Year 11 Curriculum Overview

Year 11 is operated as the first year of a two year VCE program. English is the only core subject. In Year 11, students have the choice to study one Unit 3 and 4 subject. They then select four Unit 1 and 2 subjects that suit their learning styles and career choices. There is also the opportunity to undertake semester subjects.

English Unit 1
The focus of this unit is the reading of a range of texts with comprehension, enjoyment and discrimination. Students also focus on developing competence and confidence in writing, and using and responding to oral language in different contexts. Students study the reading of texts, the craft of writing and effective oral communication.

Accounting Unit 1
The focus of this unit is on the establishment of a small business and the accounting and financial management of the business. Students are introduced to the process of gathering, recording, reporting and analysing financial data and information used by internal and external users.

Art Unit 1
In this unit, students study portraiture and in particular selected artists are explored through the artwork of Frida Kahlo, Rembrandt, Vincent Van Gogh, Yasuma Morimura, Michelangelo, and Ron Mueck. Students are then developing their own self portrait based on photography. Students employ the language of the appropriate Analytical Frameworks when reflecting upon and analyzing their own artmaking and other artists’ work.

Biology Unit 1
Unit One Biology focuses on the activities of cells. Students investigate the relationship between specialised structures of cells and the processes that maintain life. Students examine how membranes contribute to survival of cells by controlling the movement of substances within cells, and between cells and their external environment. This unit focuses on the relationship between features of organisms and how organisms meet their requirements for life. Students examine a range of organisms and investigate the ways that structures and systems function in terms of obtaining and releasing energy; obtaining nutrients, water and gases; processing and distributing materials to cells and transporting wastes from cells to points of disposal. They consider the needs for systems to be integrated for the organism to function as a whole. Students examine how patterns of observable similarities and differences in the structure and function of organisms are used in constructing taxonomic systems that are subject to change as new information is obtained.

Business Management Unit 1
In this unit, students examine the contributions of small business to the Australian economy and the decision-making, planning, evaluation and day-to-day operations needed in a small business. Students apply business theory to real life and business case scenarios. Students also explore how marketing and public relations impact on business performance.

Chemistry Unit 1
This unit focuses on the historical development of, and the relationship between, the Periodic Table and atomic theory. Students investigate trends and patterns within the Periodic Table and use subshell notation to describe the electronic configuration of elements. They explore the link between the electronic configuration of an element and the type of bonding in which it participates. Students investigate how the bonding models were developed to explain the properties of materials. Students use these models to explain the properties and structure of metals, ionic compounds, and molecular, covalent network lattice and covalent layer lattice substances. They are introduced to organic molecules and the mole concept.

Dance Unit 3
This unit of study enables students to develop compositional skills by exploring ways in which the intention of the dance maker(s) is expressed through the arrangement of movement within a structure. Solo dance works are informed through an analysis of the cultural influences and compositional techniques used in solo dance works of major twentieth-century choreographers from 1900 to 1969. The unit also focuses on technical complexity and accuracy and performance skills in composing group and solo dance works.

Design Technology Unit 3
In this unit, students compile a folio that includes, meeting a client’s needs, preparing a design brief, devise evaluation criteria, carry out research, modifying an existing product with using three points of difference, proposing a series of design options, justifying the choice of a preferred design option, developing a work plan and commencing production of the product.

Drama Unit 1
This unit focuses on creating, presenting and analysing a performance that includes real or imagined characters based on personal, cultural and/or community experiences and stories. Students examine storytelling and develop an awareness and understanding of how characters are portrayed in naturalistic and non-naturalistic performance styles. Students also gain an awareness of how performance is shaped and given meaning. They investigate a range of stimulus material and learn about stagecraft, theatrical conventions and performance styles.

Food Technology Unit 1
In this unit, students study the safe and hygienic food handling and storage practices that help prevent food spoilage and food poisoning. They apply these practices in the preparation of food. Students consider the selection and use of tools and equipment and examine the links between the classification of foods and their properties. They also examine changes in properties of food when different preparation and processing techniques are used and apply this knowledge when preparing food. Students investigate both quality and ethical considerations in food selection and use the design process to meet the requirements of design briefs.
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General Mathematics (Further) Unit 1
This unit focuses on using mathematics in practical contexts, particularly when using statistical information. The topic of Statistics involves the displaying, sampling and interpretation of data. Other components of the unit include; interpreting linear relations, practical trigonometry, sequences and series.

General Mathematics (Specialist) Units 1 and 2
This unit focuses on developing each student's mathematical skill in a range of content areas, particularly to the new and challenging areas of kinematics, complex numbers and vectors.

Geography Unit 3
This unit investigates the nature and distribution of resources and the variations in their use over place and time. It also examines the effectiveness of management policies designed to regulate the future use and conservation of resources. Resources studied might include national parks, tropical rainforests or a local resource such as a lake reserve, shopping centre or walking track. Students study the use and management of an Australian water resource and the use and management of local resources.

History Unit 1
This unit explores Germany in the first half of the 20th century. It investigates the challenges to the 'old world' and examines the new forms of economic and political organisation and cultural expression that emerged during this period. The rise of Hitler and the ensuing holocaust are detailed studies.

Information Technology Unit 3
Students use web authoring and database management software to solve information problems. Students apply project management and problem-solving strategies and use database management software to produce an information product that meets the needs and decision-making requirements of a specific audience. They design, create and evaluate a prototype website that meets an organisation's needs of sharing knowledge and collaborative problem-solving within a virtual team environment, and explain the requirements of a networked information system that supports the use of this website.

Literature Unit 1
This unit focuses on the ways literary texts represent human experience and the reading practices students develop to deepen their understanding of them. Students respond to a range of texts in both analytical and creative ways. They examine the historical context of the texts as well as the views and values expressed by authors. Students learn about the literary features in poems, a novel, a play and a film. The emphasis is on students' close engagement with language through passage analyses.

Legal Studies Unit 1
This unit focusses on the role of parliament as a law-making body and how courts are able to create law. Students examine the importance of criminal law and the nature of criminal liability and students apply key principles to relevant cases and discuss the impact of criminal activity on the individual and society. Students also explore various methods of dispute resolution and their effectiveness.

LOTE French Unit 1/ Indonesian Unit 1
This unit focuses on the reading, listening to and production of texts in a range of text-types. It is also aimed at increasing the students' vocabulary and working knowledge of grammar so that they can establish and maintain a conversation related to a personal area of experience. Students should also be able to listen to and obtain information from spoken text and produce a personal response to a text which is focussed on a real or imaginary experience.

Mathematical Methods Unit 1
This unit focuses on using mathematics in practical contexts, particularly algebra and calculus, graphical representation of polynomials up to degree four, solutions of equations and the use of solution techniques. In calculus, the rates of change through numerical and graphical methods are studied and simple and compound events are explored in the study of probability.

Media Unit 1
In this unit, students explore the ways the media uses constructs and represents reality to audiences in a range of media forms, including photography, print advertising and documentaries. Students then construct their own representation and develop practical skills using Photoshop, InDesign and Final Cut Pro X in a series of practical projects. Students also explore the creative and cultural impact of new media technologies.

Music Performance Unit 1
The focus of this unit is on achieving flexibility in music performance and includes outcomes relating to music language and music craft. Through these outcomes students develop knowledge of the structure of music language and skills in aural perception and notation.

Physics Unit 1
Unit 1 consists of two prescribed areas of study: Nuclear physics and radioactivity; and Electricity. A detailed study on Energy from the nucleus is to be undertaken in either Unit 1 or Unit 2. This unit focuses on Physics as a human endeavour. Observations and ideas about the physical world related to aspects of energy are organised and explained through the use of conceptual models.
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Physical Education Unit 1
This unit looks at the range of factors that influence learning and also on improving physical skills and the importance of the role of the coach. By studying various sports psychology concepts such as arousal and anxiety and the effects these can have on performance, students will learn to apply such psychological principles to the sporting arena. Students will also focus on the principles of physical performance analysis and study the biomechanical principles of movement involved in learning physical skills.

Politics Unit 1
This unit focuses on the exercise of power, which is contingent upon the ability of actors to make decisions and exert influence over individuals and groups. Students will also understand how political power is exercised both formally and informally in the Australian context, by examining the ideals underpinning democracy, the institutions of the Australian system in relation to other systems, and by analysing contemporary issues and events. Students will also understand how they can actively engage in the Australian political process.

Visual Communication Design Unit 1
The focus of this unit is on using visual language to communicate messages, ideas and concepts. Students apply design thinking and drawing skills to make ideas and concepts visible. Students practise their ability to draw what they observe, use visualisation drawings to explore their own ideas and develop an understanding of presentation drawings to communicate their final visual communications. Through exploration students develop an understanding of how design elements and principles affect the way information and ideas are read and perceived. They are introduced to stages of the design process: researching designers, generating ideas and applying design knowledge and drawing skills to develop concepts. Students review the contextual background of visual communication through an investigation of design styles.