE Unit 2	Semester 2
Small Business Operations and Innovation VET (Certificate II)	Continuous Subject
Start Me Up	Semester 1 or 2 or both
The Science of Elite Performance	Semester 1 or 2 or both
Technology - VEX Robotics	Semester 1 or 2 (repeated)
Visual Communication Design	Semester 1 or 2 or both

- Continuous subject: satisfactory completing Semester One is a prerequisite to study Semester Two
- Offered in one Semester only: this subject will be on offer in the specified semester only
- Repeated: Semester 1 or 2: an independent semester long unit that can be elected in either Semester One or Two
- **Semester 1 or 2 both:** each semester has a different focus and can be taken as a stand alone subject or as a sequence

The choice of electives at Year 10 is an important decision and should be decided by consulting the subject advice in this Handbook and by consideration of whether a sequence of semester units is required as a prerequisite in order to continue the subject in VCE. It is important to understand that not all students will be able to achieve their desired course structures as the constraints of blocking subjects against each other may limit some possibilities. In cases where the subjects are prerequisites for further courses of study, the School will make every effort to provide access.

## Prerequisites for Units 1&2 studies in Year 10

Considering commencing VCE in Year 10 is not a decision to be taken lightly. It is an extremely demanding path that will impact students' total performance in VCE.

In order to commence an early commencement VCE subject students will require the approval of the relevant LAL/ Curriculum Coordinator and VPTL. Further, in order to qualify, students must satisfy the following criteria in their Year 9 studies:

- Submit all work by the due date and to a high standard
- Perform consistently in examinations and continuous assessment
- Have maintained at least 90% attendance in all subjects

Below are subject specific prerequisites for entry into the Unit 1&2 VCE studies on offer for Year 10 students.

Systems Engineering	B in Year 9 Technology electives or an overall average of B in Year 9
Business Management	B in Year 9 English
Event Management VET (Certificate II)	B in Year 9 English
Geography	B in English / C+ in Science
Politics	B+ in English / Jewish Studies / History
Hebrew (VCE)	A in Year 9 Hebrew
Hebrew VET (Certificate II)	Successful completion of all Units of Competency Assessed in Year 9
Health & Human Development	B+ in English or B in PE/Health Elective
Mathematical Methods	Invitation Only
Physical Education	B+ in English / Science / Science of Elite Performance
Psychology	B+ in English / Science
Religion & Society	B+ in English / Jewish Studies / History
Small Business Operations and Innovation VET (Certificate II)	B in Year 9 English

## Year 11 Curriculum Overview

In Year 11 students select six VCE studies (twelve units), including English and/or Literature. The VCE studies offered to Year 11 students, subject to demand, are as follows:

Subjects	Unit	Subjects	Unit
DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGIES		MATHEMATICS	
Systems Engineering	1 – 4	General Mathematics	1 – 2
ENGLISH		Mathematical Methods	1 – 4
English	1 – 2	Specialist Mathematics	1 – 2
Literature	1 – 2	SCIENCE	
JEWISH STUDIES		Biology	1 – 2
Religion and Society	1 – 4	Chemistry	1 – 2
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION		Physics	1 – 2
Physical Education	1 – 4	Psychology	1 – 4
Health and Human Development	1 – 4	THE ARTS	
HUMANITIES		Art Making and Exhibiting	1 – 2
Accounting	1 – 2	Media	1 – 2
Business Management	1 – 4	Music	1 – 2
Geography	1 – 4	Theatre Studies	1 – 2
History (Modern)	1 – 2	Visual Communication Design	1 – 2
Legal Studies	1 – 2	VET	
Politics	1 – 4	Event Management (Certificate III)	
LANGUAGES		Hebrew (Certificate III)	
Hebrew	1 – 4	Small Business Operations and Innovation (Certificate III)	

## VCE Recommendations for Year 11

These are the current prerequisites for entry to Unit 1&2 or VCE subjects as Early Commencement Studies in Year 11. Students should be well informed about the minimum standard required for entry to their desired VCE subjects.

<b>STUDY</b>	<b>RECOMMENDED GRADE IN YEAR 10</b> (based on overall unit grade and/or exam score)
Accounting 1&2	C in Mathematics
Systems Engineering 1&2	B in Year 9 or Year 10 Technology electives
Art Making and Exhibiting 1&2	B in Art or Visual Communication Design
Biology 1&2	C in Science and B in Biology component
Business Management 1&2	B in English
Business Management 3&4	B in English and B in Business Management 1 or 2
Chemistry 1&2	C in Science & B in Chemistry component
English	D+ in English
Event Management VET (Certificate III)	Successful completion of Certificate II
Geography 1&2	C in Geography or C in English or History
General Mathematics 1&2	C in Mathematics or B+ in Foundation Maths
General Mathematics 3&4	B+ in Mathematics Extension or B in Math Methods
Health & Human Development 1&2	B in English
Health & Human Development 3&4	B in English
Hebrew 1&2	B in Year 10 Hebrew
Hebrew 3&4	B in Units 1&2
Hebrew VET (Certificate III)	Successful completion of Certificate II
History 1&2	B in History or B in English
Legal Studies 1&2	C in English
Literature 1&2	B in English
Mathematical Methods 1&2	C+ in Mathematic Extension or B+ in Mathematics
Mathematical Methods 3&4	B+ in Mathematics Methods 1&2
Media 1&2	B in Year 10 Media
Music 1&2	C in Theory Components, AMEB Grade 5 or equivalent performance standard

Physical Education 1&2	B in Health & PE
Physical Education 3&4	B+ in Health & PE or B+/A in English
Physics 1&2	C in Science & B in Physics component
Politics 1&2	C+ in Jewish Studies or English
Psychology 1&2	C+ in Biology component in Science & C+ in English
Psychology 3&4	B in Biology component and B+ in English
Religion and Society 1&2	C+ in Jewish Studies or English
Religion and Society 3&4	B in Jewish Studies or English
Small Business Operations and Innovation (Certificate III)	Successful completion of Certificate II
Software Development 3&4	B in Units 1&2 Applied Computing
Specialist Mathematics 1&2	A in mainstream Mathematics, B in Maths Extension or B in Maths Methods 1&2
Theatre Studies 1&2	B in Year 10 Drama or English
Visual Communication Design 1&2	B in Visual Communication Design or B in Art

## Year 12 Curriculum Overview

In Year 12 students select four or five VCE studies (eight or ten units), including English and/or Literature. The VCE studies offered to Year 12 students, subject to demand, are as follows:

Subjects	Unit	Subjects	Unit
DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES		LANGUAGES	
Software Development	3 – 4	Hebrew	3 – 4
ENGLISH		MATHEMATICS	
English	3 – 4	General Mathematics	3 – 4
Literature	3 – 4	Mathematical Methods	3 – 4
HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION		Specialist Mathematics	3 – 4
Physical Education	3 – 4	SCIENCE	
Health and Human Development	3 – 4	Biology	3 – 4
HUMANITIES		Chemistry	3 – 4
Accounting	3 – 4	Physics	3 – 4
Business Management	3 – 4	Psychology	3 – 4
Geography	3 – 4	THE ARTS	
History (Revolutions)	3 – 4	Art Making and Exhibiting	3 – 4
Legal Studies	3 – 4	Media	3 – 4
Politics	3 – 4	Music Contemporary Performance	3 – 4
JEWISH STUDIES		Music Repertoire Performance	3 – 4
Religion and Society	3 – 4	Theatre Studies	3 – 4
		Visual Communication Design	3 – 4

## VCE Recommendations for Year 12

The grades listed are the minimum requirement for both examination and overall Unit grade in both Unit 1 and Unit 2 (unless otherwise stated).

STUDY	RECOMMENDED GRADE
Accounting	C in Accounting
Art Making and Exhibiting	C <sup>+</sup> in Art
Biology	C <sup>+</sup> in Unit 1 Biology or Chemistry
Business Management	C in English or C in Business Management, if it was studied in Year 11
Chemistry	C <sup>+</sup> in Chemistry Units 1&2
English	D <sup>+</sup> in English
Geography	C in Geography Units 1&2 or C in English or History
General Mathematics	C in General Mathematics
Health & Human Development	C in HHD Units 1&2 or B in English
Hebrew	B in Hebrew Units 1&2
History	B in English or C in History, if it was studied in Year 11
Legal Studies	B in English or C in Legal Studies, if it was studied in Year 11
Literature	B in English
Mathematical Methods	C in Maths Methods in Year 11
Media	C <sup>+</sup> in Media
Music	Teacher approval of student's skills
Physical Education	C in Physical Education Unit 2 or C English
Physics	C in Physics in Unit 2
Politics	B in Politics Unit 2 or B English
Psychology	C in Psychology Units 1&2 or any other Science or C English
Religion and Society	B in Religion and Society or English
Software Development	B in Applied Computing Units 1&2
Specialist Mathematics	B in Specialist Mathematics Unit 2
Theatre Studies	C <sup>+</sup> in Theatre Studies or English
Visual Communication Design	C <sup>+</sup> in Visual Communication Design

# Senior School Subject Guide

## Year 10 Core Subjects

### Year 10 English

#### Introduction

In English, texts, language and literacy constitute the essential concepts and areas of study. Building upon skills and abilities developed in the previous year, students undertake an advanced examination of the ways in which language communicates on a number of levels: to persuade, entertain, inform and examine. Students engage with the close analysis of quality literature and film while developing their ability to analyse persuasive texts to interpret rhetorical meaning. A special focus is also given to spoken English and its employment as a persuasive and didactic tool.

#### Content

English is organised into three key areas:

##### Literature

Students engage in close studies of literary texts by a range of authors and in a range of styles. They respond to novels, short stories, plays and poetry in analytical and other modes of writing.

##### Language

Students study the structures and function of language, including grammatical convention and nuance. They examine a range of ways to communicate as well as interpret information, including multi-modal forms.

##### Literacy

Students demonstrate their ability to interpret and respond to a range of written stimuli across a range of media. They develop active-listening strategies, interpreting and reflecting upon what they hear and see.

#### Assessment

Students in Year 10 must demonstrate key performance indicators as outlined by the Victorian Curriculum in the following ways:

- Response to comprehension and interpretation questions
- Oral presentation in various forms, including contribution to class discussion
- Composition of sustained written texts, including reflections, narratives and persuasive pieces
- Formal analytical essay writing
- Grammar and other tests
- End of semester examinations

## Year 10 History

### Introduction

The Year 10 curriculum provides a study of the history of the modern world and Australia from 1918 to the present, with an emphasis on Australia in its global context. The twentieth century became a critical period in Australia's social, cultural, economic and political development. The transformation of the modern world during a time of political turmoil, global conflict and international cooperation provides a necessary context for understanding Australia's development, its place within the Asia-Pacific region and its global standing, in particular with reference to World War II.

The content provides opportunities to develop historical understanding through key concepts, including evidence, continuity and change, cause and effect, perspectives, empathy, significance and contestability.

### Content

Year 10 History is organised into an overview and three in-depth studies:

#### Overview

- The inter-war years, between World War I and World War II, including the Treaty of Versailles, the Roaring Twenties and the Great Depression
- Continuing efforts post World War II to achieve lasting peace and security in the world, including Australia's involvement in UN peacekeeping
- The major movements for rights and freedoms in the world and the achievement of independence by former colonies
- Developments in technology, public health, longevity and standards of living during the twentieth century and concern for the environment and sustainability

#### In-depth study 1: World War II (1939-45)

Students will study about : the causes and course of World War II; the scale and significance of the Holocaust; significant events of World War II, including developments in technology and the involvement of and effects in Australia; the experiences of Australians during World War II (such as prisoners of war, the Hay internment camp and the Dunera boys); the impact of World War II, with a particular emphasis on the Australian home front, including the changing roles of women, the use of wartime government controls and the significance of its impact on Australia's international relationships.

#### In-depth study 2: Rights and freedoms (1945-present)

Students will study about the origins and significance of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, including Australia's role in its development; background to the struggle of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples for rights and freedoms before 1965, including the 1938 Day of Mourning and the Stolen Generations; the US civil rights movement and its influence on Australia; the significance of the civil rights movement of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including the advocacy of Ron Castan and the Mabo decision and the methods used by civil rights activists to achieve change; and the continuing nature of efforts to secure civil rights and freedoms in Australia and throughout the world.

### Assessment

Key performance indicators as outlined by the Australian Curriculum will be assessed in the following ways:

- Research assignments
- Analytical essays
- Document work
- Oral presentation / Role play
- Short answer tests
- Examination

## **Year 10 Jewish Studies**

The Jewish Studies curriculum comprises four major areas: Jewish History, Jewish texts, Jewish ethics/living and Israel (Land, Nation and People), while acknowledging the chagim (Jewish holy days). Each term, the students focus on one primary area, while ensuring that all aspects are explored.

### **Description**

The students will study the following courses: The World That Was, The Shoah (Holocaust), The Road to Statehood, and Rebirth and Renewal.

### **Objectives**

Students will:

- Develop an understanding of the causes of the Shoah, its stages and legacy in Jewish and world history, through broad study of the history, combined with a focus on personal and communal stories;
- Examine the critical stages in the development of the State of Israel, including the impact of the Shoah, and the successes and challenges it faces in implementing its vision, and
- Appreciate the complexities of peace and strategic relations in the Middle East.

### **Content**

- Examination of the Jewish world that existed in Eastern and Western Europe between the two World Wars
- Historical forces that contributed to the Shoah
- Stories of communities, victims and survivors, including the 'choiceless choices' they faced. Students study 'The Happiest Man on Earth' by Eddie Jaku
- Resistance, rescue and the righteous
- Timeline of the emergence of the State of Israel, with examination of critical dates
- Explore the geopolitical landscape of the Middle East, and how that influences Israeli-Arab relations

### **Assessment**

- Workbook activities
- Research tasks
- Document analysis tasks
- Examinations

## Year 10 Mathematics

### Objectives

Students are encouraged to develop confidence in the use of definitions of key mathematical concepts. A variety of modelling and problem solving approaches are explored and the ability to determine the validity of a solution is emphasised.

- Ability to apply basic numeracy skills including directed numbers
- Understanding of different forms of measurement in one, two and three dimensions and application to real life situations
- Efficient use of algebra in real life problem solving activities
- Introduction of further algebraic skills
- Collection and analysis of data
- Understanding of the properties related to geometric shapes
- Use of estimation to check feasibility and reasonableness of solutions
- Efficient use of calculators as an aid to solving problems. At Year 10 the TI-nspire CAS calculator is used in preparation for VCE mathematics
- Ability to communicate and report on the mathematical process used in problem solving, in both written and mathematical form

### Content

As outlined by the Australian Curriculum, the program will be selected from the following topics:

- Algebra
- Linear equations and Graphs
- Quadratic Equations
- Trigonometry
- Measurement
- Surds
- Quadratic Equations and Graphs
- Simultaneous equations
- Exponentials
- Geometry
- Probability
- Variation

### Assessment

- Assignments
- Topic Tests
- Examination

## **Year 10 Science**

### **Objectives**

The Year 10 Science curriculum aims to ensure that students develop:

- An interest in science as a means of expanding their curiosity and willingness to explore, ask questions about and speculate on the changing world in which they live
- An understanding of the nature of scientific inquiry and the ability to use a range of scientific inquiry methods
- An ability to communicate scientific understanding and findings to a range of audiences, to justify ideas on the basis of evidence, and to evaluate and debate scientific arguments and claims
- An ability to solve problems and make informed, evidence-based decisions about current and future applications of science while taking into account ethical and social implications of decisions
- An understanding of historical and cultural contributions to science as well as contemporary science issues and activities and an understanding of the diversity of careers related to science

### **Content**

Students examine the role of DNA and genes in cell division and genetic inheritance and are introduced to the concepts of natural selection and evolution. They will evaluate evidence for scientific theories that explain the origin of the universe and the diversity of life on Earth. Students learn about the relationships between force, mass and motion through the study of Newton's laws and their applications. Students will compare the properties of a range of chemical elements and explore the concepts of conservation of matter and energy. They will gain an understanding of the importance of metals including how we obtain metals from their ores and will investigate how different factors influence the rate of reactions.

### **Assessment**

- Research assignments
- Topic tests
- Oral presentations
- Class work and homework exercises
- Laboratory skills
- Practical reports
- Examination

# Year 10 Elective Subjects

## Year 10 Art

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Objectives

The subject is divided exploring different artists, genres, units, artforms and materials:

#### Semester One

Students make and present artworks that explore themes, ideas and personal expression through a range of materials and techniques. Students develop an understanding of the elements and principles of art while investigating modern and contemporary art practices. They explore sculpture and mixed media processes, developing technical skills, creativity and confidence in the manipulation of materials, tools and techniques. Students analyse and document their artistic processes and respond to artworks using appropriate art terminology.

#### Semester Two

Students extend their understanding of the elements and principles of art through the exploration of drawing, painting and ceramics. They investigate modern and contemporary art history and examine how artists communicate ideas, beliefs and cultural perspectives through their work. Students develop technical and creative skills across a range of art forms while refining their ability to analyse, interpret and discuss artworks using appropriate visual arts terminology.

#### Content

##### Semester One

- Understanding elements & principles of Art
- Modern and contemporary art history
- Sculpture
- Mixed media

##### Semester Two

- Understanding elements & principles of Art
- Modern and contemporary art history
- Drawing
- Oil Painting
- Ceramics

#### Assessment

- Folio of set tasks in the practical area
- Visual diary to record the processes undertaken for each work of art
- Art Analysis Worksheets
- Two major artworks

It is highly recommended that students intending to continue Art in Year 11 undertake a semester of study of Art in Year 10.

## Year 10 Drama

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Semester 1

#### Objectives

Students will:

- Develop an understanding of how to devise performance work
- Research a current local and/or global issues to inform the development of a group-devised ensemble performance
- Use a range of play- making techniques including; (researching, brainstorming, improvising, scripting, editing, rehearsing and refining)
- Learn to manipulate expressive skills - voice, movement, gesture and facial expression - in order to define character/s and context/s
- Explore a range of theatre styles including Physical Theatre, Epic Theatre and Poor Theatre
- Learn how conventions and production roles are used to enhance intended meaning
- Present an ensemble performance to a selected audience
- Analyse and evaluate a professional performance

#### Content

- Devising performance and play-making techniques
- Theatre styles: Physical Theatre, Epic Theatre and Poor Theatre
- Conventions used to define theatre styles
- How production roles are used to communicate intended meaning/s
- Expressive skills, characterisation and context
- Performance skills
- Ensemble performance
- Analysis and evaluation of performance works

#### Assessment

- Use of a range of play-making techniques in the development of an ensemble performance
- Contribution to the devising process
- Evidence of understanding of performance styles and related conventions
- Ensemble performance presentation
- Written Performance Analysis/Evaluation

#### Semester 2

#### Objectives

Students will:

- Develop an understanding of the processes for interpreting a written play script.
- Explore a range of theatrical styles from the modern era
- Develop skills of collaboration and commitment, working with peers to interpret scripts for performance
- Apply conventions of various theatre styles including Absurdism, Magical Realism and Theatre in Education
- Develop expressive skills of movement, voice, gesture and facial expression
- Use production roles to communicate intended meanings
- Create a dramatic work for performance to a specified audience
- Analyse the performance work they produce
- Evaluate a professional performance work

#### Content

- Strategies and techniques for interpreting scripts
- Theatre styles of Absurdism, Magical Realism and Theatre in Education
- Expressive skills - voice, movement, gesture and facial expression
- Performance skills
- Production roles
- Analysis and evaluation of performance(s)

#### Assessment

- Expressive performance skills
- Production roles
- Performance styles and conventions
- Contribution to rehearsal process to interpret scripts for performance
- Presentation of a scripted work to a selected audience
- Written Performance Analysis/Evaluation

## Year 10 Geopolitics - 10 Maps that Explain the World

### **Semester 1 or 2 or both**

#### **Objectives**

Why do nations go to war, form alliances, compete for power, or influence other countries? This Year 10 Geopolitics elective explores the forces that shape global politics and international relations. Students will investigate how geography, economics, history, ideology, resources and military power influence the decisions nations make. Through case studies and current world events, the course examines Australia's role in the Indo-Pacific region, the rise of China as a global superpower, Russia's invasion of Ukraine and the ambitions of Vladimir Putin, and the ways the United States influenced politics in Latin America during the Cold War. Students will also explore why many African nations faced challenges after colonisation and why inequality between nations persists today. The elective encourages critical thinking, debate and discussion while helping students better understand the complex world they live in. Ideal for students interested in politics, history, current affairs and global issues.

#### **Content**

Students will investigate case studies from across the world, including:

- Australia and the Indo-Pacific
- China
- Europe
- Africa
- Latin America
- The Middle East

#### **Assessment**

- Geopolitical Nation Profile
- Written briefing to ambassador
- China research task
- Model UN

## Year 10: History of Crime

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Objectives

Contemporary media is saturated with True Crime narratives; from chart-topping podcasts to cinematic dramatizations, the transgression of moral boundaries continues to both fascinate and appall. In this unit, students will investigate a series of pivotal historical and contemporary cases to understand how the definition of “the criminal” shifts alongside societal values.

By interrogating the Salem Witch Trials, the Jack the Ripper murders, and modern Australian legal precedents, students will analyze how crime acts as a mirror to the era in which it occurs. Learning is anchored in the examination of primary source evidence and immersive experiential learning, including an excursion to the Old Melbourne Gaol’s Women’s Ward. This subject provides a foundational framework for the analytical skills and conceptual depth required for VCE History, Psychology, and Legal Studies.

#### Content

- **The Construction of Criminality:** How does society define a “crime,” and what role do shifting ethics and power structures play? Is the concept of justice consistent across time, or is it a fluid social construct?
- **Mass Hysteria and the State:** A deep dive into the Salem Witch Trials (1692)—examining the intersection of religion, gender, and legal paranoia.
- **The Birth of the Modern Serial Killer:** Analyzing the Jack the Ripper (1888) case to understand the role of the press, urban poverty, and early forensic limitations.
- **Morality and the Law in Australia:** An investigation into contemporary Australian cases involving obscenity and indecency, questioning where personal liberty ends and criminal behavior begins.

#### Assessment

- **Historical Document Analysis**  
Focusing on the interpretation of primary sources, evaluating the reliability and perspective of evidence from a specific historical case study.
- **Student-Led Research Project and Exhibition**  
An independent investigation into a self-selected criminal case. Students will apply psychological theories of behavior or legal frameworks to analyze the crime’s impact on societal norms.

## Year 10: It’s All About Food

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Objectives

The purpose of this unit is to study food through a variety of cuisines. The students will examine a range of influences that affect food selection and identify foods linked to specific cultures. Students will engage in practical classes, where they will make a variety of recipes. Theory classes are then used to support the practical classes and build on students’ knowledge and understanding of food. In practical classes there is an emphasis on interpersonal learning where co-operative group work is required.

#### Content

*It’s All About Food* is a subject that combines both theory and practical work. It focuses on key areas such as nutrition, menu design, and cooking skills. Students will also explore reflective and evaluative practices, the science behind food, and the principles of recipe design. Throughout the course, they will learn how to follow instructions accurately and apply food safety and hygiene standards in all practical activities..

#### Assessment

There will be practical assessments, oral presentations, research tasks and reflections.

## Year 10 Literature

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Semester 1: Literary Classics

##### Objectives

Students develop an awareness of the notion of a 'classic', and consider the reasons that some works of literature endure over time. They examine two classic texts in detail, augmenting analytical skills they have developed in their English studies. They focus on how authors use characters, setting, events and language to create meaning and shape reader response. Students also explore how the views and values of the past can be communicated through text, and how this, in turn, can impact social attitudes in the present. They investigate the meanings that become legible in a text when they adopt a specific reading or perspective. Students are introduced to examples of literary movements and how their trends can be observed in specific works.

##### Content

- A study of Oscar Wilde's play, *The Importance of Being Earnest*
- A study of a selection of Wilfred Owen's World War One poetry

##### Assessment

- An investigation of the historical views and values expressed in a text
- A close analysis of characters, settings, events and language used in a poetry text

#### Semester 2: African Voices

##### Objectives

Students develop an awareness of the rich tradition of African literature. They examine two texts by Nigerian authors in detail, augmenting analytical skills they have developed in their English studies.

They focus on how authors use characters, setting, events and language to create meaning and shape reader response. Students also explore how a text can reflect the ideas and concerns of people living in another place and culture. They develop an awareness of what influences them as Western readers when they engage with African literature.

##### Content

- A study of Chigozie Obioma's novel, *The Fishermen*
- A study of a Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie's short-story collection, *The Thing Around Your Neck*

##### Assessment

- An investigation of the cultural ideas and concerns expressed in a text
- A close analysis of characters, settings, events and language used in a prose text

## Year 10 Media

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Semester 1: The Advertising and filmmaking industry - production and analysis

##### Objectives

Students develop an awareness of the business of media production, focussing on the financial and institutional structure of Hollywood cinema, online streaming services for film and television such as Netflix, and independent media organisations. Students also explore advertising, focussing on the development of professional advertisements using standard production software. Key production stages will be utilised and students are exposed to deadline constraints and creative processes involved in developing advertisements. Students become aware of the social and psychological implications of advertising to audiences and how social media advertising works to engage audiences.

Students continue to develop key production skills and analysis in film and video – including an exploration of storytelling practices and structure in video and film, key production roles, technical expertise, visual storytelling and collaborative skills. They also develop their understanding of the specialist production stages and roles within the collaborative organisation of media production. Students participate in specific stages of a film production, developing practical skills in their designated role.

##### Content

- Discussion and exploration of the business of media production
- Exploration and analysis of the relationship between the media and its audiences
- Analysis and production of media products such as advertisements and video and film

##### Assessment

- Folio of theory and practical work (advertising and video production). Students will undertake an equal amount of theory and practical work in this subject
- Analysis of a narrative film - how it constructs its story and utilises genre

It is recommended that students intending to continue Media Studies in Year 11 undertake two units of Media in Year 10 or one semester of Media and one semester of Visual Communication Design with a B grade average.

#### Semester 2: An introduction to VCE Media - skills and analysis

##### Objectives

This study enables students to analyse media products and concepts in an informed and critical way and establishes confidence in students when undertaking these tasks. Students consider media products, technologies and processes from various perspectives, including an analysis of structure and features.

This unit will equip students with the theoretical and practical skills and knowledge required when students progress to the VCE Media level. Work undertaken in this unit is through a theoretical and practical study, which places the student in the role of a media creator and analyst. Students will study signs and meaning in media products at an advanced level, to understand how media products create point of view and are designed for specific and intended audiences. Understanding genre and film styles through the analysis of a major Hollywood narrative will enable the students to create their own media product in their desired style.

Students will develop further skills in digital photography, video and /or journalism through an exploration of media representations as well as developing advanced skills in production processes and techniques, including an exploration of all manual functions of cameras.

##### Content

- Film deconstruction and analysis
- Media Production – photography, video or journalism
- Media representation deconstruction and analysis

##### Assessment

- Media production folio across the semester
- Written film analysis paper
- Examination

It is recommended that students intending to continue Media Studies in Year 11 undertake two units of Media in Year 10 or one semester of Media and 1 semester of Visual Communication Design. A mark of a B average in Media is essential.

## Year 10: Memories in Motion - Holocaust in Film

### **Semester 1 or 2 or both**

#### **Objectives**

Schindler's List. The Pianist. Life is Beautiful. The Book Thief. Inglorious Basterds. And more recently - The Tattooist of Auschwitz. These and other Holocaust films have become iconic films and provide an outstanding segway into learning about the Holocaust for our students. In this elective, students view and critically analyse a selection of Holocaust films both the blockbusters and the more obscure, enabling a deep investigation into the world of the Shoah. Second semester will include a Holocaust short film unit. With a sensitive and appropriate approach, we can delve deeper and more meaningfully into this important chapter of our history, utilizing the medium of cinema.

#### **Content**

- Film-analysis techniques
- Screening the Holocaust; Do's and Don'ts
- Short Film making techniques
- Script and film a Holocaust themed film

#### **Assessment**

- Journal of film reflection
- Analysis through directed discussion
- Scene analysis report
- Short film- group work
- Interview the director assignment

## Year 10 Music (Classroom)

### Objectives

In Year 10 Music, students use their voices, instruments and technology as they make and respond to music independently and in small groups, and with their teachers and communities. They explore music as an art form through listening, composing and performing, developing a personal voice as composers, performers and audience.

Students continue to develop their listening skills as they build on their understanding and use of the elements of music. They extend their understanding and use of more complex performance techniques, compositional devices and forms and explore styles and genres in greater depth. They build on their understanding of how musicians communicate with audiences in solo and ensemble contexts. Students maintain safety, correct posture and technique in using voice, instruments and technologies.

As they experience music, students draw on music from a range of cultures, times and locations. They evaluate performers' and composers' success in communicating ideas intentions and the use of performance conventions and technical and expressive skills in music they listen to and perform. They identify characteristics of performance styles and genres and learn about ways that musicians influence and challenge ideas and contribute to cultural expression in their local communities and at national and international levels.

Students in Year 10 Music are introduced to the key skills and concepts required for VCE Music. Enrolled students are strongly encouraged to receive private instrumental tuition whether as part of our Instrumental Music Program or externally. Students are also encouraged to participate in school ensembles.

### Content

- Participation in Performance Class performances
- Developing a practise routine
- Manipulation of the elements of music to create idiomatic works
- Analysing the history, context, and characteristics of specific styles
- Developing theory and aural skills
- Developing personal voice as a music artist
- Developing music technology skills including recording and music notation software and digital audio workstations (DAWs)

### Assessment

Unit 1: Music Language

- Theory & Practical Test

Unit 2: Styles & Composition

- Inquiry project on the history, context, and characteristics of a selected style
- Arrangement of a short work in the selected and studied style and produce a recording of the work

Unit 3: Performing

- Artist's presentation of work(s) (Solo)
- Artist's presentation of work(s) (Ensemble)

## Year 10 The Science of Elite Performance

### Semester 1 or 2 or both

#### Objectives

This is a study of elite athletic performance and allows learners to explore the science behind the top athletes.

#### Outline

##### Semester 1: Three units

**1. Nutritional strategies in sport:** This unit gives the learners an opportunity to explore how nutrition can affect a sports participant's performance positively or negatively, the importance of hydration and how to apply the nutritional principles. Students study the major macro and micro nutrients, along with their function and food sources. Students also study the intake of elite athletes in sports such as the Tour De France, gym settings and team sports. Student undertake practical cooking activities and test out sports based nutrition options such as caffeine, sports drinks, sports gels and high protein options.

**2. Physiological strategies and adaptations in sport:** Students explore recovery techniques and aids used in sport at an elite and community level, this includes aspects such as compression, massage, cold and hot therapy, sleep, hyperbaric oxygen therapy and more. Students get hands-on experience during an excursion to an elite sports facility, trying out some methods. We study the benefits of these methods and the physiological adaptations to the body.

**3. Sport Psychology:** This unit is designed to introduce learners to sport and exercise psychology, presenting the key concepts and theories that are central to sport and exercise psychology. Learners will be encouraged to find out information for themselves and consider how the concepts and theories help them to understand their own experiences and performances in sport. The applied focus of the module enables learners to consider the experiences of top sports people, their coaches and their own experiences. Learners will study Motivation and goal setting, competitive pressure; along with the effects of self-confidence, self-efficacy and self-esteem.

##### Semester 2: Three units

**1. Legal and illegal performance enhancement in sport:** Student study issues around cheating or unfair advantage in sport, and also the use of legal and illegal drugs and performance enhancing substances to improve physical sporting performance through history. This includes EPO, blood doping, steroids, human growth hormone and other aspects. Students study the dangers and risks of these substances and their effect on the body of athletes. Students will also consider the ethical and sociocultural considerations such as income, cultural, coaching influence, societal norms, national and political ideology.

**2. Biomechanics:** This unit is designed to introduce learners to the biomechanics of sport and exercise and it presents key concepts central to the understanding of biomechanics. Learners will be encouraged to find out information for themselves, and to consider how the concepts and theories help them to understand their own performance in sport and exercise. The practical focus of the unit enables learners to see biomechanics in action and develop a greater appreciation of the following concepts: Linear motion, Speed/velocity/acceleration/deceleration/inertia and momentum, Forces, Newton/reaction, forces/friction/air resistance/lift and Bernoulli's principle, Angular motion and Centre of mass and stability/levels/ axes of rotation through a practical lens.

##### 3. Project Based Learning:

Topic ideas could include Nutrition, Coaching, Activity for groups and individuals, sociocultural issues, technology and ergogenic aids, sports injury and assessment or technology in sport.

#### Assessment

- Field trip
- Theory and practicals classes
- Tests
- Project Based Learning
- Visual Presentations

## Year 10 Technology: VEX Robotics

### **Semester 1 or 2 (repeated)**

#### **Outline and Objectives**

In this course, students will further develop their knowledge and skills by designing, building, and programming VEX robots. Students will begin by building two fundamental robot designs: the Basebot and the Clawbot, gaining valuable skills in mechanics, electronics, programming, and teamwork.

Once fundamentals have been mastered students will collaborate and compete against other students through activities such as Robot Soccer, Bucky Basketball and Up & Over which incorporates both human-controlled and autonomous (coded) robotics using components, sensors and, actuators. Learning activities are structured around iterative, engineering processes, real-world applications and opportunities for students to build teamwork and collaboration skills.

This subject will provide foundational skills for VCE subjects: Systems Engineering and VCE Applied Computing/ Software Development pathways. Additionally, students will develop skills for VEX robotics competitions.

By the end of this course, students will be able to:

- Program robots using text or block based programming languages
- Apply engineering principles to build robots using hand-tools
- Collaborate effectively in teams to complete robot design, engineering and programming challenges.
- Apply problem-solving skills to troubleshoot and improve robot performance in fun and competitive games..

#### **Assessment**

- Engineering notebook
- Theoretical concept quizzes
- Individual and group engineering challenges

# Year 10 Visual Communication Design

## Semester 1 or 2 or both

### Semester 1

#### Objectives

Students will learn to use their manual and digital methods and visual language skills they have developed across their time at school to effectively communicate ideas to target audiences and solve problems using Design Thinking tools and the VCD Design Process.

The key focus area of the Semester 1 course is the design of Messages (encompassing the design of 2D images, including: graphic design, publication and print media, illustration, typography, digital and web design. Students will develop the key skills and knowledge associated with this design field by undertaking a hands-on project in response to a design brief set for them within these key areas.

#### Content

- Technical conventions associated with the design of Messages such as typographic conventions, logo grids and layouts, packaging nets and printing conventions
- Proficiency in a variety of 2D manual and digital methods, which may include Adobe Illustrator, lino printmaking, drawing with a variety of media, and watercolour and gouache painting
- Elements and Principles of Design, the Gestalt Theory of Visual Perception, Convergent and Divergent Thinking Strategies and the Application of the Double Diamond Design Process

#### Assessment

- Visual diary work samples
- Presentation boards of final designs including style guides and mock-ups

It is recommended that students intending to study Visual Communication Design at Year 11 undertake two semesters of Visual Communication Design at Year 10 or one semester of Art and one semester of Visual Communication Design.

### Semester 2

#### Objectives

Students will learn to use the art making and visual language skills they have developed across their time at school to effectively communicate ideas to target audiences and solve problems using Design Thinking tools and the VCD Design Process.

The key focus area of the Semester 2 course is the design of Environments (encompassing the design of occupiable spaces, including: architecture, interior design, set and event design, landscape design and visual merchandising). Students will develop the key skills and knowledge associated with this design field by undertaking a hands-on project in response to a design brief set for them within these key areas.

#### Content

- Technical conventions associated with the design of Environments such as floor plans and elevations, One and Two Point Perspective drawing systems and, scaling and dimensioning
- Proficiency in a variety of 2D manual and digital methods, which may include Adobe Illustrator, manual and digital collage, technical drawing systems such as floorplans, elevations and perspective drawings using a variety of manual and digital media, and digital photography
- Proficiency in a variety of 3D manual and digital model making methods, which may include balsa and foam board building, physical prototyping and AutoCAD software
- Elements and Principles of Design, the Gestalt Theory of Visual Perception, Convergent and Divergent Thinking Strategies and the Application of the Double Diamond Design Process

#### Assessment

- Visual diary work samples
- Presentation boards of final designs including style guides and mock-ups

It is recommended that students intending to study Visual Communication Design at Year 11 undertake two semesters of Visual Communication Design at Year 10 or one semester of Art and one semester of Visual Communication Design.

# VCE Subjects

## Accounting

### Unit 1-4 Course Content

Includes:

- Reasons for establishing a business, the resources needed, and factors that lead to its success or failure
- The accounting elements: Assets, Liabilities, Owner's Equity, Revenues and Expenses
- The difference between the concepts of 'Profit' and 'Cash'.
- Setting the price of the products of the business
- Recording transactions such as Sales, Expenses, purchases of Assets, and payment of Liabilities in the Journals and Inventory Cards of the business
- Preparing the Balance Sheet, Income Statement and Cash Flow Statement and analysing them to interpret meaning and make effective decisions to improve business operations
- Using spreadsheets to model a variety of options for a business to pursue and making recommendations on which option should be chosen
- Using spreadsheets to prepare graphs and charts of financial information for the business in order to make effective decisions
- Calculating, interpreting and analysing financial indicators such as Net Profit Margin and Return on Investment (ROI) in order to improve business performance
- Preparing budgets to assist the business in planning and making future decisions
- Developing strategies to manage the Inventory, Accounts Receivable and Accounts Payable of the business
- Developing strategies to improve the business based on the financial reports and non-financial information
- Ethical considerations when running and managing a business

## Why Study VCE Accounting?

<b>Myth</b>	<b>Fact</b>
"Only people wanting to study Accounting at university or become Accountants should study VCE Accounting"	VCE Accounting will benefit anyone who wants a career in Finance, Marketing, Advertising, Engineering, Retail, Stockbroking or just running your own business.
"The content in VCE Accounting is useless once I finish VCE"	The content in VCE Accounting will benefit any financial decision or planning you need to make in the future
"I don't need to know any more about Accounting than I need to make a profit. So I don't need to study VCE Accounting"	There is a huge difference between 'Profit' and 'Cash' and VCE Accounting will teach you that just because your business makes a 'Profit' doesn't mean it will be successful
"I need to be good at Maths to do VCE Accounting"	VCE Accounting only uses basic arithmetic (add/minus/divide/multiply). Any complicated calculations are done using accounting software like spreadsheets, like in real life.
"I need to be good at IT and spreadsheets to study VCE Accounting"	VCE Accounting assumes no prior knowledge of spreadsheets. You will be taught everything you need to know (and more).
"Only people in business use spreadsheets"	The spreadsheeting skills you will learn in VCE Accounting will benefit you in any career you pursue or even just in managing your personal life. The more skills you develop, the better off you'll be.
"If I don't do VCE Accounting in Year 11 then I can't do it in Year 12"	Year 12 VCE Accounting assumes no prior knowledge and all concepts needed are taught to you during the year, so it is not essential to have done Year 11.

### Assessment and reporting

Unit 1&2: all assessments are school-based. Procedures for assessment of levels of achievement are a matter for school decision.

Unit 3&4: the student's level of achievement will be determined by School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year Examination.

Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 3&4 Examination: 50%

## Applied Computing (Software Development)

**PLEASE NOTE: Applied Computing Units 1 and 2 will re-commence in 2028, alternating with Systems Engineering each year.**

### Unit 3: Software development

In this unit students apply the problem-solving methodology to develop working software modules using an object-oriented programming (OOP) language. Students develop an understanding of the analysis, design and development stages of the problem-solving methodology.

#### Area of study 1: Software development - programming

In this area of study, students interpret the requirements and designs for developing working software modules. Students use a common OOP language and undertake the problem-solving activities of manipulation (programming), validation, testing and documentation in the development stage.

Students are expected to fully develop the working software modules in accordance with the given requirements and designs. This includes the development of a graphical user interface for at least two of the four modules. Validation is applied within relevant modules to ensure input data can be accepted and processed. Debugging and testing techniques are applied to all software modules to ensure they operate as intended and internal documentation is written to explain the functionality of each module. Students justify the use of the selected features of the OOP language and algorithms in the development of their working software modules.

#### U301 SAC Assessment

Interpret teacher-provided solution requirements and designs and use appropriate features of an object-oriented programming language to develop four (4) working software modules.

#### Area of study 2: Software development - analysis and design

In this area of study, students prepare for the development of a software solution that meets a student-identified problem, need or opportunity. This is the first part of the School-assessed Task, involving analysis and design, with the second part undertaken in Unit 4, Area of Study 1. Students are expected to independently identify a problem, need or opportunity for developing a software solution from within their community.

#### U302 SAT Assessment

On completion of this unit the student should be able to document a problem, need or opportunity, formulate a project plan, document an analysis, and generate design ideas and a preferred design for creating a software solution.

### Unit 4: Software development

In this unit, students focus on how the needs of individuals and organisations are met through the development of software solutions using an object-oriented programming (OOP) language and consider the cyber security risks to organisations as a result of insecure software development practices.

#### Area of study 1: Software development - development and evaluation

Students apply the problem-solving stages of development and evaluation to develop their preferred design generated in Unit 3, Area of Study 2 into a working software solution. They test and evaluate the solution and assess the project plan. Unit 4, Area of Study 1 forms the second part of the School-assessed Task (SAT).

#### U401 SAT Assessment

Develop and evaluate a software solution that meets requirements and assess the effectiveness of the project plan.

#### Area of study 2: Cyber security: secure software development practices

The secure development of software is crucial within the modern technology and development landscape. Insecure software development environments are problematic for organisations that develop software, regardless of whether solution development occurs internally or is conducted by a secondary organisation. In this area of study, students focus on the security risks to organisations as a result of insecure software development environments and practices. Students analyse and evaluate the security of current software development practices, examine the vulnerabilities and risks using threat-modelling principles and consider the consequences of identified issues. Students should consider how these risks may be minimised or mitigated before recommending strategies to improve current practices, taking into account the key legal requirements and ethical issues faced by organisations. Frameworks such as the Essential Eight and the Information Security Manual are also taken into account for students to follow current industry practice when considering strategies for improvements.

### **U4O2 SAC Assessment**

Respond to a teacher-provided case study to analyse an organisation's software development practices, identify and evaluate current security controls and threats to software development practices, and make recommendations to improve practices.

### **Assessment and reporting**

- U3O1 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): - four programming modules (10%)
- U3O2/U4O1 School-assessed Task (SAT) - extended project (30%)
- U4O2 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): - Structured Questions (10%)
- Units 3&4 examination: 50%

The examination will be set by a panel appointed by the VCAA. All the key knowledge and key skills that underpin the outcomes in Units 3 and 4 are examinable.

## Art Making and Exhibiting

VCE Art Making and Exhibiting introduces students to the methods used to make artworks and how artworks are presented and exhibited.

Students use inquiry learning to explore, develop and refine the use of materials, techniques and processes and to develop their knowledge and understanding of the ways artworks are made. They learn how art elements and art principles are used to create aesthetic qualities in artworks and how ideas are communicated through the use of visual language. Their knowledge and skills evolve through the experience of making and presenting their own artworks and through the viewing and analysis of artworks by other artists.

Visiting and viewing exhibitions and displays of artwork is a necessary part of this study. It helps students understand how artworks are displayed and exhibitions are curated. It also has an influence on the students' own practice, and encourages them to broaden and develop their own ideas and thinking around their own art making.

A strong focus on the way we respond to artworks in galleries, museums, other exhibition spaces and site-specific spaces is integral to study and research in VCE Art Making and Exhibiting. The way institutions design exhibitions and present artworks, and also how they conserve and promote exhibitions, are key aspects of the study.

This study enables students to:

- explore the characteristics and properties of materials, techniques and processes
- understand the use and application of materials in relation to the historical development of art forms, across different periods of time and cultures
- develop an understanding of aesthetic qualities in artworks and how they are used in art making
- learn how to work independently and collaboratively
- develop an understanding of the sources that inform and influence art making
- investigate the practices of artists from different periods of time and cultures, including Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander artists, and their use of materials, techniques and processes, and how these contribute to the making of their artworks
- understand how artists use visual language to communicate ideas and meaning in artworks
- understand how exhibitions are planned and produced by galleries, museums, other exhibition spaces and site-specific spaces and how artworks are curated and displayed for audiences
- understand the methods used and considerations involved in the preparation, presentation and conservation of artworks.

### Structure

The study is made up of four units.

- Unit 1: Explore, expand and investigate
- Unit 2: Understand, develop and resolve
- Unit 3: Collect, extend and connect
- Unit 4: Consolidate, present and conserve

### Unit 1: Explore, expand and investigate

In this unit students explore materials, techniques and processes in a range of art forms. They expand their knowledge and understanding of the characteristics, properties and application of materials used in art making. They explore selected materials to understand how they relate to specific art forms and how they can be used in the making of artworks. Students also explore the historical development of specific art forms and investigate how the characteristics, properties and use of materials and techniques have changed over time. Throughout their investigation students become aware of and understand the safe handling of materials they use.

Students explore the different ways artists use materials, techniques and processes. The students' exploration and experimentation with materials and techniques stimulates ideas, inspires different ways of working and enables a broad understanding of the specific art forms. Their exploration and experimentation is documented in both visual and written form in a Visual Arts journal.

#### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explore the characteristics and properties of materials and demonstrate how they can be manipulated to develop subject matter and represent ideas in art making.

#### Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to make and present at least one finished artwork and document their art making in a Visual Arts journal.

#### Outcome 3

On completion of this unit the student should be able to research Australian artists and present information about them in a format appropriate for a proposed exhibition.

## **Unit 2: Understand, develop and resolve**

In Unit 2 students continue to research how artworks are made by investigating how artists use aesthetic qualities to represent ideas in artworks. They broaden their investigation to understand how artworks are displayed to audiences, and how ideas are represented to communicate meaning.

Students respond to a set theme and progressively develop their own ideas. Students learn how to develop their ideas using materials, techniques and processes, and art elements and art principles. They consolidate these ideas to plan and make finished artworks, reflecting on their knowledge and understanding of the aesthetic qualities of artworks. The planning and development of at least one finished artwork are documented in their Visual Arts journal.

Students investigate how artists use art elements and art principles to develop aesthetic qualities and style in an artwork. Working in their Visual Arts journal they begin to discover and understand how each of the art elements and art principles can be combined to convey different emotions and expression in their own and others' artworks. They also explore how art elements and art principles create visual language in artworks.

Students begin to understand how exhibitions are planned and designed and how spaces are organised for exhibitions. They also investigate the roles associated with the planning of exhibitions and how artworks are selected and displayed in specific spaces. This offers students the opportunity to engage with exhibitions, whether they are in galleries, museums, other exhibition spaces or site-specific spaces.

### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to select a range of artworks from an exhibition and other sources to design their own thematic exhibition.

### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explore and progressively document the use of art elements, art principles and aesthetic qualities to make experimental artworks in response to a selected theme.

### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to progressively document art making to develop and resolve subject matter and ideas in at least one finished artwork.

## **Assessment**

### **Units 1&2**

Individual school decision on levels of achievement. Assessment may be based around the production and demonstration of knowledge of the following: creation of a thematic exhibition, experimental artworks and documentation, presentation of finished artworks, mid semester exams.

## **Unit 3: Collect, extend and connect**

In this unit students are actively engaged in art making using materials, techniques and processes. They explore contexts, subject matter and ideas to develop artworks in imaginative and creative ways. They also investigate how artists use visual language to represent ideas and meaning in artworks. The materials, techniques and processes of the art form the students work with are fundamental to the artworks they make.

Students use their Visual Arts journal to record their art making. They record their research of artists, artworks and collected ideas and also document the iterative and interrelated aspects of art making to connect the inspirations and influences they have researched. The Visual Arts journal demonstrates the students' exploration of contexts, ideas and subject matter and their understanding of visual language. They also document their exploration of and experimentation with materials, techniques and processes. From the ideas documented in their Visual Arts journal, students plan and develop artworks. These artworks may be made at any stage during this unit, reflecting the students' own ideas and their developing style.

In order to receive constructive feedback on the progress of their art making, and to develop and extend their ideas, students present a critique of their artworks to their peer group. Students show a selection of their developmental work and artworks from their Visual Arts journal in their presentation. After the critique, students evaluate their work and revise, refine and resolve their artworks. Students will visit an exhibition in either a gallery, museum, other exhibition space or site-specific space. Students research the exhibition of artworks in these exhibition spaces and the role a curator has in planning and writing information about an exhibition.

### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to collect information from artists and artworks in specific art forms to develop subject matter and ideas in their own art making.

### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to make artworks in specific art forms, prepare and present a critique, and reflect on feedback.

### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to research and plan an exhibition of the artworks of three artists.

#### **Unit 4: Consolidate, present and conserve**

In Unit 4 students make connections to the artworks they have made in Unit 3, consolidating and extending their ideas and art making to further refine and resolve artworks in specific art forms. The progressive resolution of these artworks is documented in the student's Visual Arts journal, demonstrating their developing technical skills in a specific art form as well as their refinement and resolution of subject matter, ideas, visual language, aesthetic qualities and style. Students also reflect on their selected finished artworks and evaluate the materials, techniques and processes used to make them.

##### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to refine and resolve at least one finished artwork in a specific art form and document the materials, techniques and processes used in art making.

##### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to plan and display at least one finished artwork in a specific art form, and present a critique.

##### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit the student should understand the presentation, conservation and care of artworks, including the conservation and care of their own artworks.

#### **Units 3&4**

Percentage contributions to the study score in VCE Art Making and Exhibiting are as follows:

- Units 3&4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 10%
- Units 3&4 School-assessed Task: 60%
- End-of-year examination: 30%

# Biology

## Aims

This study is designed to enable students to:

- Develop knowledge and understanding of key biological models, theories and concepts, from the cell to the whole organism;
- Examine the interconnectedness of organisms, their relationship to their environmental context, and the consequences of biological change over time;
- Understand the nature of science as a human endeavour, including its possibilities, limitations and political and sociocultural influences;
- Develop a range of individual and collaborative science investigation skills through experimental and inquiry tasks in the field and the laboratory;
- Apply their scientific understanding to familiar and unfamiliar situations, including personal, social, environmental and technological contexts;
- Develop attitudes that include curiosity, open-mindedness, creativity, flexibility, integrity, attention to detail and respect for evidence-based conclusions;
- Communicate clearly and accurately an understanding of the discipline using appropriate terminology, conventions and formats.

Units 1&2 should be viewed as prerequisites for students interested in continuing with VCE Biology Units 3&4.

## Units 1-4: Key skills

In this study a set of key skills is considered essential to Biology. These skills apply across Units 1 to 4. These skills include the ability to:

- Investigate and inquire scientifically
- Apply biological understandings
- Communicate biological information and understandings

### Unit 1: How do organisms regulate their functions?

In this unit students examine the cell as the structural and functional unit of life, from the single celled to the multicellular organism, including the requirements for sustaining cellular processes. Students focus on cell growth, replacement and death and the role of stem cells in differentiation, specialisation and renewal of cells. They explore how systems function through cell specialisation in vascular plants and animals, and consider the role homeostatic mechanisms play in maintaining an animal's internal environment.

#### Areas of study

##### *How do cells function?*

This area of study focuses the structure and functioning of cells and how the plasma membrane contributes to survival by controlling the movement of substances into and out of the cell.

##### *How do plant and animal systems function?*

In this area of study students explore how systems function through cell specialisation in vascular plants and in digestive, endocrine and excretory systems in animals, focusing on regulation of water balance in plants, and temperature, blood glucose and water balance in animals

##### *How do scientific investigations develop understanding of how organisms regulate their functions?*

In this area of study students design and conduct a practical investigation into the survival of an individual or a species.

### Unit 2: How does inheritance impact on diversity?

In this unit students explore reproduction and the transmission of biological information from generation to generation and the impact this has on species diversity. They apply their understanding of chromosomes to explain the process of meiosis. Students consider how the relationship between genes, and the environment and epigenetic factors influence phenotypic expression. They explain the inheritance of characteristics, analyse patterns of inheritance, interpret pedigree charts and predict outcomes of genetic crosses.

#### Areas of study

##### *How is inheritance explained?*

In this area of study students describe the production of gametes in sexual reproduction through the key events in meiosis. They explore the nature of chromosomes and the use of genetic language to read and interpret patterns of inheritance and predict outcomes of genetic crosses.

##### *How do inherited adaptations impact on diversity?*

In this area of study students analyse the advantages and disadvantages of asexual and sexual reproduction and investigate the use and application of reproductive cloning technologies. Students explore the biological importance of genetic diversity and the structural, physiological and behavioural adaptations that enable species to survive in an ecosystem.

*How do humans use science to explore and communicate contemporary bioethical issues?*

In this area of study students explore a contemporary bioethical issue relating to the application of genetic knowledge, reproductive science, inheritance or adaptations and interdependencies beneficial for survival.

### **Unit 3: How do cells maintain life?**

This unit students examine the workings of the cell from several perspectives. They explore the importance of the plasma membrane in the control of the movement of molecules and ions in and out of the cell. Students explore the chemistry of cells by examining the nature of biochemical pathways and energy transformations. Students consider the structure of DNA, the specificity of enzymes, the response of receptors to signalling molecules as well as the immune response.

#### **Areas of study**

What is the role of nucleic acids and proteins in maintaining life?

This area of study focuses on the activities of cells at molecular level, the synthesis of biomolecules that form components of cells and the role of enzymes in catalysing biochemical processes.

#### *How are biochemical pathways regulated?*

This area of study focuses on how cells receive specific signals that elicit a particular response. Students examine how cells respond depending on whether molecules are 'self' or 'non-self' and the role of signalling molecules in coordination and regulation.

### **Unit 4: How does life change and respond to challenges?**

In this unit students consider the continual change and challenges to which life on Earth has been, and continues to be, subjected to. They study the human immune system and the interactions between its components to provide immunity to a specific pathogen. Students consider how the application of biological knowledge can be used to respond to bioethical issues and challenges related to disease.

#### **Areas of study**

#### *How do organisms respond to pathogens?*

In this area of study students focus on the immune response of organisms to specific pathogens. Students examine unique molecules called antigens and how they illicit an immune response, the nature of immunity and the role of vaccinations in providing immunity. They explain how technological advances assist in managing immune system disorders and how immunotherapies can be applied to the treatment of other diseases.

#### *How are species related over time?*

In this area of study students focus on changes to genetic material over time and the evidence for biological evolution. They consider how the field of evolutionary biology is based upon the accumulation of evidence over time and develop an understanding of how interpretations of evidence can change in the light of new evidence as a result of technological advances, particularly in molecular biology. Students consider the biological consequences of changes in allele frequencies and how isolation and divergence are required elements for speciation. They consider the evidence for determining the relatedness between species and examine the evidence for major trends in hominin evolution, including the migration of modern human populations around the world.

#### *How is scientific inquiry used to investigate cellular processes and/or biological change?*

In this area of study students apply and extend the knowledge and skills developed in Unit 3 and/or 4 to design or adapt an investigation related to cellular processes and/or biological change and continuity over time.

## **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams.

Units 3&4: In Biology, School-assessed coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year examination will determine the student's level of achievement. Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%

Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 30%

Units 3&4 examination: 50%

# Business Management

## Aims

This study enables students to:

- understand and apply business concepts, principles and terminology
- understand the complex and changing environments within which businesses operate
- understand the relationships that exist between a business and its stakeholders
- recognise the contribution and significance of business within local, national and global markets
- analyse and evaluate the effectiveness of management strategies in different contexts
- propose strategies to solve business problems and take advantage of business opportunities.

## Unit 1: Planning a business

### Areas of study

#### Area of study 1: The business idea

In this area of study students investigate the concept of entrepreneurship. They consider how business ideas are created and how conditions can be fostered for new business ideas to emerge. New business ideas come from a range of sources, such as identifying a gap in the market, technological developments and changing customer needs. Students explore some of the considerations to be made before a business can be established as well as the importance of businesses to the national economy and social wellbeing.

#### Area of Study 2: Internal environment and planning

The internal environment affects the approach a business takes to planning and the extent to which planning is successful. A business owner will generally have more control over the activities, functions and pressures that occur within the business. These factors, such as business models, legal business structures and staffing, will also be influenced to some extent by the external environment.

#### Area of study 3: External environment and planning

The external environment consists of all elements outside a business that may act as pressures or forces on business operations. Students consider factors from the external environment such as legal, political, social, economic, technological, global and corporate social responsibility factors and the effects these may have on the decisions made when planning a business.

## Unit 2: Establishing a business

### Areas of study

#### Area of study 1: Legal requirements and financial considerations

It is essential to deal with legal and financial matters when establishing a business. In this area of study students are introduced to the legal requirements and financial considerations that are vital in establishing a business. They also consider the implications for the business if legal and financial requirements are not met.

#### Area of study 2: Marketing a business

Establishing a strong customer base for a business is an important component of success. In this area of study students develop an understanding that marketing encompasses a wide range of management practices, from identifying the needs of the target market and creating a brand presence through to consideration of the 7Ps of marketing and the impact of rapidly changing technology on marketing practices. They also consider effective public relations strategies and the benefits these can bring to a business.

#### Area of study 3: Staffing a business

Staff, as one of the greatest assets of a business, are an important consideration during the establishment phase. The quantity and quality of staff has a direct link to business productivity and the achievement of business objectives. In this area of study students consider staffing requirements that will meet the needs of a business and contribute to productivity and achievement of business objectives. They research the processes undertaken by the business in relation to the recruitment, selection and induction of staff.

## **Unit 3: Human Resources Management**

### **Areas of study**

#### **Area of study 1: Business foundations**

This area of study introduces students to the key characteristics of businesses and their stakeholders. Students investigate potential conflicts between the different demands of stakeholders on a business. They examine corporate culture and a range of management styles and management skills that may be used when managing a business, and apply these to contemporary business case studies from the past four years.

#### **Area of study 2: Human Resources Management**

In this area of study students investigate considerations for the effective management of employees to ensure business objectives are achieved. They consider employee motivation in terms of Maslow's Hierarchy of Needs, Locke and Latham's Goal Setting Theory, and Lawrence and Nohria's Four Drive Theory. Using these theories of motivation and motivation strategies, students propose and justify possible strategies for employee management in contemporary business case studies from the past four years.

#### **Area of study 3: Operations management**

The production of goods and services is a core objective of businesses. Effective management of the process of transforming inputs into outputs is vital to the success of a business, both in terms of maximising the efficiency and effectiveness of the production process and meeting the needs of stakeholders. In this area of study students examine operations management and consider the best and most responsible use of available resources to produce a quality final good or service in a competitive, global environment.

## **Unit 4: Transforming a business**

### **Areas of study**

#### **Area of Study 1: Reviewing performance – the need for change**

In this area of study students develop their understanding of the need for change. Managers regularly review and evaluate business performance through use of key performance indicators and use the results to make decisions affecting the future of a business. Managers can take both a proactive and reactive approach to change. Students investigate the ways a business can search for new business opportunities as a source of future business growth and consider current forces for change on a business. They apply Lewin's Force Field Analysis theory to contemporary case studies from the past four years and consider approaches to strategic management using Porter's Generic Strategies.

#### **Area of study 2: Implementing change**

In this area of study students explore how businesses respond to evaluation data. It is important for managers to know where they want a business to be positioned for the future before implementing a variety of strategies to bring about the desired change. Students consider the importance of leadership in change management and discuss and evaluate effective strategies for managing change. Students consider how leaders can inspire change and the effect change can have on stakeholders of a business. They consider the principles of Senge's Learning Organisation and apply the Three-step Change Model (Lewin) in implementing change in a business.

## **Assessment and Reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end of semester exams.

Units 3&4 both School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and the end of year examination will determine the student's level of achievement.

Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 3&4 examination: 50%

# Chemistry

## Aims

This study is designed to enable students to:

- Develop their understanding of the language, processes and major ideas of chemistry
- Understand the role of experimental evidence in developing and generating new ideas and knowledge in chemistry
- Understand the ways chemical knowledge is organised, challenged, revised and extended
- Assess the quality of assumptions and the limitations of models, data and conclusions
- Develop skills in the design and safe conduct of practical investigations including risk assessment hazard identification and waste management
- Develop the skills and knowledge required to complete experimental processes and procedures and undertake research investigations
- Conduct practical investigations to collect, interpret, and analyse data and evidence, and present conclusions
- Develop skills in the effective communication of chemical ideas to a range of audiences
- Be aware of the ethics of scientific research that apply to investigations in chemistry
- Understand how chemistry relates to other areas of science and technology
- Be aware of the social, economic and environmental impacts of current and emerging areas of chemistry and associated technologies.

Both Units 1&2 should be viewed as prerequisites for students interested in continuing with VCE Chemistry Units 3&4.

## Unit 1: How can the diversity of materials be explained?

In this unit students investigate the chemical properties of a range of materials from metals and salts to polymers and nanomaterials. Using their knowledge of elements and atomic structure students explore and explain the relationships between properties, structure and bonding forces within and between particles. Students are introduced to quantitative concepts in chemistry including the mole concept. They apply their knowledge to determine the relative masses of elements and the composition of substances.

### Areas of study

#### How do the chemical structures of materials explain their properties and reactions?

In this area of study students focus on elements as the building blocks of useful materials. They investigate the structures, properties and reactions of carbon compounds, metals and ionic compounds, and use chromatography to separate the components of mixtures. They use metal recycling as a context to explore the transition in manufacturing processes from a linear economy to a circular economy.

#### How are materials quantified and classified?

In this area of study students focus on the measurement of quantities in chemistry and the structures and properties of organic compounds, including polymers.

In this area of study students undertake an investigation involving the selection and evaluation of a recent discovery, innovation, advance, case study, issue or challenge linked to the knowledge and skills developed in Unit 1 Area of Study 1 and/or Area of Study 2, including consideration of sustainability concepts (green chemistry principles, sustainable development and the transition towards a circular economy). Examples of investigation topics and possible research questions are provided below.

## Unit 2: How do chemical reactions shape the natural world?

Society is dependent on the work of chemists to analyse the materials and products in everyday use. In this unit students analyse and compare different substances dissolved in water and the gases that may be produced in chemical reactions. They explore applications of acid-base and redox reactions in society.

### Areas of study

#### How do chemicals interact with water?

In this area of study students focus on understanding the properties of water and investigating acid-base and redox reactions. They explore water's properties, including its density, specific heat capacity and latent heat of vaporisation. They write equations for acid-base and redox reactions, and apply concepts including pH as a measure of acidity. They explore applications of acid-base reactions and redox reactions in society.

#### How are substances in water measured and analysed

In this area of study students focus on the analysis and quantification of chemical reactions involving acids, bases, salts and gases. They measure the solubility of substances in water, explore the relationship between solubility and temperature using solubility curves, and learn to predict when a solute will dissolve or crystallise out of solution. They quantify amounts in chemistry using volumetric analysis, application of the ideal gas equation, stoichiometry and calibration curves.

How do quantitative scientific investigations develop our understanding of chemical reactions?

This investigation relates to knowledge and skills developed in Area of Study 1 and/or Area of Study 2 and is conducted by the student through laboratory work and/or fieldwork.

### **Unit 3: How can design and innovation help to optimise chemical processes?**

The global demand for energy and materials is increasing with world population growth. In this unit students investigate the chemical production of energy and materials. They explore how innovation, design and sustainability principles and concepts can be applied to produce energy and materials while minimising possible harmful effects of production on human health and the environment.

#### **Areas of study**

**What are the current and future options for supplying energy?**

In this area of study students focus on analysing and comparing a range of fossil fuels and biofuels as energy sources for society, and carbohydrates, proteins and lipids as fuel sources for the body. They write balanced thermochemical equations for the combustion of various fuels. The amounts of energy and gases produced in combustion reactions are quantified using stoichiometry. They explore how energy can be sustainably produced from chemicals to meet the needs of society while minimising negative impacts on the environment.

**How can the rate and yield of chemical reactions be optimised?**

In this area of study, students explore the factors that affect the rate and yield of equilibrium and electrolytic reactions involved in producing important materials for society. Reactants and products in chemical reactions are treated qualitatively through the application of Le Chatelier's principle and quantified using equilibrium expressions, reaction quotients and Faraday's Laws. Students explore the sustainability of different options for producing useful materials for society.

### **Unit 4: How are carbon-based compounds designed for purpose?**

Carbon is the basis not only of the structure of living tissues but is also found in fuels, foods, medicines, polymers and many other materials that we use in everyday life. In this unit students investigate the structures and reactions of carbon-based organic compounds, including considering how green chemistry principles are applied in the production of synthetic organic compounds. They study the metabolism of food and the action of medicines in the body. They explore how laboratory analysis and various instrumentation techniques can be applied to analyse organic compounds in order to identify them and to ensure product purity.

#### **Areas of study**

**How are organic compounds categorised and synthesised?**

In this area of study students focus on the structure, naming, properties and reactions of organic compounds, including the chemical reactions associated with the metabolism of food. They explore how synthetic organic compounds can be produced more sustainably for use in society.

**How are organic compounds analysed and used?**

In this area of study students focus on laboratory and instrumental analyses of organic compounds, and the function of some organic compounds as medicines. They use distillation to separate mixtures, use volumetric analysis to calculate redox quantities, and explore how instrumental analysis is used to ensure the quality of consumer products. Students explain how some medicines that bind to the active sites of enzymes function by inhibiting the enzymes' mode of action.

**How is scientific inquiry used to investigate the sustainable production of energy and/or materials?**

Students undertake a student-designed scientific investigation in either Unit 3 or Unit 4, or across both Units 3&4. The investigation involves the generation of primary data related to the production of energy and/or chemicals and/or the analysis or synthesis of organic compounds, and should be inspired by a contemporary chemical challenge or issue. The investigation draws on knowledge and related key science skills developed across Units 3&4 and is undertaken by students in the laboratory and/or in the field.

### **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on coursework and end-of-semester exams.

Units 3&4: In Chemistry, School-assessed coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year examination will determine the student's level of achievement. Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 30%
- Units 3&4 examination: 50%

# English

## Aims

This study is designed to enable students to:

- Extend their English language skills through thinking, listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing
- Enhance their understanding, enjoyment and appreciation of the English language in its written, spoken and multimodal forms
- Analyse and discuss a range of texts from different periods, styles, genres and contexts
- Understand how culture, values and context underpin the construction of texts and how this can affect meaning and interpretation
- Understand how ideas are presented by analysing form, purpose, context, structure and language
- Analyse their own and others' texts, and make relevant connections to themselves, their community and the world
- Convey ideas, feelings, observations and information effectively in written, spoken and multimodal forms to a range of audiences
- Recognise the role of language in thinking and expression of ideas
- Demonstrate in the creation of their own written, spoken and multimodal texts an ability to make informed choices about the construction of texts in relation to purpose, audience and context
- Think critically about the ideas and arguments of others and the use of language to persuade and influence audiences
- Extend their use of the conventions of Standard Australian English with assurance, precision, vitality and confidence in a variety of contexts, including for further study, the work place and their own needs and interests
- Extend their competence in planning, creating, reviewing and editing their texts for precision and clarity, tone and stylistic effect

## **Year 11 (Units 1&2) is organised into two areas of study:**

### **Unit 1**

#### *Area of study 1*

##### *Reading and responding*

In this area of study, students develop their reading and viewing skills and expand their response to text beyond the Victorian Curriculum F–10: English and Pathway C3 of the Victorian Curriculum F–10: EAL. They explain and explore the ideas and issues presented by authors through character, setting and plot, and engage with textual structures and features.

Students' exploration of text involves understanding and appreciating the possibilities of storytelling, and examining the role of language, features and structures in creating story and meaning. Students adopt and apply language to explain key aspects of the text. They participate in discussions about the texts and engage with the ideas of others to extend their own response to the text. They draw on personal experience and understanding in developing responses, and work to shape those responses into formal essay structures.

For this outcome, students will read and explore one set text, or extracts from the set text. This text must be of a different text type from that selected for study in Unit 2. The text selected should reflect the interests of the students and be worthy of close study.

Students should be encouraged to share their experience and understanding of the world and make connections with key ideas presented in the text. They explore the cultural, social and historical values embedded in the text.

Students are provided with opportunities to practise and extend their written response to text. They are given time and support to extend their responses through reflection, editing and feedback.

#### *Area of study 2*

##### *Crafting texts*

In this area of study, students build on and work to consolidate the writing skills developed through the Victorian Curriculum F–10: English and Pathway C3 of the Victorian Curriculum F–10: EAL. Using texts, including extracts, to stimulate, instruct and inform their understanding of structure, language, ideas and features, students produce writing with an awareness of audience, purpose and context.

Students participate in collaborative classwork about writing and explore the ways language, textual structures and features can engage, enlighten, entertain and persuade readers and audiences. Students explore examples of text as stimulus, for structure(s) and ideas, to develop individual written work. They demonstrate, through written, oral and/or multimodal works, an understanding of the diverse ways language choice is influenced by audience, purpose and context.

Students are given explicit opportunities to explore and expand their understanding and application of language, including vocabulary, syntax and spelling. Students explore the implications of formal and informal registers in their own work, including in light of audience, purpose and context.

## **Unit 2**

### **Area of study 1**

#### *Reading responding*

This area of study will expand students' reading and viewing skills, broaden their capacity to make meaning from text, and extend their responses to text. Students will continue to develop their work from Unit 1 through an exploration of a different text type from that studied in Unit 1.

Students read or view and discuss texts, and participate in teaching and learning activities to develop their capacity to explore and to begin to analyse text. They examine the ways readers understand text considering its historical context, and social and cultural values, and are provided with opportunities to understand these concepts. They also explore the text through the prism of their own cultural knowledge and experiences.

Students prepare and construct responses to a text, using appropriate language to facilitate their discussion, and evidence from the text to support their response.

For this outcome, students will read and explore one set text, or extensive extracts from a set text. The set text for this area of study must be of a different text type from that studied in Unit 1. Students' understandings and experiences of the world, as well as supplementary texts, can enrich discussions about key ideas presented in the text. For this reason, the text selected should reflect the interest of the students and be worthy of close study.

### **Area of study 2**

#### *Exploring argument*

This area of study should enable students to consider arguments in texts in an informed manner. Students read, view and listen to a range of texts that attempt to position an intended audience in a particular context, and explore the structure of these texts, including contention, sequence of arguments and persuasive strategies. They look closely at the language used by the author in the quest to convince their audience.

Suitable texts for study should reflect a variety of persuasive texts. Appropriate texts could be drawn from print, digital, aural, visual and multimodal sources. These may include speeches, digitally presented texts, opinion and comment pieces, and other texts designed to position audiences about issues. In selecting these texts, consideration should be given to the texts that young people read and view. Consideration and time should be given to the explicit teaching of contextual information and cultural knowledge required to support an understanding of the set texts.

Students practise analysing persuasive texts using note taking, summaries, and short answer questions, and formal, analytical responses. If working with aural or multimodal texts, they should explore elements of spoken language including intonation, volume and stress. Students craft their responses using evidence from the text to support their analysis. They draft and revise their responses and invite feedback from the teacher and other students to refine their ideas and expression. They aim for coherence, logic and accuracy in their writing.

## **Units 3&4 is organised into two areas of study:**

### **Unit 3**

#### **Area of study 1**

#### *Reading and responding to texts*

In this area of study, students apply reading and viewing strategies to critically engage with a text, considering its dynamics and complexities and reflecting on the motivations of its characters. They analyse the ways authors construct meaning through vocabulary, text structures, language features and conventions, and the presentation of ideas. They are provided with opportunities to understand and explore the historical context, and the social and cultural values of a text, and recognise how these elements influence the way a text is read or viewed, is understood by different audiences, and positions its readers in different ways.

Sustained analytical writing about a text provides students with opportunities to further develop skills to engage with and challenge ideas, to refine their application of appropriate metalanguage, to integrate evidence from a text to support key points, and to improve their use of organisational structures such as formal essays. Through participation in discussion, students test their thinking, clarify ideas and form views about a text that can be further developed in their writing.

All students are provided with opportunities to practise and extend their writing about texts, and EAL students are provided with a contextual framing of the text through a listening task that explores historical, cultural and/or social values relevant to the text (such as an interview, episode of a podcast, lecture or presentation). Prior to summative assessment, they are given time and support to extend their writing through reflection, editing and feedback.

## Area of study 2

### *Creating texts*

In this area of study, students build on the knowledge and skills developed through Unit 1. They read and engage imaginatively and critically with mentor texts, and effective and cohesive writing within identified contexts. Through close reading, students expand their understanding of the diverse ways that vocabulary, text structures, language features, conventions and ideas can interweave to create compelling texts. They further consider mentor texts through their understanding of the ways that purpose, context (including mode), and specific and situated audiences influence and shape writing.

Students work with mentor texts to inspire their own creative processes, to generate ideas for their writing, and as models for effective writing. They experiment with adaptation and individual creation, and demonstrate insight into ideas and effective writing strategies in their texts. They reflect on the deliberate choices they have made through their writing processes in their commentaries.

Students participate in collaborative class work and discuss the ways that vocabulary, text structures and language features can enliven ideas. They read, explore and revisit examples of text, including extracts, to stimulate structural innovation and to inspire ideas when developing individual writing. They also make connections with experiences and events in their own lives, observing and recording to enrich their writing, and to extend their ideas.

Students use and experiment with vocabulary, text structures, language features, and standard and non-standard conventions of language, including the use of colloquial and idiomatic language such as slang or dialect where appropriate. Through this engagement they deepen their understanding of how writing can move, provoke and/or inspire when constructed in consideration of a specific and situated audience, purpose and context (including mode). They play with language as they explore ideas and aim for aesthetic appeal, to expand their writing into the possibilities of emotion, imagination, explanation and perspective.

## **Unit 4**

### Area of study 1

#### *Reading and responding to texts*

In this area of study, students further sharpen their skills of reading and viewing texts, developed in the corresponding area of study in Unit 3. Students consolidate their capacity to critically analyse texts and deepen their understanding of the ideas and values a text can convey.

Students apply reading and viewing strategies to engage with a text, and discuss and analyse the ways authors construct meaning in a text through the presentation of ideas, concerns and conflicts, and the use of vocabulary, text structures and language features. They engage with the dynamics of a text and explore the explicit and implicit ideas and values presented in a text. They recognise and explain the ways the historical context, and social and cultural values can affect a reader, and analyse how these social and cultural values are presented. They establish how these values can influence the way a text is read or viewed, can be understood by different audiences, and can position readers in different ways.

Sustained analytical writing about a text provides students with opportunities to refine skills to engage with and challenge ideas, to confidently apply appropriate metalanguage, to deftly integrate evidence from a text to support key points, and to enhance their use of organisational structures such as formal essays. Through participation in discussion, students test their thinking, clarify ideas and form views about a text that are clearly developed in their writing.

Students are provided with opportunities to practise and extend their writing about texts. Prior to summative assessment, they are given time and support to extend their writing through reflection, editing and feedback.

## Area of study 2

### *Analysing argument*

In this area of study, students analyse the use of argument and language, and visuals in texts that debate a contemporary and significant national or international issue. Students consider the purpose, audience and context of each text, the arguments, and the ways written and spoken language, and visuals are employed for effect. They analyse the ways all these elements work together to influence and/or convince an intended audience. Consideration and time should be given to explicit teaching of the contextual and cultural background of the selected issue and the texts explored.

Students must explore and analyse the structures and features of argument presented in audio and/or audio visual texts, and consider the unique structures and features that enhance argument in these contexts. They plan and develop written analyses in response to their explorations. Students practise the skills of revision and editing for clarity and coherence.

Students apply their understanding of the use of argument and language to create a point of view text for oral presentation. Through active listening, reading and viewing, students monitor and evaluate arguments on a topic of their choice, and then plan and develop their own point of view text on that topic. They present their points of view as a discussion, dialogue or debate, or in a presentation mode that best suits their context, purpose and audience.

## Assessment and reporting

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams.

Units 3&4:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Examination: 50%

## Event Management (VET) – Certificate II & III

The VET Events course will immerse you and open many doors to your future potential career. With a focus on practical skills and hands-on experience, you'll gain valuable exposure to high-profile events. This experiential learning ensures you're prepared for large-scale event environments right from the start.

Taught at our school by teachers who have specific industry experience, our course is designed to equip you with the essential skills in event planning, coordination, and execution, so you're ready to hit the ground running. You will finish the course with the expertise needed to manage exciting roles such as venue services coordinator, touring production manager, event sales coordinator, and many others.

# Geography

## Why Study Geography?

VCE Geography is where science meets the humanities—blending physical systems and spatial data with human stories, ethics, and decision-making. It's the ideal subject for students who want to keep both STEM and humanities pathways open while building real-world, future-focused skills.

Geography helps us understand the connections between people, places, and the planet. From natural disasters and population change to tourism, urban planning, and climate resilience, students explore how the world works—and how we can make it better.

You'll develop:

- Scientific investigation skills through fieldwork and data analysis
- Geospatial and digital mapping skills using GIS and satellite imagery
- Critical thinking and problem-solving abilities grounded in real-world contexts
- Communication and evaluation skills using maps, reports, and spatial data
- Global awareness and ethical decision-making, informed by environmental, cultural, and political perspectives

## Unit 1: Hazards and disasters

This unit explores natural and human-induced hazards and disasters—what causes them, how they impact people and the environment, and how we can reduce risk through better planning, technology, and policy.

### Key Case Studies:

- Bushfires in Victoria – A comparison of the 2009 Black Saturday Fires and the 2019–20 Black Summer Fires, exploring how emergency strategies evolved and what lessons were learned from Australia's deadliest bushfires.
- Geological hazards – The causes and impacts of earthquakes, volcanoes, tsunamis, and avalanches, including how mitigation strategies (like early warning systems and land use zoning) reduce risk.
- Fieldwork: Port Phillip Bay – A two-day field camp where students investigate the effects of climate change and plastic pollution on coastal systems using GPS, GIS, and data collection techniques.

### Skills Developed:

- Conducting scientific field investigations
- Using and evaluating GIS and satellite imagery
- Interpreting hazard maps, timelines, and spatial patterns
- Comparing global hazard responses
- Critically evaluating disaster management and community preparedness
- Communicating complex ideas in visual and written formats

## Unit 2: Tourism: Issues and Challenges

This unit investigates the dynamic and sometimes controversial industry of tourism—from eco-friendly safaris to overcrowded cities—to understand its impacts and how it can be managed more sustainably.

### Key Case Studies:

- Phillip Island vs. French Island (Fieldwork) – Students explore the stages of tourism growth on Phillip Island, a vibrant destination known for its Penguin Parade, surf beaches, and motor-racing events. They also examine French Island, a quieter, off-grid alternative that focuses on low-impact, nature-based tourism.
- Students compare how these two islands differ in their tourism philosophies, levels of development, and visitor experiences, and evaluate how each responds to environmental and social pressures through distinct management strategies.
- Ecotourism in less economically developed countries – Analysis of whether ecotourism truly delivers economic and environmental benefits, or contributes to exploitation and cultural erosion.
- Venice and “Last Chance” Tourism – An exploration of over-tourism, looking at how destinations under stress respond to increased visitation and what alternatives exist for preserving fragile places.

### Skills Developed:

- Conducting tourism impact surveys and field observations
- Analysing visitor trends using geospatial data
- Evaluating tourism strategies using economic and environmental indicators
- Comparing international tourism models
- Communicating findings through maps, diagrams, and reports
- Applying systems thinking to tourism development

## Unit 3: Changing the Land

This unit explores two of the most pressing environmental issues facing the world today: climate-driven changes to natural landscapes and the impact of rapid urbanisation on land use. Students investigate how land is changing—both through natural processes and human activity—and how governments and communities can respond sustainably at local, national, and global levels.

### Key Case Studies:

- Greenland – Students investigate the causes and impacts of melting glaciers and ice sheets, now the largest contributor to global sea level rise. They also explore the emerging use of glacial rock flour—a naturally occurring material that may help absorb carbon dioxide and slow climate change.
- Cameroon – A detailed study of deforestation, examining its environmental, economic, and social consequences, particularly the loss of biodiversity. Students assess the effectiveness of local responses like reforestation and protected zones, as well as global strategies such as carbon trading.
- Melbourne’s Plan Melbourne – Students explore urban land use change through a fieldwork investigation of the Channel 9 studios redevelopment in Richmond, now a high-density residential site. They assess how this transformation addresses housing needs, reduces urban sprawl, and supports sustainable infrastructure development.

### Skills Developed:

- Designing and conducting urban fieldwork investigations
- Using remote sensing and GIS to track land use changes
- Assessing environmental, economic, and social outcomes of planning strategies
- Comparing local and global environmental management
- Critically evaluating sustainability practices using criteria
- Presenting spatial and temporal data in reports and visual formats

## **Unit 4: Human Population – Trends and Issues**

Population change is shaping our world—from crowded cities to ageing societies. This unit explores what's happening, why, and how we can respond effectively and ethically.

### **Key Case Studies:**

- Ukraine refugee crisis – Analysing the causes and impacts of forced migration on both donor and host countries, with attention to social, economic, and political implications.
- Kenya – Exploring the effects of a rapidly growing, youthful population on infrastructure, education, and employment opportunities.
- Japan – Understanding the consequences of a shrinking and ageing population, including labour shortages and rising healthcare costs.

### **Skills Developed:**

- Interpreting population pyramids and demographic models
- Using GIS to map migration patterns and population trends
- Evaluating the effectiveness of government policies on fertility, ageing, and migration
- Conducting cross-cultural comparisons of population structures
- Analysing the ethics of population control and refugee management
- Communicating insights through data visualisations and policy briefs

### **Outcome Tasks**

In Units 1, 2 and 3, the major assessment task is a Fieldwork Report (approximately 2000 words), based on the student's investigation and data collection.

Other assessment tasks across the units—including Unit 4—may include:

- Analysis of unseen data
- Multimedia presentations
- Structured questions
- Focused research tasks

## General Mathematics

### Units 1&2

General Mathematics is for students who wish to continue to study Mathematics. It can be used to satisfy the prerequisite conditions for some tertiary studies which require "VCE Mathematics" but not "VCE Mathematical Methods". It leads to General Mathematics 3 & 4 in Year 12.

#### Data analysis, probability and statistics

In this area of study students cover types of data, display and description of the distribution of data, summary statistics for centre and spread, and the comparison of sets of data.

In this area of study students cover association between two numerical variables, scatterplots, and lines of good fit by eye and their interpretation.

#### Algebra, number and structure

In this area of study students cover the concept of a sequence and its representation by rule, table and graph, arithmetic or geometric sequences as examples of sequences generated by first-order linear recurrence relations, and simple financial and other applications of these sequences.

#### Functions, relations and graphs

In this area of study students cover linear function and relations, their graphs, modelling with linear functions, solving linear equations and simultaneous linear equations, line segment and step graphs and their applications.

In this area of study students cover direct and inverse variation, transformations to linearity and modelling of some non-linear data.

#### Discrete mathematics

In this area of study students cover the concept of matrices and matrix operations to model and solve a range of practical problems, including population growth and decay.

In this area of study students cover the use of graphs and networks to model and solve a range of practical problems, including connectedness, shortest path and minimum spanning trees.

#### Sequences, Recurrence relations and Financial Mathematics

This topic includes arithmetic and geometric sequences; first-order recurrence relations and their application to financial mathematical calculations for percentage changes, inflation, financial comparisons and purchase options.

#### Mathematical Investigation

This comprises one to two weeks of investigation into one or two practical or theoretical contexts or scenarios.

#### Assessment and reporting

General Mathematics Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams.

### Units 3&4

This course is designed for those students who wish to complete a Units 3&4 Mathematics subject, but do not necessarily need Mathematical Methods as a prerequisite for their tertiary study.

General Mathematics Units 3&4 focus on real-life application of mathematics and consist of the areas of study 'Data analysis, probability and statistics' and 'Discrete mathematics'.

Unit 3 comprises Data analysis, probability and statistics and Discrete mathematics and Unit 4 comprises Functions, relations and graphs and Space and measurement.

Assumed knowledge and skills for General Mathematics Units 3&4 are contained in General Mathematics Units 1&2, and will be drawn on, as applicable, in the development of related content from the areas of study, and key knowledge and key skills for the outcomes of General Mathematics Units 3&4.

#### Assessment and reporting

In General Mathematics, School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year examination will determine the student's level of achievement. Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 24 %

Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 16 %

Units 3&4 examinations: 60 %

# Health and Human Development

## Aims

This study is designed to enable students to:

- understand the complex nature of health and wellbeing, and human development
- develop a broad view of health and wellbeing, incorporating physical, social, emotional, mental and spiritual dimensions, and biological, sociocultural and environmental factors
- examine how health and wellbeing may be influenced across the lifespan by the conditions into which people are born, grow, live, work and age
- develop health literacy to evaluate health information and take appropriate and positive action to support health and wellbeing and manage risks
- develop understanding of the Australian healthcare system and the political and social values that underpin it
- apply social justice principles to identify health and wellbeing inequities and analyse health and wellbeing interventions
- apply the objectives of the United Nations' Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to evaluate the effectiveness of health and wellbeing initiatives and programs
- propose and implement action to positively influence health and wellbeing, and human development, outcomes at individual, local, national and/or global levels.

## Structure

The study is made up of four units:

- Unit 1: Understanding health and wellbeing
- Unit 2: Managing health and development
- Unit 3: Australia's health in a globalised world
- Unit 4: Health and human development in a global context

## Unit 1: The health and development of Australia's youth

### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to interpret data to identify key areas for improving youth health and wellbeing, and analyse one youth health area in detail.

### Outcome 2

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to interpret data to identify key areas for improving youth health and wellbeing, and analyse one youth health area in detail.

### Outcome 3

On completion of this unit the student student should be able to apply nutrition information, food selection models and initiatives to evaluate nutrition information.

## Unit 2: Managing health and development

### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain developmental changes in the transition from youth to adulthood, analyse factors that contribute to healthy development during the prenatal and early childhood stages of the human lifespan and explain health and wellbeing as an intergenerational concept.

### Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain factors affecting access to Australia's health system that contribute to health literacy and promote the health and wellbeing of youth.

## Unit 3: Australia's health in a globalised world

### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain the complex, dynamic and global nature of health and wellbeing, interpret and apply Australia's health status data, and analyse variations in health status.

### Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain changes to public health approaches, analyse improvements in population health over time and evaluate health promotion strategies and initiatives.

## **Unit 4: Health and human development in a global context**

### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the relationships between the SDGs and their role in the promotion of health and human development and evaluate the effectiveness of global aid programs.

### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse relationships between the SDGs and their role in the promotion of health and human development, and evaluate the effectiveness of global aid programs.

## **Assessment**

### **Satisfactory completion**

Demonstrated achievement of the set of outcomes specified for the unit.

### **Levels of achievement**

Units 1&2:

The individual school will determine the level of achievement.

Units 3&4:

School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and examination:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Examination: 50%

## Hebrew (VCE)

### Scope of study

VCE Hebrew focuses on student participation in learning language and using language to interact with others, analyse language and create meaning in language. Learning language and using language require students to engage with the range of perspectives and topics related to the concepts that are a feature of the CCAFL Framework.

Students develop and extend skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing and viewing in Hebrew in a range of contexts. They develop cultural and intercultural understanding, including skills to mediate between Hebrew-speaking communities and the Australian social context.

Students develop their understanding of the relationships between language and culture in new contexts and consider how these relationships shape communities. Throughout the study students are given opportunities to make connections and comparisons based on personal reflections about the role of language and culture in communication and in personal identity.

### Objectives

The areas of study in each unit align to the three objectives of the CCAFL Framework: Interacting in language (Objective 1), Analysing language (Objective 2) and Creating meaning in language (Objective 3). Meeting these objectives involves development of key skills, knowledge and understanding used in listening, speaking, reading, viewing and writing, either individually or in combination, and in mediating between Hebrew and English.

#### Area of Study 1: Interacting in Hebrew

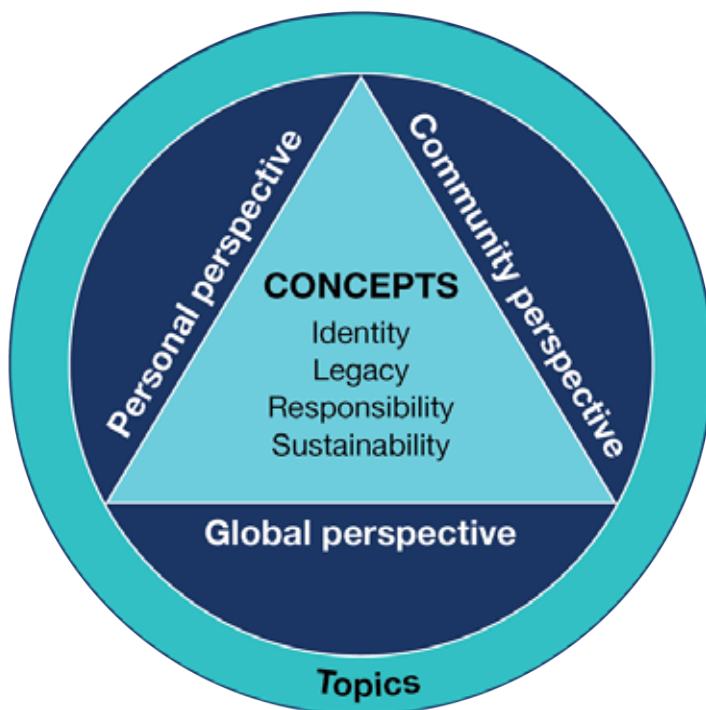
Exchange information, opinions, ideas and experiences in Hebrew and reflect on knowledge and understanding of the relationship between language and culture.

#### Area of Study 2: Analysing Hebrew

Evaluate, synthesise, reflect on and respond to texts presented in Hebrew, and mediate between languages and cultures.

#### Area of Study 3: Creating meaning in Hebrew

Express ideas and perspectives in Hebrew, demonstrating knowledge and understanding of language as a system and the relationship between language and culture.



### Content

The study of Hebrew provides learning that extends students' knowledge of the world in which they live and allows them to apply the language they have learned in new contexts. Students apply language skills, knowledge and understanding to content organised through interrelated concepts, perspectives and topics. The topics are drawn from the concepts, and students are encouraged to consider the topics from different perspectives.

### Topics

There are eight prescribed topics, all of which relate to the concepts and may be studied from a personal, community or global perspective. Through topics and tasks, students are provided with opportunities to apply key language skills, knowledge and understanding in authentic contexts and engage with content that reflects their interests and the requirements of the senior secondary study of Hebrew.

## Hebrew (VET) – Certificate II & III in Applied Languages

### Objectives

The VET Hebrew course is designed for the acquisition of the four major language skills: Speaking, Listening, Writing and Reading. This course is designed to provide students with language skills and cultural knowledge to enable them to communicate in social and workplace situations in Hebrew both in Australia and overseas. The course consists of four compulsory units that aim to provide learning opportunities to students with genuine interest in the vocation to develop skills that will equip them for the workplace in an adult learning environment. Students learn to communicate in the target language for the above purposes and in many contexts, using a wide range of competencies in conversational activities, writing, and role playing. They are encouraged to use relevant ICT tools and to reflect on their thinking process and personal learning of the Hebrew language.

### Content

The content in VET Hebrew is drawn from two themes: communication for social purposes; communication for workforce purposes. Each unit is based around a list of new words, which are the key building blocks of the study. Different text types are studied including: conversations and role plays from the daily life, workplace oral communication, and variety of informative texts related to social and workplace situations, general world knowledge, Israeli phrases and songs.

This vast variety of texts, both oral and written, is designed to challenge and advance students' language abilities. Texts vary in length, structure and new vocabulary, the organisation and familiarity of content.

### Units of Competency

UOC – Certificate II (unit 1-2)\* The qualification code is 10949NAT

UOC – Certificate III (unit 3-4)\*\* The qualification code is 11074NAT

These qualifications are delivered in partnership with Ripponlea Institute (21230)

### ATAR

This subject does not have a study score, but can contribute towards the ATAR as block credit. For clarification, speak to VCE Co-ordinator or Careers Counsellor. A minimum of 75% of class attendance is required.

\*Each UOC is a prerequisite for the following unit.

\*\*Certificate III can only be studied on the completion of Certificate II.

On successful completion of Certificate III in Applied Languages (Hebrew), a certificate is received.

# History

## Units 1&2 (Modern History)

### Aims

This study enables students to:

- develop an understanding of the nature of history as a discipline and to engage in historical inquiry
- ask questions about the past, analyse primary and secondary sources, and construct historical arguments based on evidence
- use historical thinking concepts such as significance, evidence, continuity and change, and causation
- explore a range of people, places, ideas and periods to develop a broad understanding of the past
- engage with debates between historians in an informed, critical and effective manner
- recognise that the way in which we understand the past informs decision-making in the present
- appreciate that the world in which we live has not always been as it is now, and that it will continue to change in the future

### Unit 1: Change and Conflict

In this unit students investigate the nature of social, political, economic and cultural change in the later part of the 19th century and the first half of the 20th century. Modern History provides students with an opportunity to explore the significant events, ideas, individuals and movements that shaped the social, political, economic and technological conditions and developments that have defined the modern world.

#### Area of study 1: Ideology and conflict

In this area of study students focus on the events, ideologies, individuals and movements of the period that led to the end of empires and the emergence of new nation states before and after World War One; the consequences of World War One; the emergence of conflict; and the causes of World War Two. They investigate the impact of the treaties which ended the Great War and which redrew the maps of Europe and its colonies, breaking up the former empires of the defeated nations, such as the partitioning of the German, Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires.

#### Area of study 2: Social and cultural change

In this area of study students focus on the social life and cultural expression in the 1920s and 1930s and their relation to the technological, political and economic changes of the period. Students explore particular forms of cultural expression from the period in one or more of the following contexts: Italy, Germany, Japan, USSR and/ or USA.

### Unit 2: The Changing World Order

In Unit 2 students explore the nature and impact of the Cold War and challenges and changes to existing political, economic and social arrangements in the second half of the twentieth century.

#### Area of study 1: Causes, course and consequences of the Cold War

In this area of study students focus on causes and consequences of the Cold War; the competing ideologies that underpinned events, the effects on people, groups and nations, and the reasons for the end of this sustained period of ideological conflict.

#### Area of study 2 : Challenge and change

In this area of study students focus on the ways in which traditional ideas, values and political systems were challenged and changed by individuals and groups in a range of contexts during the second half of the twentieth century and first decade of the twenty-first century. Students explore the causes of significant political and social events and movements, and their consequences for nations and people.

### Assessment and reporting:

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams.

For each unit students will be required to demonstrate two outcomes.

Assessment tasks over Units 1&2 include the following:

- a historical inquiry
- an essay
- evaluation of historical sources
- extended responses

## **Units 3&4 (Revolutions)**

### **Aims:**

This study enables students to:

- develop an understanding of the nature of history as a discipline and to engage in historical inquiry
- ask questions about the past, analyse primary and secondary sources, and construct historical arguments based on evidence
- use historical thinking concepts such as significance, evidence, continuity and change, and causation
- explore a range of people, places, ideas and periods to develop a broad understanding of the past
- engage with debates between historians in an informed, critical and effective manner
- recognise that the way in which we understand the past informs decision-making in the present
- appreciate that the world in which we live has not always been as it is now, and that it will continue to change in the future

### **Area of study 1: Unit 3 (America) and Unit 4 (Russia): Causes of revolution**

- What were the significant causes of revolution?
- How did the actions of popular movements and particular individuals contribute to triggering a revolution?
- To what extent did social tensions and ideological conflicts contribute to the outbreak of revolution?

In this area of study students focus on the long-term causes and short-term triggers of revolution. They evaluate how revolutionary outbreaks were caused by the interplay of significant events, ideologies, individuals and popular movements, and how these were directly or indirectly influenced by the political, social, economic, cultural and environmental conditions of the time.

Students analyse significant events and evaluate how particular conditions profoundly influenced and contributed to the outbreak of revolution. They consider triggers such as, in America, colonial responses to the Boston Tea Party.

### **Area of study 2: Unit 3 (America) and Unit 4 (Russia): Consequences of revolution**

- What were the consequences of revolution?
- How did the new regime consolidate its power?
- What were the experiences of those who lived through the revolution?
- To what extent was society changed and revolutionary ideas achieved or compromised

In this area of study students focus on the consequences of the revolution and evaluate the extent to which the consequences of the revolution maintained continuity and/or brought about change to society. The success of the revolution was not guaranteed or inevitable. Students analyse the significant challenges that confronted the new regime after the initial outbreak of revolution. They evaluate the success and outcomes of the new regime's responses to these challenges, and the extent to which the revolution resulted in dramatic and wide-reaching political, social, cultural and economic change, progress or decline.

As new political regimes attempted to consolidate power, post-revolutionary regimes were often challenged by those who opposed change. They may have unleashed civil war and counter-revolutions, making the survival and consolidation of the revolution the principle concern of the revolutionary state. Challenges such as the creation of a new political system in America and the Civil War in Russia had profound consequences for the revolutionaries trying to establish a new order. Revolutionary ideologies were sometimes modified and compromised as the leaders became more authoritarian and responded to opposition with violence. In some cases there were policies of terror and repression, and the initiation of policies of social control as a strategy to maintain power.

### **Assessment and reporting:**

Each of the following four assessment tasks must be completed over Units 3&4

- a historical inquiry
- an essay
- an extended response
- an evaluation of historical sources

Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Examination: 50%

## Legal Studies

### Aims

This study enables students to:

- understand and apply legal terminology, principles and concepts
- apply legal principles to actual and/or hypothetical scenarios, explore solutions to legal problems, and form reasoned conclusions
- understand legal rights and responsibilities, and the effectiveness of the protection of rights in Australia
- analyse the methods and institutions that determine criminal cases and resolve civil disputes
- propose and analyse reforms to the legal system to enable the principles of justice to be achieved

### Unit 1: The Presumption of Innocence

#### Areas of study

##### Area of study 1: Legal foundations

This area of study provides students with foundational knowledge of laws and the Australian legal system. Students explore the role of individuals, laws and the legal system in achieving social cohesion and protecting the rights of individuals. Students consider the characteristics of an effective law, and sources and types of law. They examine the relationship between parliament and the courts in law-making, and the reasons for a court hierarchy in Victoria, they also develop an understanding of the principles of justice.

##### Area of study 2: Proving guilt

The presumption of innocence is a fundamental principle of criminal law and provides a guarantee that an accused is presumed innocent until proven guilty beyond reasonable doubt. In this area of study, students develop an understanding of the purposes of and key concepts in criminal law, as well as the types of crime. They also investigate two criminal offences in detail

##### Area of study 3: Sanctions

The criminal justice system determines the guilt of an accused, and imposes sanctions on offenders. In this area of study, students investigate key concepts in the determination of a criminal case, including the institutions that enforce criminal law, the purposes and types of sanctions, and alternative approaches to sentencing such as the Drug Court, Koori Courts and diversion programs.

### Unit 2: Wrongs and Rights

#### Areas of study

##### Area of study 1: Civil liability

Civil law aims to protect the rights of individuals, groups and organisations, and provide opportunities for a wronged party to seek redress for a breach. In this area of study, students develop an understanding of key concepts in civil law and investigate two areas of civil law in detail. Possible areas of civil law could include negligence, defamation, nuisance, trespass and contracts.

##### Area of study 2: Remedies

Remedies may be available to a wronged party where there has been a breach of civil law. In this area of study, students develop an appreciation of how civil disputes are resolved, including the methods and institutions available to resolve disputes, and the purposes and types of remedies.

##### Area of study 3: Human Rights

In this area of study, students examine the ways in which human rights are protected in Australia and consider possible reforms to the protection of human rights. Students investigate one human rights issue in Australia, such as in relation to the right to vote, the right to freedom of religion, or the rights of First Nations peoples.

## **Unit 3: Rights and justice**

### **Areas of study**

#### **Area of study 1: The Victorian criminal justice system**

The Victorian criminal justice system is used to determine whether an accused person is guilty beyond reasonable doubt of an offence for which they are charged, and to impose sanctions where guilt has been found or pleaded. In this area of study, students explore the criminal justice system, key personnel, and the use of plea negotiations to determine a criminal case. Students investigate the rights of the accused and of victims, and explore the purposes and types of sanctions and sentencing considerations. They consider the impact of time, costs and cultural differences on the ability of the criminal justice system to achieve the principles of justice.

#### **Area of study 2: The Victorian civil justice system**

The Victorian civil justice system aims to restore a wronged party to the position they were originally in before the breach of civil law occurred. In this area of study, students consider the factors relevant to commencing a civil claim, examine the institutions and methods used to resolve a civil dispute and explore the purposes and types of remedies. Students consider the impact of time and costs on the ability of the civil justice system to achieve the principles of justice.

## **Unit 4: The people, the law and reform**

### **Areas of study**

#### **Area of Study 1: The people and the law-makers**

In this area of study, students examine the ways in which the Australian Constitution acts as a check on parliament in law-making, and factors that affect the ability of parliament and courts to make law. They explore the relationship between parliament and courts in law-making and consider the capacity of both institutions to make law.

#### **Area of Study 2: The people and reform**

In this area of study, students investigate the need for law reform and the means by which individuals and groups can influence change in the law. Students draw on examples of individuals, groups and the media influencing law reform, as well as examples from the past four years of inquiries of law reform bodies. Students examine the relationship between the Australian people and the Australian Constitution, the reasons for and processes of constitutional reform, the 1967 referendum about First Nations people and the 2023 referendum about an Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Voice.

## **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end of semester exams.

Units 3&4 both School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and the end of year examination will determine the student's level of achievement.

Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Units 3&4 examination: 50%

# Literature

## Aims

Units 1 to 4 are designed to enable students to:

- enjoy reading a range of challenging literary texts
- approach unfamiliar texts and negotiate diverse literary territories with confidence
- explore the ways in which authors craft their writing
- recognise there are many possible ways of interpreting literary texts
- develop their own responses to texts, recognising the impact of form, features and language in the creation of meaning
- write creatively and critically, and develop their individual voice
- consider the views of others, including when developing interpretations
- express their ideas, through all language modes, with insight and flair..

## Unit 1: Approaches to literature

### Areas of study 1

#### Reading practices

In this area of study students consider how language, structure and stylistic choices are used in different literary forms and types of text. They consider both print and non-print texts, reflecting on the contribution of form and style to meaning. Students reflect on the degree to which points of view, experiences and contexts shape their own and others' interpretations of text.

Students closely examine the literary forms, features and language of texts. They begin to identify and explore textual details, including language and features, to develop a close analysis response to a text.

### Area of study 2

#### Exploration of literary movements and genres

In this area of study students explore the concerns, ideas, style and conventions common to a distinctive type of literature seen in literary movements or genres. Examples of these groupings include literary movements and/or genres such as modernism, epic, tragedy and magic realism, as well as more popular, or mainstream, genres and subgenres such as crime, romance and science fiction. Students explore texts from the selected movement or genre, identifying and examining attributes, patterns and similarities that locate each text within that grouping. Students engage with the ideas and concerns shared by the texts through language, settings, narrative structures and characterisation, and they experiment with the assumptions and representations embedded in the texts.

## Unit 2

### Area of study 1

#### Voices of Country

In this area of study students focus on the interrelationships between the text, readers and their social and cultural contexts.

In this area of study students explore the voices, perspectives and knowledge of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander authors and creators. They consider the interconnectedness of place, culture and identity through the experiences, texts and voices of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples, including connections to Country, the impact of colonisation and its ongoing consequences, and issues of reconciliation and reclamation.

Students examine representations of culture and identity in Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples' texts and the ways in which these texts present voices and perspectives that explore and challenge assumptions and stereotypes arising from colonisation.

Students acknowledge and reflect on a range of Australian views and values (including their own) through a text(s). Within that exploration, students consider stories about the Australian landscape and culture.

### Area of study 2

#### The text in its context

In this area of study students focus on the text and its historical, social and cultural context. Students reflect on representations of a specific time period and/or culture within a text.

Students explore the text to understand its point of view and what it reflects or comments on. They identify the language and the representations in the text that reflect the specific time period and/or culture, its ideas and concepts. Students develop an understanding that contextual meaning is already implicitly or explicitly inscribed in a text and that textual details and structures can be scrutinised to illustrate its significance.

Students develop the ability to analyse language closely, recognising that words have historical and cultural import.

## **Unit 3: Form and transformation**

### **Area of study 1**

#### **Adaptations and transformations**

In this area of study students focus on how the form of text contributes to the meaning of the text. Students develop an understanding of the typical features of a particular form of text and how the conventions associated with it are used, such as the use of imagery and rhythm in a poem or the use of setting, plot and narrative voice in a novel. Students use this understanding to reflect upon the extent to which changing the form of the text affects its meaning. By exploring adaptations, students also consider how creators of adaptations may emphasise or understate perspectives, assumptions and ideas in their presentation of a text.

### **Area of study 2**

#### **Developing interpretations**

In this area of study students explore the different ways we can read and understand a text by developing, considering and comparing interpretations of a set text.

Students first develop their own interpretations of a set text, analysing how ideas, views and values are presented in a text, and the ways these are endorsed, challenged and/or marginalised through literary forms, features and language. These student interpretations should consider the historical, social and cultural context in which a text is written and set. Students also consider their own views and values as readers.

Students then explore a supplementary reading that can enrich, challenge and/or contest the ideas and the views, values and assumptions of the set text to further enhance the students' understanding. Examples of a supplementary reading can include writing by a teacher, a scholarly article or an explication of a literary theory. A supplementary reading that provides only opinion or evaluation of the relative merits of the text is not considered appropriate for this task.

Informed by the supplementary reading, students develop a second interpretation of the same text, reflecting an enhanced appreciation and understanding of the text. They then apply this understanding to key moments from the text, supporting their work with considered textual evidence.

## **Unit 4: Interpreting texts**

### **Area of study 1**

#### **Creative responses to texts**

In this area of study students focus on the imaginative techniques used for creating and recreating a literary work. Students use their knowledge of how the meaning of texts can change as context and form change to construct their own creative transformations of texts. They learn how authors develop representations of people and places, and they develop an understanding of language, voice, form and structure. Students draw inferences from the original text in order to create their own writing. In their adaptation of the tone and the style of the original text, students develop an understanding of the views and values explored.

Students develop an understanding of the various ways in which authors craft texts. They reflect critically on the literary form, features and language of a text, and discuss their own responses as they relate to the text, including the purpose and context of their creations.

### **Area of study 2**

#### **Close analysis**

In this area of study students focus on a detailed scrutiny of the language, style, concerns and construction of texts. Students attend closely to textual details to examine the ways specific passages in a text contribute to their overall understanding of the whole text. Students consider literary forms, features and language, and the views and values of the text. They write expressively to develop a close analysis, using detailed references to the text.

## **Assessment and reporting**

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- End of year examination: 50%

# Mathematical Methods

## Units 1&2

Mathematical Methods is recommended for anyone interested in further study in the sciences, commerce or any tertiary courses that require Mathematics as a prerequisite.

Mathematical Methods Units 1&2 provide an introductory study of simple elementary functions of a single real variable, algebra, calculus, probability and statistics and their applications in a variety of practical and theoretical contexts. The units are designed as preparation for Mathematical Methods Units 3&4 and contain assumed knowledge and skills for these units.

### Functions, relations and graphs

Unit 1 students cover the graphical representation of simple algebraic functions (polynomial and power functions) of a single real variable and the key features of functions and their graphs such as axis intercepts, domain (including the concept of maximal, natural or implied domain), co-domain and range, stationary points, asymptotic behaviour and symmetry. The behaviour of functions and their graphs is to be explored in a variety of modelling contexts and theoretical investigations.

In Unit 2 students cover graphical representation of circular, exponential and logarithmic functions of a single real variable and the key features of graphs of functions such as axis intercepts, domain (including maximal, natural or implied domain), co-domain and range, asymptotic behaviour, periodicity and symmetry. The behaviour of functions and their graphs is to be explored in a variety of modelling contexts and theoretical investigations.

### Algebra, number and structure

This area of study supports students' work in the 'Functions, relations and graphs', 'Calculus' and 'Data analysis, probability and statistics' areas of study, and content is to be distributed between Units 1&2.

In Unit 1 the focus is on the algebra of polynomial functions of low degree and transformations of the plane.

In Unit 2 the focus is on the algebra of some simple transcendental functions and transformations of the plane.

### Calculus

In Unit 1 students cover constant and average rates of change and an introduction to instantaneous rate of change of a function in familiar contexts, including graphical and numerical approaches to estimating and approximating these rates of change.

In Unit 2 students cover differentiation and anti-differentiation of polynomial functions by rule, different notations, and related applications including the analysis of graphs.

### Data analysis, probability and statistics

In Unit 1 students cover the concepts of experiment (trial), outcome, event, frequency, probability and representation of finite sample spaces and events using various forms such as lists, grids, Venn diagrams and tables. They also cover introductory counting principles and techniques and their application to probability.

In Unit 2 students cover the use of lists, tables and diagrams to calculate probabilities, including consideration of complementary, mutually exclusive, conditional and independent events involving one, two or three events (as applicable), including rules for computation of probabilities for compound events.

### Mathematical Investigation

This comprises one to two weeks of investigation into one or two practical or theoretical contexts or scenarios.

### Assessment and reporting

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of semester exams.

## **Units 3&4**

Mathematical Methods Units 3&4 extend the introductory study of simple elementary functions of a single real variable, to include combinations of these functions, algebra, calculus, probability and statistics, and their applications in a variety of practical and theoretical contexts. Assumed knowledge and skills for Mathematical Methods Units 3&4 are contained in Mathematical Methods Units 1&2, and will be drawn on, as applicable, in the development of related content from the areas of study, and key knowledge and key skills for the outcomes of Mathematical Methods Units 3&4.

### **Functions, relations & graphs**

In this area of study students cover transformations of the plane and the behaviour of some elementary functions of a single real variable, including key features of their graphs such as axis intercepts, stationary points, points of inflection, domain (including maximal, implied or natural domain), co-domain and range, asymptotic behaviour and symmetry. The behaviour of functions and their graphs is to be explored in a variety of modelling contexts and theoretical investigations.

### **Algebra, number and structure**

In this area of study students cover the algebra of functions, including composition of functions, inverse functions and the solution of equations. They also study the identification of appropriate solution processes for solving equations, and systems of simultaneous equations, presented in various forms. Students also cover recognition of equations and systems of equations that are solvable using inverse operations or factorisation, and the use of graphical and numerical approaches for problems involving equations where exact value solutions are not required, or which are not solvable by other methods. This content is to be incorporated as applicable to the other areas of study.

### **Calculus**

In this area of study students cover graphical treatment of limits, continuity and differentiability of functions of a single real variable, and differentiation, anti-differentiation and integration of these functions. This material is to be linked to applications in practical situations.

### **Data analysis, probability and statistics**

In this area of study students cover discrete and continuous random variables, their representation using tables, probability functions (specified by rule and defining parameters as appropriate); the calculation and interpretation of central measures and measures of spread; and statistical inference for sample proportions. The focus is on understanding the notion of a random variable, related parameters, properties and application and interpretation in context for a given probability distribution.

### **Mathematical Investigation**

This comprises one to two weeks of investigation into one or two practical or theoretical contexts or scenarios.

## **End of year examinations**

### **Examination 1**

Respond to a collection of short answer and some extended answer questions covering all areas of study. One hour in length, no calculators or notes.

### **Examination 2**

Respond to a collection of 20 multiple-choice questions plus a number of extended response analysis problems. Two hours in length; a bound reference and CAS calculator are permitted.

In Mathematical Methods Units 3&4, School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year examination will determine the student's level of achievement.

Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%
- Examination 1: 20%
- Examination 2: 40%

# Media

## Rationale:

This study provides students with the opportunity to examine the media in both historical and contemporary contexts while developing skills in media design and production in a range of media forms. VCE Media provides students with the opportunity to analyse media concepts, forms and products in an informed and critical way. Students consider narratives, technologies and processes from various perspectives including an analysis of structure and features. They examine debates about the media's role in contributing to and influencing society. Students integrate these aspects of the study through the individual design and production of their media representations, narratives and products. VCE Media supports students to develop and refine their planning and analytical skills, critical and creative thinking and expression, and to strengthen their communication skills and technical knowledge. This study leads to pathways for further theoretical and/or practical study at tertiary level or in vocational education and training settings; including screen and media, marketing and advertising, games and interactive media, communication and writing, graphic and communication design, photography and animation.

## Structure:

The study is made up of four units:

- Unit 1: Media forms, representations and Australian stories
- Unit 2: Narrative across media forms
- Unit 3: Media narratives and pre-production
- Unit 4: Media production and issues in the media

## Areas of study:

### Unit 1

#### Media representation:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain how media representations in film, television and photography, and from different periods of time, are constructed, distributed, engaged with, consumed and read by audiences.

#### Media forms in production:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to use the media production process to design, produce and evaluate media representations for specific audiences in a range of media forms (film, photography, print, sound).

#### Australian stories:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse how the structural features of Australian fictional and non-fictional narratives in film and photography, and are consumed and read by, audiences.

### Unit 2

#### Narrative, style and genre:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the intentions of media creators and producers and the influences of narratives on the audience in different media forms.

#### Narratives in production:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to apply the media production process to create, develop and construct a film, photo series, or digital media.

#### Media and change:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to discuss the influence of new media technologies on society, audiences, the individual, media industries and institutions.

### Unit 3

#### Narrative and ideology:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse how films and television series are constructed and distributed, and how they engage, are consumed and are read by the intended audience and present day audiences.

#### Media production development:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to research aspects of a media form and experiment with media technologies and media production processes to inform and document the design of a media production.

#### Media production design:

On completion of this unit the student should be able to develop and document a media production design in a selected media form for a specified audience.

## **Unit 4**

### **Media production:**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to produce, refine and resolve a media product designed in Unit 3.

### **Agency and control in and of the media:**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to discuss issues of agency and control in the relationship between the media and its audience.

## **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course, production tasks, and end-of-semester exams. School-assessed coursework (SACs) for Units 3&4 will contribute 20% to the study score.

The level of achievement for Units 3&4 is also assessed by a School-assessed Task (SAT), which will contribute 40% to the study score and an end-of-year examination, which will contribute 40% to the study score.

# Music

## Rationale

Music is uniquely an aural art form and its essential nature is abstract. It is a complex socio-cultural phenomenon that exists distinctively in every culture and is a basic expression and reflection of human experience. It allows for the expression of the intellect, imagination and emotion, and the exploration of values, and fosters an understanding of continuity and change. Active participation in music develops musicianship through creating, performing, responding and analysing, and fosters an understanding of other times, places, cultures and contexts. Students develop ideas about the ways in which music can interact with other art forms, technology and design, and other fields of endeavour.

## Aims

This study is designed to enable students to:

- develop and practise musicianship
- perform, create, arrange, improvise, analyse, recreate, reimagine and respond to music from diverse times, places, cultures and contexts including recently created music
- communicate understanding of cultural, stylistic, aesthetic and expressive qualities and characteristics of music
- explore and strengthen personal music interests, knowledge and experiences
- use imagination and creativity, and personal and social skills in music making
- access pathways to further education, training and employment in music
- participate and present in life-long music learning and the musical life of their community

## Units 1&2

### Unit 1 - Organisation of Music

In this unit students explore and develop their understanding of how music is organised. By performing, creating, analysing and responding to music works that exhibit different approaches, students explore and develop their understanding of the possibilities of musical organisation. They prepare and perform ensemble and/or solo musical works to develop technical control, expression and stylistic understanding on their chosen instrument/sound source. At least two works should be associated with their study of approaches to music organisation. They create (arrange, compose or improvise) short music exercises that reflect their understanding of the organisation of music and the processes they have studied. They develop knowledge of music language concepts as they analyse and respond to a range of music, becoming familiar with the ways music creators treat elements of music and concepts and use compositional devices to create works that communicate their ideas.

### Unit 2 - Effect in Music

In this unit, students focus on the way music can be used to create an intended effect. By performing, analysing and responding to music works/examples that create different effects, students explore and develop their understanding of the possibilities of how effect can be created. Through creating their own music, they reflect this exploration and understanding. Students prepare and perform ensemble and/or solo musical works to develop technical control, expression and stylistic understanding using their chosen instrument/sound source. They should perform at least one work to convey a specified effect and demonstrate this in performance. They create (arrange, compose or improvise) short music exercises that reflect their understanding of the organisation of music and the processes they have studied. As they analyse and respond to a wide range of music, they become familiar with the ways music creators treat elements and concepts of music and use compositional devices to create works that communicate their ideas. They continue to develop their understanding of common musical language concepts by identifying, recreating and notating these concepts.

### **Units 3&4 - Music Contemporary Performance**

This study offers pathways for students whose performance practice includes embellishment and/or improvisation, uses collaborative and aural practices in learning, often takes recordings as a primary text, and projects a personal voice. Students study the work of other performers and analyse their approaches to interpretation and how personal voice can be developed through reimagining existing music works. They refine selected strategies to enhance their own approach to performance.

Students identify technical, expressive and stylistic challenges relevant to works they are preparing for performance and endeavour to address these challenges. They listen and respond to a wide range of music by a variety of performers in contemporary styles. They also study music language concepts such as scales, harmony and rhythmic materials that relate to contemporary music.

Students may present with any instrument or combination of instruments which will be suitable to convey understanding of the key knowledge and application of key skills for Outcome 1, with styles including (but not limited to) rock, pop, jazz, EDM, country, funk and R&B. Students prepare a program for assessment in a live performance. They may be assessed as primarily a member of a group or as a solo performer. All performances must include at least one ensemble work with another live musician and an original work created by an Australian artist since 1990. All performances must include a personally reimagined version of an existing work. Original works may also be included in the program.

Students submit a program list along with a Performer's Statement of Intent. Part of the statement should include information about their reimagined piece and explain how the existing work has been manipulated. This must be accompanied by an authentication document. As part of their preparation, students are able to present performances of both ensemble and solo music works and take opportunities to perform in both familiar and unfamiliar venues and spaces.

Across Units 3 and 4 all students select works of their own choice for performance that allow them to meet examination requirements and conditions as described in the performance examination specifications.

### **Units 3&4 - Music Repertoire Performance**

This study is designed for students whose musical interests are grounded in the recreation and interpretation of notated musical works, and who wish to gain and share knowledge of musical styles and performance practices. Students may present on any instrument for which there is an established repertoire of notated works. They work towards a recital program that demonstrates highly developed technical skills and stylistic refinement as both a soloist and as an ensemble member. They develop the capacity for critical evaluations of their performances and those of others, and an ability to articulate their performance decisions with musical evidence and independence of thought.

Students identify technical, expressive and stylistic challenges relevant to works they are preparing for performance and endeavour to address these challenges. They listen and respond to a wide range of music by a variety of performers and study music language concepts such as scales, harmony and rhythmic materials.

The works selected for assessment must have sufficient range to convey understanding of the key knowledge and application of the key skills for Outcome 1. Music styles in this study may include (but are not limited to) early music, baroque, classical, romantic, 20th and 21st century art music styles, musical theatre, and classical musics outside the Western tradition (for example, Indian, Chinese).

The most significant task in Music Repertoire Performance is the preparation of a recital program of up to 20 minutes' duration. Students may present primarily as a soloist or as an ensemble musician. However, students must present at least one ensemble work (that is, a performance with at least one other live musician) as part of their final program and include at least one work created since 1990 by an Australian composer. Programs may also consist entirely of ensemble works, with one or more students being assessed. One work in the final program must be selected from the separately published Prescribed List. An application process will apply for instruments without a list. Students must also bring copies of their works to the performance examination.

### **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams.

Units 3&4: School-assessed coursework (SACs) and two examinations will determine the student's level of achievement. Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Units 3&4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 30%
- Unit 4 Performance examination: 50%
- End-of-year aural and written examination: 20%

## Physical Education

The study of VCE Physical Education enables students to integrate a contemporary understanding of the theoretical underpinnings of performance and participation in physical activity with practical application. Through engagement in physical activities, VCE Physical Education enables students to develop the knowledge and skills required to critically evaluate influences that affect their own and others' performance and participation in physical activity. This study equips students with the appropriate knowledge and skills to plan, develop and maintain their involvement in physical activity, sport and exercise across their lifespan and to understand the physical, social, emotional and cognitive health benefits associated with being active. The study also prepares students for employment and/or further study at the tertiary level or in vocational education and training settings in fields such as exercise and sport science, health science, education, recreation, sport development and coaching, health promotion and related careers.

### Aims

This study enables students to:

- use practical activities to underpin contemporary theoretical understanding of the influences on participation and performance in physical activity, sport and exercise
- develop an understanding of the anatomical, biomechanical, physiological and skill acquisition principles, and of behavioural, psychological, environmental and sociocultural influences on performance and participation in physical activity across the lifespan
- engage in physical activity and movement experiences to determine and analyse how the body systems work together to produce and refine movement
- critically evaluate changes in participation from a social-ecological perspective and performance in physical activity, sport and exercise through monitoring, testing and measuring of key parameters.

### Structure

The study is made up of four units:

- Unit 1: The human body in motion
- Unit 2: Physical activity, sport and society
- Unit 3: Movement skills and energy for physical activity
- Unit 4: Training to improve performance

### Units 1&2

In this unit students explore how the musculoskeletal and cardiorespiratory systems work together to produce movement. Through practical activities students explore the relationships between the body systems and physical activity, sport and exercise, and how the systems adapt and adjust to the demands of the activity. Students investigate the role and function of the main structures in each system and how they respond to physical activity, sport and exercise. They explore how the capacity and functioning of each system acts as an enabler or barrier to movement and participation in physical activity.

Using a contemporary approach, students evaluate the social, cultural and environmental influences on movement. They consider the implications of the use of legal and illegal practices to improve the performance of the musculoskeletal and cardiorespiratory systems, evaluating perceived benefits and describing potential harms.

They also recommend and implement strategies to minimise the risk of illness or injury to each system.

### Unit 1

#### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit students should participate in and analyse information from a variety of practical activities to explain how the muscular and skeletal systems function and interact to produce movement, and evaluate the use of performance enhancement substances and methods.

#### Outcome 2

Student should be able to participate in and analyse information from a variety of practical activities to explain how the cardiovascular and respiratory systems function and interact, and evaluate the use of performance enhancement substances and methods.

### Unit 2

#### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit students should be able to collect and analyse data related to individual and population levels of participation in physical activity and sedentary behaviour and conduct an FMA to create, undertake and evaluate a personalised plan that promotes adherence to the relevant physical activity and sedentary behaviour guidelines.

## **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the students should be able to explain a range of intrapersonal and interpersonal contemporary issues that influence access to, and inclusion, participation and performance in, physical activity and sport at the local, national and global levels.

## **Unit 3 Movement skills and energy for physical activity**

This unit introduces students to the biomechanical and skill acquisition principles used to analyse human movement skills and energy production from a physiological perspective. Students use a variety of tools and techniques to analyse movement skills and apply biomechanical and skill acquisition principles to improve and refine movement in physical activity, sport and exercise. They use practical activities to demonstrate how correct application of these principles can lead to improved performance in physical activity and sport.

Students investigate the relative contribution and interplay of the three energy systems to performance in physical activity, sport and exercise. In particular, they investigate the characteristics of each system and the interplay of the systems during physical activity. Students explore the causes of fatigue and consider different strategies used to postpone fatigue and promote recovery.

### **Area of Study 1**

#### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to collect and analyse information from, and participate in, a variety of physical activities to develop and refine movement skills from a coaching perspective, through the application of biomechanical and skill acquisition principles.

### **Area of study 2**

#### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the students should be able to use data collected in practical activities to analyse how the major body and energy systems work together to enable movements to occur; explain the factors causing fatigue; and recommend suitable recovery strategies.

## **Unit 4: Training to improve performance**

In this unit students analyse movement skills from a physiological, psychological and sociocultural perspective, and apply relevant training principles and methods to improve performance within physical activity at an individual, club and elite level. Improvements in performance, in particular fitness, depend on the ability of the individual and/or coach to gain, apply and evaluate knowledge and understanding of training. Students analyse skill frequencies, movement patterns, heart rates and work to rest ratios to determine the requirements of an activity. Students consider the physiological, psychological and sociological requirements of training to design and evaluate an effective training program.

Students participate in a variety of training sessions designed to improve or maintain fitness and evaluate the effectiveness of different training methods. Students critique the effectiveness of the implementation of training principles and methods to meet the needs of the individual, and evaluate the chronic adaptations to training from a theoretical perspective.

### **Area of study 1**

#### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit students should be able to undertake an activity analysis to justify the physiological requirements of an activity that informs an appropriate assessment of fitness.

### **Area of study 2**

#### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit students should be able to participate in a variety of training methods; design and evaluate training programs; and explain performance improvements that occur due to chronic adaptations, depending on the type of training undertaken.

#### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit students should be able to integrate theory and practice that enables them to analyse the interrelationships between skill acquisition, biomechanics, energy production and training, and the impacts these have on performance.

## **Assessment and reporting**

Units 3&4 will be assessed internally on School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and by one end of year examination based on both units:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 30%
- Units 3&4 Examination: 50%

# Physics

## Aims

This study is designed to enable students to:

- Become familiar with the language, methods and major ideas of physics
- Use the established ideas of physics to interpret the world, developing both a rigorous qualitative and quantitative understanding
- Become familiar with the ways in which knowledge is developed within physics
- Become aware of physics as a particular way of knowing about the world which interacts with the setting, both social and personal, within which it is pursued
- Understand some of the practical applications of physics in present and past technologies as well as any problems associated with them
- Acquire the practical skills necessary to investigate physical phenomena both inside and outside the laboratory
- Develop the capacity and confidence to communicate their knowledge of physics effectively
- Develop curiosity about the physical world
- Prepare for careers in physics and physics-based technological areas

Both Units 1&2 should be viewed as prerequisites for students interested in continuing with VCE Physics Units 3&4.

## Unit 1: How is energy useful to society

In this unit students examine some of the fundamental ideas and models used by physicists in an attempt to understand and explain energy. Models used to understand light, thermal energy, radioactivity, nuclear processes and electricity are explored. Students apply these physics ideas to contemporary societal issues: communication, climate change and global warming, medical treatment, electrical home safety and Australian energy needs.

### Areas of Study

#### How are light and heat explained?

In this area of study, students study light using the wave model and thermal energy using a particle model forming an understanding of the fundamental physics ideas of reflection, refraction and dispersion. They use these to understand observations made of the world such as mirages and rainbows. They investigate energy transfers and explore how light and thermal energy relate to one another. They apply light ideas to explain how light is used through optical fibres in communication, and how physics is used to inform global warming and climate change.

#### How is energy from the nucleus utilised?

In this area of study, students build on their understanding of energy to explore energy that derives from the nuclei of atoms. They learn about the properties of the radiation from the nucleus and the effects of this radiation on human cells and tissues and apply this understanding to the use of radioisotopes in medical therapy.

#### How can electricity be used to transfer energy?

Modelling is a useful tool in developing concepts that explain physical phenomena that cannot be directly observed. In this area of study, students develop conceptual models to analyse electrical phenomena and undertake practical investigations of circuit components. Concepts of electrical safety are developed through the study of safety mechanisms and the effect of current on humans. Students apply and critically assess mathematical models during experimental investigations of DC circuits. They explore electrical safety and the use of transducers to transfer energy in common devices.

## Unit 2: How does physics help us to understand the world?

In this unit students explore the power of experiments in developing models and theories. They investigate a variety of phenomena by making their own observations and generating questions, which in turn lead to experiments.

### Areas of Study

#### How is motion understood?

In this area of study, students describe and analyse graphically, numerically and algebraically the energy and motion of an object, using specific physics terminology and conventions. They consider the effects of balanced and unbalanced forces on motion and investigate the translational and rotational forces on static structures. Students apply mathematical models during experimental investigations of motion, and apply their understanding of motion and force through a case study.

#### Options

##### *How does physics inform contemporary issues and applications in society?*

In this area of study, students develop a deeper understanding of an area of interest within diverse areas of physics. They select from eighteen options, explore the related physics and use this physics to form a stance, opinion or solution to a contemporary societal issue or application. In their explorations, a range of investigation methodologies may be used by students.

## Options

- How does physics explain climate change?
- How do fusion and fission compare as viable nuclear energy power sources?
- How do heavy things fly?
- How do forces act on structures and materials?
- How do forces act on the human body?
- How is radiation used to maintain human health?
- How does the human body use electricity?
- How can human vision be enhanced?
- How is physics used in photography?
- How do instruments make music?
- How can performance in ball sports be improved?
- How can AC electricity charge a DC device?
- How do astrophysicists investigate stars and black holes?
- How can we detect possible life beyond Earth's Solar System?
- How can physics explain traditional artefacts, knowledge and techniques?
- How do particle accelerators work?
- How does physics explain the origins of matter?
- How is contemporary physics research being conducted in our region?

### *How do physicists investigate questions?*

Systematic experimentation is an important aspect of physics inquiry. In this area of study students design and conduct a practical investigation related to knowledge and skills developed in Area of Study 1 and/or Area of Study 2.

## **Unit 3: How do fields explain motion and electricity?**

In this unit students use Newton's laws to investigate motion in one and two dimensions. They explore the concept of the field as a model used by physicists to explain observations of motion of objects not in apparent contact. Students compare and contrast three fundamental fields – gravitational, magnetic and electric – and how they relate to one another. They consider the importance of the field to the motion of particles within the field. Students examine the production of electricity and its delivery to homes. They explore fields in relation to the transmission of electricity over large distances and in the design and operation of particle accelerators.

### **Areas of Study**

#### *How do physicists explain motion in two dimensions?*

In this area of study, students use Newton's laws of motion to analyse linear motion, circular motion and projectile motion. Newton's laws of motion give important insights into a range of motion both on Earth and beyond through the investigations of objects on land and in orbit. They explore the motion of objects under the influence of a gravitational field on the surface of Earth, close to Earth and above Earth. They explore the relationships between force, energy and mass.

#### *How do things move without contact?*

Field models are used to explain the behaviour of objects when there is no apparent contact. In this area of study, students examine the similarities and differences between three fields: gravitational, electric and magnetic. Students explore how positions in fields determine the potential energy of, and the force on, an object. They investigate how concepts related to field models can be applied to construct motors, maintain satellite orbits and to accelerate particles including in a synchrotron.

#### *How are fields used in electricity generation?*

The production, distribution and use of electricity has had a major impact on the way that humans live. In this area of study, students use empirical evidence and models of electric, magnetic and electromagnetic effects to explain how electricity is produced and delivered to homes. They explore the transformer as critical to the performance of electrical distribution systems in minimising power loss.

## **Unit 4: How have creative ideas and investigation revolutionised thinking in physics?**

A complex interplay exists between theory and experiment in generating models to explain natural phenomena. Ideas that attempt to explain how the Universe works have changed over time, with some experiments and ways of thinking having had significant impact on the understanding of the nature of light, matter and energy. Wave theory, classically used to explain light, has proved limited as quantum physics is utilised to explain particle-like properties of light revealed by experiments. Light and matter, which initially seem to be quite different, on very small scales have been observed as having similar properties. At speeds approaching the speed of light, matter is observed differently from different frames of reference. Matter and energy, once quite distinct, become almost synonymous.

## **Areas of Study**

### **How has understanding about the physical world changed?**

In this area of study, students learn how understanding of light, matter and motion have changed over time. They explore how major experiments led to the development of theories to describe these fundamental aspects of the physical world.

When light and matter are probed, they appear to have remarkable similarities. Light, previously described as an electromagnetic wave, appears to exhibit both wave-like and particle-like properties. Findings that electrons behave in a wave-like manner challenged thinking about the relationship between light and matter.

### **How is scientific inquiry used to investigate fields, motion or light?**

Students undertake a student-designed scientific investigation in either Unit 3 or Unit 4, or across both Units 3&4. The investigation involves the generation of primary data relating to fields, motion or light. The investigation draws on knowledge and related key science skills developed across Units 3&4 and is undertaken by students in the laboratory and/or in the field.

## **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of semester exams.

Units 3&4: In Physics, School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and examinations will determine the student's level of achievement. Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 30%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%
- End-of-year examination: 50%

# Politics

## Rationale

VCE Politics offers students the opportunity to engage with key political, social and economic issues, and to become informed citizens, voters and participants in their local, national and international communities.

## Areas of study

### Unit 1: Politics, power and political actors

In this unit, students learn that politics is about how political actors use power to resolve issues and conflicts over how society should operate. Each area of study focuses on concepts that form essential disciplinary knowledge, and which allow students to gradually build on their understanding of what it is to think politically.

#### *Outcome 1:*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain the sources of power and legitimacy of national political actors and analyse the political significance of Australian political actors' use of power in a contested domestic political issue.

#### *Outcome 2*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the power, interests and perspectives of global political actors and evaluate their political significance in at least one global issue.

### Unit 2: Democracy: stability and change

In this unit, students investigate the key principles of democracy and assess the degree to which these principles are expressed, experienced and challenged, in Australia and internationally. They consider democratic principles in the Australian context and complete an in-depth study of a political issue or crisis that inherently challenges basic democratic ideas or practice. Students also investigate the degree to which global political actors and trends can challenge, inhibit or undermine democracy, and evaluate the political significance of these challenges. Each area of study focuses on concepts that form essential disciplinary knowledge, and which allow students to gradually build on their understanding of what it is to think politically.

#### *Outcome 1*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse at least one Australian political issue and evaluate the extent to which Australian democracy and democratic principles are upheld.

#### *Outcome 2*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse at least one global challenge to the legitimacy and spread of democracy and evaluate the political significance of this challenge to democratic principles.

## Assessment

The award of satisfactory completion for a unit is based on a decision that the student has demonstrated achievement of the set of outcomes specified above. This decision will be based on the teacher's assessment of the student's overall performance on assessment tasks designated for the unit. Students will also sit an examination at the end of each semester.

### Unit 3: Global cooperation and conflict

In this unit, students investigate an issue and a crisis that pose challenges to the global community. Students begin with an investigation into an issue of global scale, such as climate change, global economic instability, the issue of development or weapons of mass destruction. Students also examine the causes and consequences of a humanitarian crisis that may have begun in one state but which has crossed over into neighbouring states and requires an emergency response. This crisis must be chosen from the areas of human rights, armed conflict and the mass movement of people. They consider the causes of these issues and crises, and investigate their consequences on a global level and for a variety of global actors.

## **Area of Study 1**

### **Global Issues Global Responses**

What makes an issue global? Why are global issues significant for global actors? What are the causes of global issues? How can global issues be resolved? What are the key challenges to the resolution of global issues?

In this area of study, students examine the causes, consequences and significance of a global issue that by its very nature transcends national and regional boundaries. Students consider the range of factors that may cause conflict, such as social, political, economic, environmental, ideological, cultural and/or technological factors. Global actors may involve themselves in a cooperative effort with other actors to attempt a resolution of the issue or they may pursue their own objectives in a way that brings them into conflict with other global actors.

Students investigate the effectiveness of the institutions available to address these issues, including international laws and the global institutions that facilitate cooperation between global actors. For the purpose of this study, international law encompasses a wide range of rules and norms that are designed to govern the actions of states in international relations, such as treaties, declarations, bilateral and multilateral agreements and even decisions made by bodies such as the United Nations Security Council. Students analyse the challenges to resolving these issues, including the different perspectives of global actors, their often-competing interests and the impact of global interconnectedness on the chosen issue.

#### *Outcome 1*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the causes and consequences of a global issue and evaluate the effectiveness of global actors' responses in resolving the issue.

## **Area of Study 2**

### **Contemporary crises: conflict, stability and change**

How can we understand the nature of contemporary humanitarian crises? To what extent is it possible to identify and address the causes of humanitarian crises? What are the key challenges to resolving these crises and what might be the drivers for change? To what extent can global actors cooperate to manage conflicts?

In this area of study, students examine a contemporary humanitarian crisis from the area of human rights, armed conflict or the mass movement of people. These are events or series of events that threaten the safety and wellbeing of communities or large numbers of people. Although these crises typically originate from within state borders, they often have significant consequences for other states and their populations. In extreme cases, the world is faced with the necessity of responding, and global and regional actors must therefore find ways to cooperate in the search for solutions.

These humanitarian crises may be a result of ethnic, cultural or social discrimination, political challenges to the sovereignty of states or conflicts over resources, or be a consequence of global issues such as climate change or poverty. Students analyse the causes of their chosen crisis, the interests and perspectives of the actors involved, and evaluate the extent to which political stability and/or change is possible through the responses of political actors. Regional groupings may have a particular role to play in the resolution of these crises.

#### *Outcome 2*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the causes and consequences of one contemporary crisis and discuss how global actors' responses have contributed to political stability and/or change.

### **Unit 4: Power in the Indo-Pacific**

In this unit, students investigate the strategic competition for power and influence in the Indo-Pacific region. They consider the interests and perspectives of global actors within the region, including the challenges to regional cooperation and stability. Building on their study of global issues and contemporary crises in Unit 3, students develop their understanding of power and national interests through an in-depth examination of one state's perspectives, interests and actions. Students must choose one state from the People's Republic of China, Japan, the Republic of India, the Republic of Indonesia or the United States of America. Students also examine Australia's strategic interests and actions in the region and consider how Australia's responses to regional issues and crises may have contributed to political stability and/or change. They do this within the context of Australia's relationships with one Pacific Island state and two other regional states

## **Area of Study 1**

### **Power and the national interest**

How is power exercised in the Indo-Pacific region? How has one selected state defined its national interests? What are the challenges that inhibit the achievement of a state's national interests? How effective is the state in using power to achieve its national interests?

In this area of study, students explore power and politics in the Indo-Pacific. Through a detailed study of ONE state in the Indo-Pacific region (China, Japan, India, Indonesia or the United States of America), students analyse its sources of power, its national interests and the actions undertaken to achieve those interests.

National interests are used by states to inform and justify domestic and foreign policy actions. They are often multifaceted and changeable, and subject to competing perspectives and interests. Students learn that although states in the Indo-Pacific vary markedly, they share common interests in the pursuit of security, economic prosperity, regional relationships and regional standing. To achieve these outcomes, states draw on their sources and forms of power and channel them through foreign policy instruments. The application of these forms of power can, at times, produce favourable outcomes for the state. However, it can also provoke reactions from other global actors, resulting in unintended consequences that challenge the pursuit of national and strategic interests.

#### *Outcome 1*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse the various sources and forms of power used by a state in the Indo-Pacific region and evaluate the extent to which it is able to achieve its national interests.

## **Area of Study 2**

### **Australia in the Indo-Pacific**

How does Australia perceive its strategic and national interests in the region? How does Australia go about achieving those interests? What are the different perspectives on Australia's role in the region? What are the key challenges to Australia's regional relationships? How has Australia responded to regional issues and crises and what are the impacts of those responses on regional relations?

In this area of study, students assess the impact of Australia's policies, actions and inactions in the region of the Indo-Pacific. They investigate contemporary Australian perspectives of the national interest in terms of security, economic prosperity and regional stability, and examine different perspectives on these interests, within Australia and outside Australia's borders. Students analyse Australia's foreign policy responses to regional issues and crises by investigating Australia's relations with three states, one from the Pacific Islands Forum and two other states from the wider Indo-Pacific region. Students evaluate the degree to which Australia cooperates with three states in the region. They also evaluate the effectiveness of Australia's responses to issues of concern to the selected states, such as human rights, armed conflict, a mass movement of people, climate change, global economic instability, development issues, or weapons of mass destruction.

#### *Outcome 2*

On completion of this unit the student should be able to analyse different perspectives on Australia's national interests in the Indo-Pacific region and evaluate the degree to which Australia's pursuit of its national interests has resulted in cooperation or conflict with three states in the region.

## **Assessment:**

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Units 3&4 examinations: 50%

# Psychology

## Aims

This study enables students to:

- apply psychological models, theories and concepts to describe, explain and analyse observations and ideas related to human thoughts, emotions and behaviour
- examine the ways that a biopsychosocial approach can be applied to organise, analyse and extend knowledge in psychology and more broadly to: understand the cooperative, cumulative, evolutionary and interdisciplinary nature of science as a human endeavour, including its possibilities, limitations and political and sociocultural influences
- develop a range of individual and collaborative science investigation skills through experimental and inquiry tasks in the field and in the laboratory
- develop an informed perspective on contemporary science-based issues of local and global significance
- apply their scientific understanding to familiar and to unfamiliar situations, including personal, social, environmental and technological contexts
- develop attitudes that include curiosity, open-mindedness, creativity, flexibility, integrity, attention to detail and respect for evidence-based conclusions
- understand and apply the research, ethical and safety principles that govern the study and practice of the discipline in the collection, analysis, critical evaluation and reporting of data
- communicate clearly and accurately an understanding of the discipline using appropriate terminology, conventions and formats.

Entry into Units 3&4 will require the completion of Units 1&2 Psychology.

## Unit 1: How are behaviour and mental processes shaped?

In this unit students investigate the structure and functioning of the human brain and the role it plays in the overall functioning of the nervous system. Students consider the complex nature of psychological development, including situations where psychological development may not occur as expected. Students examine the contribution that classical and contemporary studies have made to this discipline.

### Areas of Study

#### What influences psychological development?

In this area of study students explore how these factors influence different aspects of a person's psychological development. They consider the interactive nature of hereditary and environmental factors and investigate specific factors that may lead to development of typical or atypical psychological development in individuals, including a person's emotional, cognitive and social development and the development of psychological disorders.

#### How are mental processes and behaviour influenced by the brain?

In this area of study students explore how the understanding of brain structure and function has changed over time, considering the influence of different approaches and contributions to understanding the role of the brain. They develop their understanding of how the brain enables humans to interact with the external world around them and analyse the interactions between different areas of the brain that enable the processing of complex sensory information, the initiation of voluntary movements, language, decision-making, and the regulation of emotions.

#### How does contemporary psychology conduct and validate psychological research?

Researchers in psychology work to continually expand and refine the ability to understand and describe human thoughts, feelings and behaviours and to review the validity of research already conducted in a particular area of research. Historically, psychological research has been conducted using samples selected from Western, educated, industrialised, rich and democratic (WEIRD) societies – samples that under-represent a large proportion of the overall population. Reproducing previous research with different population groups has led to the accuracy of published findings and the external validity of the original research being questioned.

## **Unit 2: How do external factors influence behaviour and mental processes?**

In this unit students evaluate the role social cognition plays in a person's attitudes, perception of themselves and relationships with others. Students explore a variety of factors and contexts that can influence the behaviour of individuals and groups, recognising that different cultural groups have different experiences and values. Students are encouraged to consider Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people's experiences within Australian society and how these experiences may affect psychological functioning.

### **Areas of Study**

#### **How are people influenced to behave in particular ways?**

In this area of study students explore the interplay of psychological and social factors that shape the identity and behaviour of individuals and groups. Students consider how factors such as person perception, attributions, attitudes and stereotypes can be used to explain the cause and dynamics of individual and group behaviours. Students explore how cognitive biases may assist with the avoidance of cognitive dissonance. They also consider the important role that heuristics have in problem-solving and decision-making.

#### **What influences a person's perception of the world?**

Human perception of internal and external stimuli is influenced by a variety of biological, psychological and social factors. In this area of study students explore the role of attention in making sense of the world around them and they consider two aspects of human perception – vision and taste – and consider how perception is influenced by cultural norms and historical experiences.

#### **How do scientific investigations develop understanding of influences on perception and behaviour?**

Individuals are influenced by a variety of biological, psychological and social and cultural factors. These determinants can be classified as either internal or external factors and they lead to a diverse range of perceptions and behaviour. In this area of study students adapt or design and then conduct a scientific investigation into the internal or external influences on perception and/or behaviour. They generate appropriate qualitative and/or quantitative data, organise and interpret the data, and research a conclusion in response to the research question.

## **Unit 3: How does experience affect behaviour and mental processes?**

In this unit students investigate the contribution that classical and contemporary research has made to the understanding of the functioning of the nervous system and to the understanding of biological, psychological and social factors that influence learning and memory.

### **Areas of Study**

#### **How does the nervous system enable psychological functioning?**

In this area of study students explore the role of different branches of the nervous system in enabling a person to integrate, coordinate and respond to internal and external sensory stimuli. Students apply their understanding of neurotransmitters in the transmission of neural information across a neural synapse to produce excitatory and inhibitory effects and explore the effect that neuromodulators have on brain activity. The interaction of gut microbiota with stress and the nervous system in the control of processes and behaviour is also explored.

#### **How do people learn and remember?**

Learning and memory are interdependent processes that demonstrate the acquisition of skills and knowledge through experience across the life span. In this area of study students evaluate models to explain learning and apply their knowledge of learning to a range of everyday experiences and contemporary social issues.

## **Unit 4: How is wellbeing developed and maintained?**

In this unit students examine the nature of consciousness and how changes in levels of consciousness can affect mental processes and behaviour. They consider the role of sleep and the impact that sleep disturbances may have on a person's functioning. Students explore the concept of a mental health continuum and apply a biopsychological approach to analyse mental health and disorder. Students examine the contribution of classical and contemporary research has made to these areas.

### **Areas of Study**

#### **How does sleep affect mental processes and behaviour?**

In this area of study students focus on sleep as an example of an altered state of consciousness and the different demands humans have for sleep across the life span. They compare REM and NREM sleep as examples of naturally occurring altered states of consciousness and investigate the biological mechanisms of the sleep-wake cycle in terms of the timing of sleep, what causes individuals to be sleepy at night and why individuals wake when required.

#### **What influences mental wellbeing?**

In this area of study, students examine what it means to be mentally healthy. They explore the concept of a mental health continuum and factors that explain how location on the continuum for an individual may vary over time.

Students apply a biopsychological approach to the analysis of mental health, phobias and mental disorders.

#### **How is scientific inquiry used to investigate mental processes and psychological functioning?**

In this area of study, students design or adapt a practical investigation related to mental processes and psychological functioning drawing on and contributing to their knowledge and skills developed in Units 3 and/or 4.

### **Assessment and reporting**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams.

Units 3&4 in Psychology, the student's level of achievement will be determined by School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and examinations. Percentage contributions to the final assessment areas follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 30%
- End-of-year examination: 50%

## Religion & Society

### Scope of study

The beliefs, practices, principles and codes of religions provide ways in which individuals can answer questions about the meaning and purpose of life. Adherence to particular beliefs, practices, principles and codes can form an important part of individual identity. They can determine membership of the religion and the transmission of meaning, both individual and collective, from generation to generation.

Religious traditions develop and evolve over time through the participation and contribution of members and through interactions with society. Throughout history, religion and society have interacted with each other in broad ways in response to a range of important issues. Some religious traditions continue to thrive while others have declined, disappeared or parts of them have been assimilated into other religions, which allow their ideas to live on in some form. New religious movements can develop into religious traditions.

In VCE Religion and Society, students undertake a general study of religion and its interaction with society in the past and the present. They study Judaism and its denominations in societies where multiple worldviews coexist and consider individual experiences of members as they engage with their religion.

### Structure

The study is made up of four units:

Unit 1: The Nature and Purpose of Religion

Unit 2: Religion and ethics

Unit 3: The search for meaning

Unit 4: Religion, challenge and change

PLEASE NOTE: Students can access Units 3&4 directly in Year 11 or Year 12. Completion of Units 1&2 is not necessary for the 3&4 sequence.

### Unit 1: The Nature and Purpose of Religion

In this area of study students are introduced to the nature and purpose of religion in general, exploring the role of religion in shaping and giving meaning to individuals and communities. Religion has often been drawn on to provide explanations for all phenomena, offering a means for finding answers to the big questions of life and answering such questions. Students examine the aspects of religion in general, and then apply the aspects of religion as a framework to further examine spiritualities, religious traditions and religious denominations. They also study the interrelation of these aspects generally, and apply the aspects to spiritualities, religious traditions and religious denominations studied. They investigate how the aspects may vary between spiritualities, religious traditions and religious denominations.

### Unit 2: Religion and Ethics

Ethics is concerned with discovering the perspectives that guide practical moral judgment. Studying ethics involves identifying the arguments and analysing the reasoning, and any other influences, behind these perspectives and moral judgments. An important influence on ethical perspective is the method of ethical decision-making, made up of concepts, principles and theories. In this unit students study in detail various methods of ethical decision-making in at least two religious traditions and their related philosophical traditions. They explore ethical issues in societies where multiple worldviews coexist, in the light of these investigations.

### Unit 3: The Search for Meaning

In this unit students study the purposes of religion generally and then consider the religious beliefs developed by a religious tradition or religious denomination in response to the big questions of life. Students study how particular beliefs within a religious tradition or religious denomination may be expressed through the other aspects of religion, and explore how this is intended to foster meaning for adherents. Students then consider the interaction between significant life experiences and religion.

### Unit 4: Religion, Challenge and Change

In this unit students explore challenges for religious traditions or religious denominations generally over time and then undertake a study of challenge and change for a religious tradition or religious denomination. Religious traditions and religious denominations are in a constant state of development as members apply their talents and faith to extend the intellectual and aesthetic nature of a tradition's or denomination's beliefs, of the expression of these beliefs and of the application of these beliefs to their lives. Opportunities for development also come from significant challenges in the interaction of religious traditions and religious denominations and society, including the needs and insights of their members and other people and groups within wider society.

## **Assessment**

### **Satisfactory completion**

The award of satisfactory completion for a unit is based on a decision that the student has demonstrated achievement of the set of outcomes specified for the unit. This decision will be based on the teacher's assessment of the student's performance on assessment tasks designated for the unit.

### **Levels of achievement**

#### **Units 1&2**

Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and end-of-semester exams.

#### **Units 3&4**

In Religion and Society, School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year examination will determine the student's level of achievement. Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 25%
- End-of-year examination: 50 %

## Small Business Operations and Innovation (VET) – Certificate II & III

This course helps students gain essential skills to run a small business effectively. Covering marketing, financial assistance, and innovative strategies, it explores different aspects of small business operations and entrepreneurship, empowering learners for success. Graduates of this course will be able to meet the current and future industry requirements to work effectively within small business contexts across a range of industry sectors with the skills, knowledge and attributes to:

- support safe and sustainable small business operations
- support the daily financial management of small business operations
- demonstrate elementary professional skills and approaches to engage in small business contexts
- apply effective communication, creative thinking and problem solving techniques to underpin co-operative relationships between stakeholders within a small business context
- support the implementation and review of innovation and change within a small business context

The course is run over two years (Year 10 and 11) and incorporates 12 units of study including 8 core units common to all students across Victoria and 4 elective units selected by our teachers at the King David School. Units include those covering:

- small business policies and procedures
- fundamental skills required for small business environments
- effective workplace communication
- critical thinking in a small business team environment
- utilising market research, marketing and social media
- quality processes in small business
- financial activities in a small business

These qualifications are delivered in partnership with Ripponlea Institute (21230).

This subject does not have a study score, but can contribute towards the ATAR as block credit. For clarification, speak to VCE Co-ordinator or Pathways Advisor. A minimum of 75% of class attendance is required.

# Specialist Mathematics

## Units 1&2

Specialist Mathematics Units 1&2 can be taken by three categories of student.

1. Students who have completed Mathematical Methods 1&2 in Year 10 with a grade of B or better have the option of doing Specialist Mathematics 1&2 in Year 11 before pursuing Mathematical Methods 3&4 in Year 12. This has the advantage that a student will be better prepared to perform at their best in Mathematical Methods 3&4 as well as having met the prerequisites for Specialist Mathematics 3&4 should they wish to study this subject.
2. It can be taken concurrently with Mathematical Methods 1&2 and can be used to gain a more solid foundation for Mathematical Methods 3&4 and/or as a prerequisite for Specialist Mathematics 3&4 for those students who are very interested in Mathematics and wish to study it further at tertiary level.
3. It can be taken concurrently with Mathematical Methods 3&4 for those students who are studying Mathematical Methods 3&4 while in Year 11 and who wish to study Specialist Mathematics 3&4 when in Year 12.

This course is designed to strengthen a student's preparation for Mathematical Methods 3&4 and to introduce topics which will be studied in depth in Specialist Mathematics.

The areas of study for Units 1&2 of Specialist Mathematics are 'Arithmetic Number and structure', 'Geometry, measurement and trigonometry', 'Graphs of linear and non-linear relations' and two other selected areas.

### Algebra, number and structure

In this area of study students cover the development of formal mathematical notation, definition, reasoning and proof applied to number systems, graph theory, sets, logic, and Boolean algebra, and the development of algorithms to solve problems.

### Discrete mathematics

In this area of study students cover the study of sequences, series, and first-order linear difference equations, combinatorics, including the pigeon-hole principle, the inclusion-exclusion principle, permutations and combinations, combinatorial identities, and matrices.

### Data analysis, probability and statistics

In this area of study students cover the study of linear combinations of random variables and the distribution of sample means of a population, with the use of technology to explore variability of sample means.

### Space and measurement

In this area of study students cover trigonometry and identities, rotation and reflection transformations of the plane and vectors for working with position, shape, direction and movement in the plane and related applications.

### Algebra, number and structure

In this area of study students cover the arithmetic and algebra of complex numbers, including polar form, regions and curves in the complex plane and introduction to factorisation of quadratic functions over the complex field.

### Functions, relations and graphs

In this area of study students cover an introduction to partial fractions; reciprocal and inverse circular functions and their graphs and simple transformations of these graphs; locus definitions of lines, parabolas, circles, ellipses and hyperbolas and the cartesian, parametric and polar forms of these relations.

Units 1&2 Specialist Mathematics will be assessed internally on course work and end-of-semester exams

## Units 3&4

This course is designed for those students who are interested in further study in Mathematics and is recommended for students interested in the physical sciences and some engineering and IT courses. Specialist Mathematics Units 3&4 assumes familiarity with the key knowledge and key skills from Mathematical Methods Units 1&2; the key knowledge and key skills from Specialist Mathematics Units 1&2; and concurrent study or previous completion of Mathematical Methods Units 3&4. Together these cover the assumed knowledge and skills for Specialist Mathematics Units 3&4, which are drawn on as applicable in the development of content from the areas of study and key knowledge and key skills for the outcomes.

### Discrete mathematics

In this area of study students cover the development of mathematical argument and proof.

### Functions, relations and graphs

In this area of study students cover rational functions and other simple quotient functions, curve sketching of these functions and relations, and the analysis of key features of their graphs including intercepts, asymptotic behaviour and the nature and location of stationary points and points of inflection and symmetry.

### **Algebra, number and structure**

In this area of study students cover the algebra of complex numbers, including polar form, factorisation of polynomial functions over the complex field and an informal treatment of the fundamental theorem of algebra.

### **Calculus**

In this area of study students cover the advanced calculus techniques for analytical and numerical differentiation and integration of a broad range of functions, and combinations of functions; and their application in a variety of theoretical and practical situations, including curve sketching, evaluation of arc length, area and volume, differential equations and kinematics, and modelling with differential equations drawing from a variety of fields such as biology, economics and science.

### **Space and measurement**

In this area of study students cover the arithmetic and algebra of vectors; linear dependence and independence of a set of vectors; proof of geometric results using vectors; vector representation of curves in the plane and their parametric and cartesian equations; vector kinematics in one, two and three dimensions; vector, parametric and cartesian equations of lines and planes.

### **Data analysis, probability and statistics**

In this area of study students cover the study of linear combinations of random variables and introductory statistical inference with respect to the mean of a single population, the determination of confidence intervals, and hypothesis testing for the mean using the distribution of sample means.

## **End of year examinations**

### **Examination 1**

Respond to a collection of short answer and some extended answer questions covering all areas of study. One hour in length, no calculators or notes.

### **Examination 2**

Respond to a collection of 20 multiple-choice questions plus a number of extended response analysis problems. Two hours in length; a bound reference and CAS calculator are permitted.

In Specialist Mathematics Units 3&4, School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and an end-of-year examination will determine the student's level of achievement.

Percentage contributions to the final assessment are as follows:

- Unit 3 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20 %
- Unit 4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs): 20 %
- Examination 1: 20 %
- Examination 2: 40 %

## Systems Engineering

**This subject will be reintroduced in 2027, beginning with VCE Units 1&2 and continuing into VCE Units 3&4 in 2028. This subject alternates with VCE Applied Computing. Unit 3&4 Software Development will run in 2027, and Units 1&2 will recommence in 2028).**

VCE Systems Engineering is all about taking great ideas and turning them into reality. If you like solving problems, understanding how things work, and physically building to create solutions that help people and the planet, this is the subject for you! Instead of just reading from a textbook, you become the project manager, the designer, and the builder. We live in a world where taking care of our environment is more important than ever. VCE Systems Engineering takes a "big picture" approach. We don't just ask, "Does this machine work?" We ask, "How does this machine affect people, society, and an ecosystem?" You will learn how to design with sustainability in mind, thinking about the entire life cycle of your project—from the eco-friendly materials you choose to how the product can be recycled when it's no longer needed.

The skills you learn in VCE Systems Engineering—like critical thinking, problem-solving, and project management—are highly sought after in the real world. This subject is the perfect launchpad for a wide variety of exciting careers, including:

- Robotics and Automation (building the smart machines of tomorrow)
- Software Development & Programming (writing the code that brings hardware to life)
- Renewable Energy Management (designing solar, wind, or hydro systems to save the planet)
- Manufacturing & Transportation (creating the next generation of electric vehicles or efficient factories)
- Mechatronics (the ultimate blend of mechanical, electrical, and computer engineering)

### Unit 1: Electrotechnological systems design (Semester 2)

This unit explores the evolution of engineering in electrotechnology, allowing students to examine its historical development and the cultural influences that shaped it. Students will investigate electrotechnological engineering and explore fundamental engineering principles to understand the concepts and components essential for designing and producing electrotechnological systems with sustainable design concepts. While the unit covers fundamental physics and theoretical underpinnings, its primary focus is on creating operational systems through a systems engineering process that incorporates sustainable design concepts.

Students are introduced to electrotechnological engineering concepts and principles such as feedback systems, sensors, circuit diagrams, microcontrollers and programming. Students actively engage in hands-on creation of operational systems using the systems engineering process, with a specific emphasis on electrotechnological systems, which may also incorporate mechanical components. This process not only fosters technical expertise but also develops project management skills, as students learn to plan, organise resources, and carry out projects within specified timelines. They also investigate energy usage and conversion.

Through this experiential learning approach, students develop essential skills in problem-solving, design thinking, and collaboration and teamwork.

### Assessments:

#### Outcome 1 (30%)

On completion of this unit the student should be able to explain developments in electrotechnology, discuss influences on electrotechnological design, and investigate, define, generate and design an electrotechnological system that incorporates sustainable design concepts.

#### Outcome 2 (30%)

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to use the systems engineering process to discuss and apply basic electrotechnological and control engineering concepts, principles and components to produce a system that addresses a sustainability problem, and evaluate the system and their use of the systems engineering process.

#### Unit 1 Exam (40%)

## **Unit 2: Mechanical systems design (Semester 1)**

Students explore developments in mechanical systems engineering, incorporating the histories, cultures and perspectives of Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples.

They also examine fundamental mechanical engineering principles, concepts and components, as they relate to systems that include the 6 simple machines (lever; inclined plane; pulley; screw; wedge; and wheel and axle). Students analyse the components and materials essential for operational, controlled mechanical systems.

By applying the systems engineering process, students create mechanical systems that reflect inclusive design principles. Students are introduced to mechanical engineering principles, including mechanical subsystems and devices, their motions, and fundamental physics and applied mathematical calculations. These concepts enable students to explain the physical characteristics of these systems.

Students address inclusive design problems, which support communities and improve people's lives, by creating operational systems using the systems engineering process.

Inclusive design concepts emphasise creating systems that consider the diverse needs of all people. While this unit covers fundamental mechanical engineering systems, the emphasis is on understanding how to create operational mechanical systems, with the potential inclusion of some electrotechnological components. Since all systems require energy to function, students will also research and quantify how these systems use or convert supplied energy.

Through this experiential learning approach, students develop essential skills in problem-solving, design thinking, and collaboration and teamwork.

### **Outcome 1 (30%)**

On completion of this unit, the student should be able to explain the evolution of mechanical systems, and discuss innovation and inclusive responses to mechanical engineering design.

### **Outcome 2 (30%)**

On completion of this unit, the students will explain and apply basic engineering principles and concepts and engage with the systems engineering process to use components to design and produce a mechanical system that addresses a problem related to inclusive design.

### **Unit 2 Exam (40%)**

# Theatre Studies

## Rationale

Theatre as a form of cultural expression has been made and performed for audiences from the earliest times and is an integral part of all cultures. Theatre is ever evolving and exists as entertainment, education, ritual, an agent for change, a representation of values and a critical window on society. Theatre practice has developed from, and been influenced by, cultures over many centuries through a wide variety of productions in diverse performance spaces for a range of audiences. Theatre-makers work as playwrights, actors, dramaturgs, directors and designers, producing theatre for diverse purposes.

Through the study of VCE Theatre Studies, students develop, refine and enhance their analytical, evaluative and critical thinking skills as well as creative expression, technical application, problem-solving, collaborative and communication skills. They work both individually and in collaboration with others to interpret scripts. Through theoretical study and creative practice, students develop their aesthetic understanding and appreciation of the art form of theatre, and their interpretive and theatre production skills. Through the study of theatre, students also explore world views, alternative perspectives and ways of being.

The study of theatre, in its various forms, prepares students for further study in theatre production, theatre history, communication, marketing, production management, writing, acting, direction and design at tertiary level. VCE Theatre Studies also prepares students for further learning in vocational educational training settings or for industry or community-related pathways..

## Aims

- This study enables students to:
- acquire knowledge of theatre including its styles, movements, purposes and audiences
- interpret scripts through engagement in the production process
- experiment with theatrical possibilities and elements of theatre composition
- apply knowledge of production roles and the skills to interpret scripts
- understand themselves as theatre practitioners and audiences
- appreciate theatre and its significance as an art form
- apply safe, ethical, inclusive, sustainable (where possible, environmentally sustainable) and personal and interpersonal practices in theatre production
- conduct performance analysis and production evaluations and apply learning to their own theatre production work
- apply thinking, problem-solving and communication skills to creatively participate in the theatre life of their community

## Unit 1: History of theatre styles and conventions pre-1945

- identify and describe distinguishing features of 2 or more theatre styles from pre-1945 and scripts associated with the selected styles.
- work effectively in production roles to interpret scripts from 2 or more pre-1945 theatre styles.
- analyse a live professional performance

## Unit 2: Contemporary theatre styles and movements

- identify and describe the distinguishing features of distinct theatre styles and/or the characteristics of a theatre movement(s) through scripts written from 1945 to the present day.
- work in production roles to interpret scripts from theatre styles or movements from 1945 to the present day.
- analyse and evaluate a theatre production.

## Unit 3: Producing theatre

- interpret a script across the stages of the production process through collaborative work undertaken in two production roles.
- outline concepts and ideas for an interpretation of excerpts from a script and explain how these could be realised in a theatre production.
- analyse and evaluate the interpretation of a written script from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist in production to an audience

## **Unit 4: Presenting an interpretation**

- describe and justify an interpretation of a monologue and its prescribed scene within the world of the play.
- interpret and present a monologue through the application of 2 production roles and orally justify and explain their interpretative decisions.
- analyse and evaluate acting, direction and design in a performance of a production from the prescribed VCE Theatre Studies Playlist.

## **Assessment and reporting**

- Units 1&2 will be assessed internally on coursework and end of semester exams.
- Units 3&4 will be assessed internally on School-assessed Coursework (SACs) and externally for the monologue and exam.

Percentage contributions to the study score in VCE Theatre Studies are as follows:

- Units 3&4 School-assessed coursework (SACs): 45%
- Monologue examination: 25%
- End-of-year written examination: 30%.

# Visual Communication Design

## Aims

Visual Communication Design is distinct in its study of visual language and the role it plays in communicating ideas, solving problems and influencing behaviours. Students learn how to manipulate type and imagery when designing for specific contexts, purposes and audiences. They choose and combine manual and digital methods, media and materials with design elements and principles. In doing so, students learn how aesthetic considerations contribute to the effective communication and resolution of design ideas, and how an understanding of visual language, its role and potential is the foundation of effective design practice.

Students explore how designers visually communicate concepts when designing messages, objects, environments and interactive experiences. They work both together and independently to find and address design problems, making improvements to services, systems, spaces and places experienced by stakeholders, both in person and online. Students employ a design process together with convergent and divergent thinking strategies to discover, define, develop and deliver design solutions. Drawings are used to visually represent relationships, ideas and appearances, while models and prototypes are produced for the purposes of testing and presentation. Students participate in critiques, both delivering and receiving constructive feedback and expanding their design terminology.

During this study, students consider various factors that impact design decisions, including conceptions of good design, aesthetic impact, and economic, technological, environmental, cultural and social influences. Students also consider how best to accommodate the varied needs of people and our planet, both now and in the future, using human-centred design principles, together with ethical, legal, sustainable and culturally appropriate design practices. Students learn about the relationships between design, place and time, acknowledging Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander design knowledges, histories, traditions and practices.

## Structure

The study is made up of four units:

### Unit 1: Finding, reframing and resolving design problems

### Unit 2: Design contexts and connections

### Unit 3: Visual communication in design practice

### Unit 4: Delivering design solutions

## Unit 1: Reframing and Resolving Design Problems

In this unit students are introduced to the practices and processes used by designers to identify, reframe and resolve human-centred design problems. They learn how design can improve life and living for people, communities and societies, and how understandings of good design have changed over time. Students learn the value of human-centred research methods, working collaboratively to discover design problems and understand the perspectives of stakeholders. They draw on these new insights to determine communication needs and prepare design criteria in the form of a brief.

This process of discovery introduces students to the phases of the VCD design process and to the modes of divergent and convergent thinking. Students integrate these ways of thinking and working into future design projects, together with their newly evolved conceptions of good design across specialist fields.

Practical projects in Unit 1 focus on the design of messages and objects, while introducing the role of visual language in communicating ideas and information. Students participate in critiques by sharing ideas in progress and both delivering and responding to feedback. Students learn to apply the Develop and Deliver phases of the VCD design process and use methods, media and materials typically employed in the specialist fields of communication and industrial design. Student projects invite exploration of brand strategy and product development, while promoting sustainable and circular design practices. They also consider how design decisions are shaped by economic, technological, cultural, environmental and social factors, and the potential for design to instigate change.

### Outcome 1

On completion of this unit the student should be able to use human-centred research methods to reframe a design problem and identify a communication need.

### Outcome 2

On completion of this unit the student should be able to create visual language for a business or brand using the Develop and Deliver stages of the VCD design process.

### Outcome 3

On completion of this unit the student should be able to develop a sustainable object, considering design's influence and factors that influence design

## **Unit 2: Design Contexts and Connections**

Unit 2 builds on understandings of visual communication practices developed in Unit 1. Students draw on conceptions of good design, human-centred research methods and influential design factors as they revisit the VCD design process, applying the model in its entirety. Practical tasks across the unit focus on the design of environments and interactive experiences. Students adopt the practices of design specialists working in fields such as architecture, landscape architecture and interior design, while discovering the role of the interactive designer in the realm of user-experience (UX). Methods, media and materials are explored together with the design elements and principles, as students develop spaces and interfaces that respond to both contextual factors and user needs.

Student learning activities highlight the connections between design and its context, and the emotive potential of interactive design experiences in both physical and digital spaces. Students also look to historical movements and cultural design traditions as sources of inspiration, and in doing so consider how design from other times and places might influence designing for the future. Design critiques continue to feature as an integral component of design processes, with students refining skills in articulating and justifying design decisions, and both giving and receiving constructive feedback.

Connections between design, time and place are also central to the study of culturally appropriate design practices in Area of Study 2. Students learn about protocols for the creation and commercial use of Indigenous knowledge in design, with a particular focus on Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander design traditions and practices. Students also consider how issues of ownership and intellectual property impact the work of designers across contexts and specialist fields.

### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to present an environmental design solution that draws inspiration from its context and a chosen design style.

### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to apply culturally appropriate design practices and an understanding of the designer's ethical and legal responsibilities when designing personal iconography.

### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to apply the VCD design process to design an interface for a digital product, environment or service

## **Unit 3: Visual Communication in Design Practice**

In this unit students explore and experience the ways in which designers work, while also analysing the work that they design. Through a study of contemporary designers practising in one or more fields of design practice, students gain deep insights into the processes used to design messages, objects, environments and/or interactive experiences. They compare the contexts in which designers work, together with their relationships, responsibilities and the role of visual language when communicating and resolving design ideas. Students also identify the obligations and factors that influence the changing nature of professional design practice, while developing their own practical skills in relevant visual communication practices.

Students study not only how designers work but how their work responds to both design problems and conceptions of good design. They interrogate design examples from one or more fields of design practice, focusing their analysis on the purposes, functions and impacts of aesthetic qualities. This exposure to how, why and where designers work, what they make and the integral role of visual language in design practice provides the foundation for students' own investigation of the VCD design process.

Students explore the Discover, Define and Develop phases of the VCD design process to address a selected design problem. In the Discover and Define phases, research methods are used to gather insights about stakeholders and a design problem, before preparing a single brief for a real or fictional client that defines two distinct communication needs. Students then embark on the Develop phase of the VCD design process, once for each communication need. They generate, test and evaluate design ideas and share these with others for critique. These design ideas are further developed in Unit 4, before refinement and resolution of design solutions.

### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to compare the ways in which visual communication practices are used by contemporary designers, using research methods and practical exploration.

### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to compare and analyse design examples from selected field(s) of design practice, describing how aesthetic considerations contribute to the effective communication of information or ideas.

### **Outcome 3**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to identify two communication needs for a client, prepare a brief and develop design ideas, while applying the VCD design process and design thinking strategies.

## **Unit 4: Delivering Design Solutions**

In this unit students continue to explore the VCD design process, resolving design concepts and presenting solutions for two distinct communication needs. Ideas developed in Unit 3, Outcome 3 are evaluated, selected, refined and shared with others for further review. An iterative cycle is undertaken as students rework ideas, revisit research and review design criteria defined in the brief. Manual and digital methods, media and materials are explored together with design elements and principles, and concepts tested using models, mock-ups or low-fidelity prototypes.

When design concepts are resolved, students devise a pitch to communicate and justify their design decisions, before responding to feedback through a series of final refinements. Students choose how best to present design solutions, considering aesthetic impact and the communication of ideas. They select materials, methods and media appropriate for the presentation of final design solutions distinct from one another in purpose and presentation format, and that address design criteria specified in the brief.

### **Outcome 1**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to refine and resolve distinct design concepts for each communication need, and devise and deliver a pitch to communicate concepts to an audience or users, evaluating the extent to which these meet the requirements of the brief.

### **Outcome 2**

On completion of this unit the student should be able to produce a design solution for each communication need defined in the brief, satisfying the specified design criteria.

## **Units 3&4 Assessment and reporting**

Percentage contributions to the study score in VCE Visual Communication Design are as follows:

- Units 3&4 School-assessed Coursework (SACs) 20%
- Units 3&4 School-assessed Task (SAT): 50%
- End-of-year examination: 30%