



BAULKHAM HILLS HIGH SCHOOL

**YEAR 9 2012
COURSE SELECTION GUIDE**

Section 1: Introduction to the School Certificate

The School Certificate is awarded by the Board of Studies NSW to eligible students at the end of Year 10.

To receive the School Certificate, students are required to study courses in each year in Years 7–10 in English, Mathematics, Science, Human Society and its Environment, and Personal Development, Health and Physical Education (PDHPE).

At some time during Years 7–10, students are also required to study courses in Creative Arts, Technology and Applied Studies and Languages Other Than English. Students at Baulkham Hills High School fulfil these requirements in Years 7 and 8.

Each year all students in Year 10 sit for statewide tests in November in English-literacy; Mathematics; Science; Australian History, Geography, Civics and Citizenship; and Computing Skills. The tests assess individual achievement in the foundation knowledge and skills needed to successfully undertake subjects in Years 11 and 12 and to participate effectively in the wider community. Students receive their own test results for these tests in the School Certificate Portfolio.

The statewide School Certificate Test Results are grouped in bands:

- a Band 6 represents a mark between 90–100
- a Band 5 represents a mark between 80–89
- a Band 4 represents a mark between 70–79
- a Band 3 represents a mark between 60–69
- a Band 2 represents a mark between 50–59
- a Band 1 represents a mark below 50.

School-based assessment is used to award a school grade for each of the courses students have studied in Years 9 and 10. Grades A – E are awarded based on a set of Course Performance Descriptors developed by the Board of Studies. They indicate a student's full range of achievements in each course, providing a detailed report of the student's overall performance.

- a Grade A is awarded to students who have demonstrated extensive knowledge and understanding
- a Grade B is awarded to students who have demonstrated thorough knowledge and understanding
- a Grade C is awarded to students who have demonstrated sound knowledge and understanding
- a Grade D is awarded to students who have demonstrated basic knowledge and understanding
- a Grade E is awarded to students who have demonstrated elementary knowledge and understanding.

It is anticipated that most students at Baulkham Hills High School would receive a Grade A or B.

The statewide School Certificate Test results and the School Certificate school grades are not directly comparable.

Satisfactory course completion requirements

For the satisfactory completion of a course, it is your responsibility to:

- (a) follow the course developed or endorsed by the Board; and
- (b) apply yourself with diligence and sustained effort to the set tasks and experiences provided in the course by the school; and
- (c) achieve some or all of the course outcomes.

Satisfactory completion of courses is judged, among other things, by your attendance and level of involvement in class, the assignments, homework, etc completed and your level of achievement.

If the principal determines that you are in danger of not completing a course satisfactorily, you will be warned in writing in time for you to correct the problem and satisfactorily complete the course.

If you are deemed not to have completed a course, you will receive an 'N' determination. The course will be listed as 'Not Completed' on your Record of Achievement, and this may mean that you are not eligible for the award of a School Certificate in that year. You have the right to appeal against an 'N' determination. The appropriate form can be obtained from your principal. Appeals against 'N' determinations should be lodged with your principal, who will advise you of the date by which your appeal must be submitted. If you are dissatisfied with the result of the school review of your appeal, you should advise the principal that you wish the appeal to be referred to the Board of Studies.

Section 2: Selection of Courses for Years 9 and 10

Subjects in Year 9 and 10 are divided into three groups.

Group 1: Core Subjects

In Years 9 and 10, students must do the compulsory core studies:

- English
- Mathematics
- Science
- Australian History
- Australian Geography
- PDHPE
- Sport

Group 2: 200 hour Courses (to be studied in both Year 9 & 10)

Students must study **two elective courses** from the list below:

Commerce	Information and Software Technology *
Design & Technology *	Languages Other Than English : French
Drama and Theatre Studies	Languages Other Than English : German
Engineering *	Languages Other Than English : Japanese
Food Technology *	Latin
Geography (Elective)	Music
Graphics Technology	Photographic & Digital Media *
History (Elective)	Physical Activity and Sports Studies
Industrial Technology – Electronics *	Textiles Technology *
Industrial Technology – Timber *	Visual Arts *

* These subjects incur a compulsory subject fee.

Note: 200 hour Courses for Year 9 in 2012 will only proceed if sufficient numbers of students choose them. The initial selection of a course does not mean that it will run, this depends on the overall choices of students and timetabling and staffing constraints.

Group 3: 100 hour Courses (to be studied in Year 9 only)

Students must study **one elective course** from the list below:

Commerce	Languages Other Than English : Italian
Dance	Languages Other Than English : Japanese Beginners
Geography (Elective)	Latin Beginners
Graphics Technology	Music
History (Elective)	Photographic & Digital Media *
Industrial Technology – Electronics *	Physical Activity and Sports Studies
Industrial Technology – Timber *	Textiles Technology *
Industrial Technology – Metal *	Visual Design *

* These subjects incur a compulsory subject fee.

Notes: 1. 100 hour Courses for Year 9 in 2012 will only proceed if sufficient numbers of students choose them. The initial selection of a course does not mean that it will run, this depends on the overall choices of students and timetabling and staffing constraints.

2. Some other 200 hour Courses that do not proceed after Selection Round 1 may be offered as 100 hour Courses in Selection Round 2.

200 HOUR COURSES

COMMERCE - 200 Hrs.

Commerce is a course which enables young people to develop the knowledge, understanding, skills and values that form the foundation on which they can make sound decisions about consumer, financial, legal, business and employment issues. It develops in students the ability to research information, apply problem-solving strategies and evaluate options in order to make informed and responsible decisions as individuals and as part of the community.

In the Year 9 and 10 Commerce course classes will cover the second part of the core content which includes; Law and Society, and, Employment Issues.

Individual classes then have the choice of selecting from a list of options which have not been already covered in the Year 7 and 8 course. These options include:

- | | |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1. Investing | 7. Travel |
| 2. Promoting and Selling | 8. Law in Action |
| 3. E-commerce | 9. Our Economy |
| 4. Global Links | 10. Community Participation |
| 5. Towards Independence | 11. Running a Business |
| 6. Political Involvement | |

The classes also have the choice of completing an Option based on the interests of our students.

Even though Commerce is not a requirement for students wishing to undertake Economics, Business Studies or Legal Studies in the senior school, it provides an introduction to the issues raised in these subjects.

Commerce can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

ACCELERATED COMMERCE - 200 Hrs.

A class,(possibly two), of selected Year 9 students to accelerate through the Year 9 and Year 10 Commerce Program in 2010 may be formed. These students will then complete the Preliminary Course in 2 Unit Economics in 2011 and the 2 Unit Economics HSC Course in 2012.

Why do it?

Many students at Baulkham Hills High School are capable of advanced performance in Commerce. In general, these students have proceeded past the performance range exhibited by their age peers, are self-motivated and capable of independent study.

This program of study allows students to accumulate their HSC over two years (2014 - 2015). It provides students with greater flexibility when planning their HSC. Students will be able to spread their HSC workload over two years, allowing them valuable study time in 2015 to concentrate on their remaining HSC courses.

Who will be selected?

Selection will be based on results at school and professional judgement in relation to students' self-motivation, maturity and dedication. Selected students will need to be extremely interested in Commerce, display considerable ability in Commerce and have a desire to study Economics for the HSC.

What's the next step?

If you would like your son or daughter to be considered for the acceleration class, please indicate in the space provided on their Year 9 Elective Choice Sheet. .

DESIGN AND TECHNOLOGY - 200 Hrs.

Course Description

Design and Technology develops a student's ability for innovative and creative thought through the planning and production of design projects related to real-life needs and situations. The design and development of quality projects gives students the opportunity to identify needs and opportunities, research and investigate existing solutions, analyse data and information, generate, justify and evaluate ideas, and experiment with tools, materials and techniques to manage and produce design projects.

What will students learn about?

All students will learn about the design, production and evaluation of quality designed solutions. They will learn about a range of design processes, the interrelationship of design with other areas of study and the activity of designers over time, across a range of areas. They will develop an appreciation of the impact of technology on the individual, society and the environment through the study of past, current and emerging technologies. Ethical and responsible design, preferred futures and innovation are all dealt with through the study of design and designers.

What will students learn to do?

Students undertaking Design and Technology will learn to be creative and innovative in the development and communication of solutions to problems relating to design and designing. Students will learn to identify, analyse and respond to needs through research and experimentation leading to the development of quality design projects. They will learn to access, manage and safely use a range of materials, tools and techniques to aid in the development of design projects and to critically evaluate their own work and the work of others. Project management skills will be developed through individual design projects.

Design and Technology develops excellent skills in computing, communicating and working cooperatively which are essential skills for studying and the working world.

Design and Technology is also an excellent prerequisite for Architecture, Computer Programming, Interior Design, Business Management, Marketing, Food Development, Project Management, Science and Technology Studies, Resource and Human Resource Management, Engineering and Electronics, Fashion Industries, Sociology Studies and Health and Occupational studies.

A fee is applicable to this course.

DRAMA AND THEATRE STUDIES - 200 Hrs.

Drama and Theatre Studies is a two-year course for Years 9 and 10. There are no prerequisites for this course and it is highly recommended for students who take an interest in and enjoy the Dramatic Arts and performance. Members of the Drama Club or those who have participated in Theatre Sports will find this course an opportunity to extend their expertise in this area. It is also highly recommended for students who wish to supplement and enhance their debating and public speaking skills.

Drama is a creative way of exploring and expressing personal perceptions of the world physically, emotionally and intellectually. It develops communication skills, self confidence and social awareness whilst developing performance and creative skills.

The content of the course will also be beneficial for students' understanding of the compulsory Drama component of the Higher School Certificate English course.

Drama has broad ranging applications for careers, potentially leading to studies in law, acting, costume design, script writing, theatre management, communications plus many more creative fields. Many of the more traditional career areas including business, marketing and accounting are attracted to graduates who have some background in creative arts, valuing the creative problem solving that is central to this discipline.

Students will have the opportunity to devise their own theatre and scripted work and thus learn within a practical framework. Collaborative learning skills are developed as students compose and conference new work with each other and develops the student's ability to learn from the performances of others by giving feedback and incorporating this feedback into their own learning.

Although a practically based course, a theoretical component such as research assignments and reflection statements related to particular areas of study are part of students' assessment.

Other areas of study include:

- **Improvisation**
- **Characterisation**
- **Playbuilding**
- **Performance** and
- **Stagecraft**

ENGINEERING - 200 Hrs.

Industrial Technology - Engineering is designed to introduce students to the world of engineering. It will foster students' complex problem solving skills and promote logical thinking. Through a variety of practical projects (the majority of the course is practical) students will learn to apply mathematical and science skills to real life applications (as Engineers do).

Students will learn these principles through the study of:

- structures,
- mechanisms,
- control systems,
- robotics; and
- alternative energy systems.

Examples of projects may include:

Year 9:

- destructive testing of structures where half the class build castles and the other half build catapults with the aim being to destroy the castle walls,
- model rocket making projects learning about flight and recovery of rockets and controlling them,
- making vehicles designed to travel as fast or as far as possible.

Year 10:

- robotics using programmable integrated circuits,
- developing safe and clean transport through alternative energy.

The focus will be on fun investigative projects that reveal the depth and complexity involved in engineering.

This course is the perfect preparation for either Engineering Studies in Year 11 or any other future course in Engineering.

A fee is applicable to this course.

FOOD TECHNOLOGY - 200 Hrs.

Food Technology is a course that presents a broad range of experiences and opportunities to develop the interests and skills of students when managing food in a variety of settings. Students will be engaged in learning through weekly practical "hands on" experiences in the assigned double period.

Course Description

The study of Food Technology provides students with a broad knowledge and understanding of food properties, processing, preparation and their interrelationship, nutritional considerations and consumption patterns. It addresses the importance of hygiene and safe working practices and legislation in the production of food.

Students will develop food-specific skills, which can then be applied in a range of contexts enabling students to produce quality food products. It also provides students with a context through which to explore the richness, pleasure and variety food adds to life and how it contributes to both vocational and general life experiences.

Food Technology concepts are transferable to a broad field of vocational pursuits, such as Dietetics, Medicine, Food Manufacturing and Marketing, Chef, Food Development, Small Business, Education & Training.

What will students learn to do?

The major emphasis of the Food Technology syllabus is on students exploring food related issues through a range of weekly practical experiences, allowing them to make informed and appropriate choices with regard to food. They will learn to select and use appropriate ingredients, methods and equipment safely and competently.

Students will learn practices of good management and professional standards of food handling through regular food preparation activities. Students will also gain specialised skills and proficiency in food production and presentation through school based catering opportunities.

Planned excursions are scheduled to support and provide students with relevant commercial ventures that demonstrate the key learning in this course.

Specified equipment is required for practical lessons. A contribution of \$70.00 is requested to cover the cost of essential resources and food used.

A fee is applicable to this course.

GEOGRAPHY (ELECTIVE) - 200 Hrs.

Geography (Elective) is a two year course that provides students with the opportunity to extend their knowledge and understanding of global patterns, processes and issues. It will provide participants with opportunities to explore and extend their personal interests through independent and group research activities, using a combination of computer based technology and fieldwork.

Students in Geography (Elective) will have opportunities to select from topic areas relating to:

- Physical Geography - examines geographical processes (associated with ice, water, wind climate, weather) that form and transform the land in various countries of the world.
- Oceanography examines features and issues associated with the world's oceans (currents, ownership, whaling, nuclear testing and shipping).
- Primary Production - examines patterns, functions and issues associated with agriculture, mining, fishing, forestry.
- Development Geography - examines patterns of global inequality with issues selected from refugees, health, status of women and many more.
- Political Geography - examines nature, distribution and resolution of political tensions (Sri Lanka, Kashmir, Northern Ireland, Arab/Israeli conflict.)
- Continental Study - involves the examination of geographical patterns processes and issues within a country, group of countries or continent. e.g. from Europe, South America, Asia and Africa.
- Personal Interest Research - provides students with the opportunity to undertake research into a geographical area/issue of their own interest.

This course assists in developing independent research, organisational and communication skills that will enhance student performance in the senior school.

Geography (Elective) is a separate course to the mandatory Year 9 and 10 course in Australian Geography.

Geography (Elective) is not a requirement for studying HSC Geography.

Geography (Elective) can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

GRAPHICS TECHNOLOGY - 200 Hrs.

Course Description

The study of Graphics Technology develops an understanding of the significance of graphical communication as a universal language and the techniques and technologies used to convey technical and non-technical ideas and information. Graphics Technology develops in students the ability to read, interpret and produce graphical presentations that communicate information using a variety of techniques and media.

What will students learn about?

All students will learn about the principles and techniques involved in producing a wide range of images, models, pictures and drawings. They will gain an understanding of graphics standards, conventions and procedures used in manual and computer-based drafting.

Students also study a range of options that focus on specific areas of graphics including:

- Architectural Drawing
- Australian Architecture
- Cabinet and Furniture Drawing
- Computer Aided Design and Drafting
- Cartography and Surveying
- Computer Animation
- Engineering Drawing
- Graphic Design and Communication
- Landscape Drawing
- Pattern Design
- Product Illustration
- Technical Illustration

What will students learn to do?

The major emphasis of the Graphics Technology syllabus is on students actively planning, developing and producing quality graphical presentations. Students will learn to design, prepare and present graphical presentations using both manual and computer-based drafting technologies. They will learn to interpret and analyse graphical images and presentations and develop an understanding of the use of graphics in industrial, commercial and domestic applications.

While there is no cost for this subject, students will need to purchase some basic drawing instruments.

Graphics Technology can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

HISTORY (ELECTIVE) - 200 Hrs.

History (Elective) is designed for students who appreciate and enjoy the human endeavours of the past, both for their own intrinsic interest and for their legacy to later generations. It provides opportunities for students to explore human actions in a range of historical contexts and encourages them to develop understanding of motivation, causation, consequence and empathy.

Students undertaking History (Elective) will develop skills in analysis, synthesis, critical judgement, problem-solving, rational argument and independent learning. They will also refine their skills in historical research, and verbal and written communication.

A key aspect of the course is the use of Computer Based Technologies for both historical research and the presentation of work.

Students will study a range of topics from the following areas:

- **Ancient and Medieval Studies**
(eg Tutankhamen's tomb, the Ottoman Empire, Ancient China, the Incas)
- **Modern Studies**
(eg the American Civil War, Terror and the French Revolution, Tiananmen Square, Cambodia, Jack the Ripper, Afghanistan, Apartheid)
- **Thematic Studies**
(eg Slavery, Terrorism, Heroes and Villains, Assassinations)
- **Constructing History**
(eg Film as History, Historical Fiction, History and the Media, History and the Internet)

The course develops skills that are useful for senior school and all University studies. It is ideal for students considering further study or a career in law, journalism, history and politics, international studies, media and communications, and economics.

History (Elective) is a separate course to the mandatory year 9 and 10 course in Australian History. It is a 200 hour course of study and will be recorded on the School Certificate.

History (Elective) is not a requirement for HSC Modern or Ancient History.

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY - ELECTRONICS - 200 Hrs.

There are many facets of our lives which involve the application of some form of electronic circuitry. Our home appliances, transport and communications systems, our entertainment and businesses all depend increasingly on electronics. This subject aims to introduce the student to this interesting, essential, and rewarding area of knowledge.

The course is heavily biased towards practical work, which involves assembling, testing and researching electronic circuits.

Students will learn:

- about the nature of electricity and magnetism
- to read circuit diagrams
- to recognise and identify component parts
- to construct circuits
- to design and manufacture printed circuit boards
- to use wood, metal and plastic working techniques to mount and house projects
- to fault-find
- to use test instruments
- to appreciate the need for, and the techniques of electrical safety (in the first three semesters only low voltages battery powered circuits will be constructed. In the fourth semester approved low voltage plug packs may be used).

ASSESSMENT

The successful achievement of the course objectives will be measured using the following criteria:

- The correct use of tools and equipment
- Mastery of skills
- Presentation of finished products
- Presentation of related research and information
- The level of knowledge and understanding achieved

A fee is applicable to this course.

Industrial Technology – Electronics can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY - TIMBER - 200 Hrs.

Industrial Technology - Wood is a practical subject where students develop skills and knowledge in working with timber and associated products using hand tools and machines.

The major emphasis of Industrial Technology is on students actively planning and constructing quality practical projects. Students will learn to select and use a range of materials for individual projects. They will learn to competently and safely use a range of hand tools, power tools and machines to assist in the construction of projects.

The study of Industrial Technology - Wood will develop in students an understanding of related work environments while developing a range of skills that will equip them for future leisure and lifestyle activities, potential vocational pathways or future learning in the technology field.

A fee is applicable to this course.

Industrial Technology – Timber can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

INFORMATION AND SOFTWARE TECHNOLOGY - 200 Hrs. (COMPUTING STUDIES)

Course Description

People will require highly developed levels of computing and technology literacy for their future lives. Students therefore need to be aware of the scope, limitations and implications of information and software technologies.

Individual and group tasks, performed over a range of projects, will enable this practical based course to deliver the relevant knowledge and skills needed by students.

Development of technology skills and information about career opportunities within this area are important aspects of the course.

What will students learn about?

The core content to be covered in this course is integrated into the options chosen within the school. The course has been designed with an emphasis on practical activities that allow students to sustain focus in a range of interest areas at some depth.

The option topics to be studied within this course include:

- Artificial Intelligence, Simulation and Modelling
- Authoring and Multimedia
- Internet and Website Development
- Robotics and Automated Systems
- Software Development and Programming

What will students learn to do?

Students will identify a need or problem to be solved, explore a range of possible solutions and produce a full working solution. They will use a variety of technologies to create, modify and produce products in a range of media formats.

Group and individual project-based work will assist in developing a range of skills, including research, design and problem-solving strategies over the chosen topics.

A fee is applicable to this course.

LANGUAGES OTHER THAN ENGLISH

FRENCH & JAPANESE - 200 Hrs.

COURSE OBJECTIVES

The study of French and Japanese for Years 9 - 10 aims to build on basic skills learnt in previous years. Students are provided with the opportunity to expand their active vocabulary to practice listening and speaking, to express their ideas in written form and to gain a greater understanding of the people and their culture.

Every opportunity will be taken to conduct appropriate excursions, invite native speakers into classrooms, contacts with overseas schools and to set up e-mail.

Students may choose more than one of these languages. However, if you did not study the language in Year 7 and 8 (or you are not a native speaker of the language) you may find it difficult.

COURSE OUTLINE

FRENCH:

- Food
- School
- shopping
- Holidays/Travel
- Transport
- Music
- Sport/Leisure

JAPANESE:

- Holidays
- School and Study
- shopping
- Daily Routine
- A letter to a pen friend Exchanging presents
- Going out
- Family
- Clothing
- Housing

Note: *The 200 hours Languages Other Than English Course is a prerequisite for the corresponding HSC Continuers Course.*

LATIN – 200 Hrs.

The study of Latin will assist in giving students a greater insight into English, improving both grammar and vocabulary.

Classical Latin was the language of the Roman people who lived between the years 100 BC and 100 AD. The Romans established an empire and a civilisation whose literature was regarded by succeeding generations as the model of perfection. While Latin is no longer a spoken language it nonetheless continues to influence today's society. The technical terminology of the sciences and law is still Latin.

The course has two main elements.

1) Language:

The study of grammar to allow for the fluent and enjoyable reading and translation of Latin.

Students learn to identify parts of speech and understand their function within a Latin sentence.

Focus is on Vocabulary, Language features, Translation and Pronunciation.

2) Roman Society, Religion and History:

Society: Topics studied include:

- Homelife
- education and literature
- the family
- slaves and freedmen
- the role of women
- entertainment
- dress

Religion: Topics studied include:

- personal gods
- gods of the state
- religious beliefs and practices

History: Topics studied include:

- foundation myths of Aeneas and Romulus and Remus
- the end of the republic
- Augustus Caesar

MUSIC - 200 Hrs.

Elective Music enables you to undertake a wide variety of learning experiences within the broad areas of:

PERFORMING COMPOSING AND LISTENING

Integrated classroom experiences in these areas will enhance your ability to understand and enjoy music.

Examples of Topic areas to be covered are:

- Rock
- Jazz
- Classical music
- Music of the theatre and cinema
- Music of other cultures etc.

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- perform efficiently as a soloist and in an ensemble
- understand the basics of writing for voices and instruments
- listen to music with skill and understanding

Elective music courses build on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained in Years 7 and 8 non-elective courses.

Music can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

PHOTOGRAPHIC & DIGITAL MEDIA - 200 Hrs.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND DIGITAL MEDIA is a creative subject offering students the opportunity to explore both traditional photography and the more contemporary fields of digital photography, video and computer-based imaging. The practical component of the course emphasises the imaginative development of visual ideas as well as the technical qualities and skills inherent in photographic and digital visual media. Students will also study the work of a range of photographers and digital artists and use these investigations to develop their own work.

Photographic and Digital Media may be studied in combination with *Visual Arts* and/or *Visual Design* for the School Certificate. The course is an ideal foundation for senior studies in the 2 Unit Visual Arts, which is a full ATAR subject for the HSC. A large number of careers require a creative and critical understanding of photographic and digital visual media. These include industrial and commercial photography, multi media and graphic design and the film, television, advertising and communication industries.

Examples of course content:

PHOTOGRAPHY

Examples of course content:

Students will be introduced to the skills of photo taking and the creative possibilities that are offered through understanding camera functions and lighting. This will include the operation of manual SLR and digital cameras, film processing techniques and the use of studio lighting. Darkroom experience will include the use of an enlarger, chemical processing and the use of experimental techniques such as solarisation, toning and photomontage.

DIGITAL IMAGING & VIDEO

Students learn creative techniques using a digital camera, printers and scanners as well as software to manipulate and create digital images such as *Photoshop*.

VIDEO

Video offers the opportunity for students to develop creative approaches to filmmaking and animation using digital video cameras and computer editing software. Students will make these works in small creative teams and be introduced traditional as well as stop frame techniques.

STUDYING

Complementary history and criticism studies give students the opportunity to analyse and respond to photographs and digital designs as a part of their contemporary visual culture. Students also gain an understanding of different cultures, viewpoints and values. They learn to interpret and explain relationships in the art world and the impact of technology on how we create and respond to visual images.

A fee is applicable to this course.

Photographic and Digital media can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

PHYSICAL ACTIVITY & SPORT STUDIES (PASS) - 200 Hrs.

The Physical Activity & Sport Studies syllabus is designed for students with an interest and/or ability in physical education, sport and exercise. It is an extension of the PD Health PE Key Learning Area and focuses on providing opportunities for students to learn about being physically active and the resulting positive influences on health.

This course is ideal for students considering careers in medicine, physiotherapy, exercise physiology and many more. Participation will provide opportunities for students to enhance and refine their own physical skills and fitness level through a variety of sports, practical laboratories and activities. There is no need, however, for students to be proficient athletes to either succeed in or enjoy this course.

Laboratory and practical work encompasses such activities as surfing, ice skating, squash and rock climbing as well as a technology focus incorporating the use of computers, video and digital cameras and fitness testing equipment.

Physical Activity & Sport Studies caters for a wide range of students needs and interests, encouraging students to develop knowledge, skills and an understanding of the role of sport and exercise in daily life.

Course components include some of the following:

- Study of the body systems (skeletal, muscular etc.)
- Biomechanics
- Skill acquisition
- Coaching
- Technology in sport
- Food for performance

Students who study PASS will in Year 9 learn to snorkel which will lead to an overnight excursion when students will undertake a SCUBA introduction course.

Physical Activity & Sports Studies can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

TEXTILES TECHNOLOGY - 200 Hrs.

Textile Technology is an interesting, creative and challenging subject for all students. In this course there is a large component of practical work involving construction of garments, accessories and decorator items.

You will be given opportunities to make decisions, learn many new skills and techniques and gain an understanding of modern textile technologies and design. The course requires you to use thinking skills and creativity to make articles for your own use. You will work on sewing machines, computer machines, overlooked and computers.

Course Description

The study of Textiles Technology provides students with a broad knowledge of the properties, performance and uses of textiles in which fabrics, colouration, yarns and fibres are explored. Students examine the historical, cultural and contemporary perspectives on textile design and develop an appreciation of the factors affecting them as textile consumers. Students investigate the work of textile designers and make judgements about the appropriateness of design ideas, the selection of materials and tools and the quality of textile items. Textile projects will give students the opportunity to be creative, independent learners and to explore functional and aesthetic aspects of textiles.

What will students learn about?

Students will learn about textiles through the study of different focus areas and areas of study. The following focus areas are recognised fields of textiles that will direct the choice of student projects.

- Apparel
- Furnishing
- Costume
- Textiles arts
- Non-apparel

What will students learn to do?

By examining the work of designers, students will learn to use the creative process to design textile items. Students will learn to select, use and manipulate appropriate materials, equipment and techniques to produce quality textile projects. Students will learn to identify the properties and performance criteria of textiles by reconstructing textile items and identify the influence of historical, cultural and contemporary perspectives on textile design, construction and use.

A fee is applicable to this course.

Textiles Technology can also be studied as a one year, 100 hour course in Year 9 only

VISUAL ARTS - 200 Hrs.

VISUAL ARTS is an exciting and creative subject that rewards imaginative thinking and offers opportunities for students to enjoy both making and studying Art.

The course has a strong practical emphasis and challenges students with a wide range of media and concepts in the making of art using traditional and contemporary media. Students also learn to investigate and respond to a wide range of artists and artworks, studies that enhance their own art making.

Visual Arts may be studied in combination with *Photographic and Digital Media* and/or *Visual Design* for the School Certificate. The course is an ideal foundation for senior studies in the 2 Unit Visual Arts, which is a full ATAR subject for the HSC. A broad range of tertiary courses and career areas demand the type of creative visual thinking that is at the core of Visual Arts. These include architecture and graphic design, web design, film, media, advertising and the communications.

MAKING ART

Visual Arts students learn to make artworks in a range of expressive media which may include:

- **Drawing** - including charcoal, pastels, ink
- **Painting** - including acrylic, watercolour and use of mediums, gels and glazes
- **Sculpture** - including ceramics, modelling, carving and construction techniques
- **Printmaking** - including etching, block printing and silk screen techniques
- **Digital Media** - including digital photography, scanning and manipulation with programs such as *Photoshop*
- **Photography** - including camera use, black and white darkroom processes and digital applications

Students also develop research skills, approaches to experimentation and how to make informed personal choices and judgements; They learn to record procedures and activities about their art making practice in their visual diary.

Excursions to form an integral part of Visual Arts studies including visits to galleries and venues to gather information for art making.

STUDYING

Complementary art history and criticism studies allow students to analyse and respond to art as a pervasive form of contemporary communication and gain an insight into different cultures, viewpoints and values. They also learn to interpret and explain relationships in the art world including the roles of artists, artworks and the audience.

A fee is applicable to this course.

100 HOUR COURSES

Note: Course Outlines for the 100 hour Courses of;

- Commerce
- Geography (Elective)
- Graphics Technology
- Industrial Technology - Electronics
- Industrial Technology - Timber
- Physical Activity & Sports Studies
- Textiles Technology

are listed under the corresponding 200 hour Courses.

DANCE - 100 Hrs.

Dance has been a vital part of every known culture, providing a means of expression and an extension of work and lifestyle patterns. It has accompanied the evolution of humanity as an integral part of the history of human movement, culture and communication. Above all dance provides a way of knowing about oneself, other people and the world.

Dance exercises the whole being and develops discipline, confidence, group work, fitness and self-awareness skills all valuable strengths in daily life.

Dance is a Board of Studies Endorsed Course with a comprehensive curriculum. All students who participate in this course have much to gain, whether they are dancers already or beginners.

The course consists of three core components:

- 1. Performance-the physical act of dancing and performing.**
- 2. Composition-dance making and choreography.**
- 3. Appreciation-the socio-historic aspect of dance.**

There are also extensions into various styles of dance including jazz, musical theatre, classical ballet, contemporary and tap. Other studies include the impedance of nutrition, safe dance, anatomy and the history of dance in Australia.

This course provides a wide and varied choice of study areas and the curriculum encourages creativity and a high standard of Dance. Students will participate in a number of school performances as well as having the opportunity to represent the school whilst performing in the Sydney West Dance Festival.

HISTORY (ELECTIVE) - 100 HOURS

This course is designed for students who are interested in the part and would enjoy learning in a less formal way.

The topics would cover;

- History through Film
- History's Mysteries, Mistakes and Blunders
- Thematic Studies eg. Assassinations
- Crime & Punishment
- Social History of both Ancient & Modern Peoples - this would cover Asia, Europe and the Americas.

Students undertaking History (Elective) will develop skills in analysis, critical judgement, problem solving and Computer Based Technologies.

The course develops skills that are useful for senior school and all University studies. It is ideal for students considering further study or a career in law, journalism, history and politics, international studies, media and communications, and economics.

History (Elective) is a separate course to the mandatory year 9 and 10 course in Australian History. It is also separate to the 200 hours History (Elective).

History (Elective) is not a requirement for HSC Modern or Ancient History

INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY – METAL - 100 Hrs.

Industrial Technology - Metal is a practical subject where students develop skills and knowledge in working with metal using hand tools and machines.

The major emphasis of Industrial Technology is on students actively planning and constructing quality practical projects. Students will learn to select and use a range of materials for individual projects. They will learn to competently and safely use a range of hand tools, power tools and machines to assist in the construction of projects.

The study of Industrial Technology - Metal will develop in students an understanding of related work environments while developing a range of skills that will equip them for future leisure and lifestyle activities, potential vocational pathways or future learning in the technology field.

A fee is applicable to this course.

ITALIAN - 100 Hrs.

Aim: To teach students basic but practical Italian language skills and Italian culture. Students will be taught to develop oral/aural and readings skills that would be useful in an authentic situation.

Language topics to be covered:

- Greetings
- Personal Identity
- Food & Drink
- Shopping
- Directions
- Health

Culture Topics to be covered:

- The geography of Italy
- The people
- History
- Cuisine
- Architecture & Art
- Fashion
- Sport

JAPANESE BEGINNERS - 100 Hrs.

This course is on offer to those students who have not studied Japanese in Years 7 & 8. It is also unavailable to those of Japanese background.

The 100 hour course will introduce the students to the Japanese language and society.

They will study the hiragana and katakana scripts and, to a lesser extent, kanji.

Topics to be covered are :

Our personal world - Student self introduction
- Family
- Friends

Our community - School
- Around our town and country

A Trip in Japan - Getting around
- Buying food, etc..

LATIN BEGINNERS - 100 Hrs.

This course is not available for those who have studied Latin in Years 7 and 8.

The 100 hour course will introduce the Latin language, studying vocabulary and grammar, so that students may read passages about the Roman world in the target language.

We will consider the relationship between Latin and English, which will increase the students' understanding of the English language and build their vocabulary.

Roman civilisation will be studied in both English and Latin.

Topics will include important events, mythology, heroes and rulers.

MUSIC - 100 Hrs.

Elective Music enables you to undertake a wide variety of learning experiences within the broad areas of:

PERFORMING COMPOSING AND LISTENING

Integrated classroom experiences in these areas will enhance your ability to understand and enjoy music.

Examples of Topic areas to be covered are:

- Rock
- Jazz
- Classical music
- Music of the theatre and cinema
- Music of other cultures etc.

By the end of the course students should be able to:

- perform efficiently as a soloist and in an ensemble
- understand the basics of writing for voices and instruments
- listen to music with skill and understanding

Elective music courses build on the knowledge, understanding and skills gained in Years 7 and 8 non-elective courses.

PHOTOGRAPHIC & DIGITAL MEDIA - 100 Hrs.

PHOTOGRAPHIC AND DIGITAL MEDIA is a creative subject offering students the opportunity to explore both traditional photography and the more contemporary fields of digital photography, video and computer-based imaging. The practical component of the course emphasises the imaginative development of visual ideas as well as the technical qualities and skills inherent in photographic and digital visual media. Students will also study the work of a range of photographers and digital artists and use these investigations to develop their own work.

Photographic and Digital Media may be studied in combination with *Visual Arts* and/or *Visual Design* for the School Certificate. The course is an ideal foundation for senior studies in the 2 Unit Visual Arts, which is a full ATAR subject for the HSC. A large number of careers require a creative and critical understanding of photographic and digital visual media. These include industrial and commercial photography, multi media and graphic design and the film, television, advertising and communication industries.

Examples of course content:

PHOTOGRAPHY

Examples of course content:

Students will be introduced to the skills of photo taking and the creative possibilities that are offered through understanding camera functions and lighting. This will include the operation of manual SLR and digital cameras, film processing techniques and the use of studio lighting. Darkroom experience will include the use of an enlarger, chemical processing and the use of experimental techniques such as solarisation, toning and photomontage.

DIGITAL IMAGING & VIDEO

Students learn creative techniques using a digital camera, printers and scanners as well as software to manipulate and create digital images such as *Photoshop*.

VIDEO

Video offers the opportunity for students to develop creative approaches to filmmaking and animation using digital video cameras and computer editing software. Students will make these works in small creative teams and be introduced traditional as well as stop frame techniques.

STUDYING

Complementary history and criticism studies give students the opportunity to analyse and respond to photographs and digital designs as a part of their contemporary visual culture. Students also gain an understanding of different cultures, viewpoints and values. They learn to interpret and explain relationships in the art world and the impact of technology on how we create and respond to visual images.

A fee is applicable to this course.

VISUAL DESIGN - 100 Hrs.

VISUAL DESIGN takes a creative approach to design with including graphics, digital design and illustration - art intended for a mass culture and the commercial world. Visual Design is inventive, diverse and influential.

Websites, books, films, corporate logos and magazines all rely on the creative input of skilled visual designers whose job shapes much of our visual experience of the world. Most of the objects we use everyday, from computer games, fast food containers and other packaging, through to the clothes we wear, industrial designs and furniture in our houses and the cars we drive are the product of creative design.

MAKING DESIGNED IMAGES AND OBJECTS

Visual Design gives students the opportunity to apply their creative ideas and skills to a wide range of design challenges. Drawing, painting, photography, ceramics, model making and computer graphics are some of the techniques you will use to develop your work in areas like:

PRINT

This includes the creation of all manner of creative design work such as posters, book illustrations, cartoons, magazine covers, graphic symbols and the exploration of typography. There will be explored using traditional techniques and programs such as Photoshop.

OBJECT

Object design includes the all manner of three dimensional designed forms including packaging and container design. It also includes making worn products such as clothing for specific events and purposes including theatrical productions and jewellery.

SPACE TIME

Space-time design includes the architectural design of buildings, interiors, landscapes and other environments. It also includes explorations of digital video techniques and interactive computer applications. Visits to design exhibitions such as the Powerhouse Museum will take place during the course to extend students' understanding of design and inform their work.

STUDYING DESIGNED IMAGES AND OBJECTS

Visual Design studies allows students to analyse and respond to a wide range of design examples and gain an insight into different cultures, viewpoints and values expressed in these designs. They also learn to interpret and explain relationships in the design world including the roles and influence of designers, the world and audiences.

Visual Design may be studied in combination with *Photographic and Digital Media* and/or *Visual Arts* for the School Certificate. The course is an ideal foundation for senior studies in the 2 Unit Visual Arts, which is a full ATAR subject for the HSC. A broad range of tertiary courses and career areas demand creative design skills. These include architecture, industrial design, graphic and web design and fashion design.

A fee is applicable to this course.

Section 3: Guidelines for completing the Subject Selection Sheet

As a Year 8 student, you have downloaded this booklet with Elective course descriptions and have been issued a Survey form.

- *You are expected to have read the course outlines in the booklet provided.*
- *You should consult the Careers Adviser if you need subject requirements for particular careers.*
- *Choose carefully, you will be given an opportunity in Term 4 to change your selections, however no guarantee can be given that there will be room left in the course you wish to change into.*

Subject Selection Round 1

In Round 1 you are asked to list two preferences (in order) for your 200 hour Electives in Years 9 and 10.

The formation of an elective class depends on enough students choosing the course and staff being available to teach the course.

As we cannot guarantee that all of the Elective courses will be able to be offered, on the Survey form you must also list at least another three preferences (in order) for 200 hour Electives to study in Years 9 and 10, should your first two choices be unavailable.

Accelerated Commerce: If you choose Commerce and wish to be selected for the Accelerated class, indicate by ticking the box.

Comments: In this section feel free to write any comments you may have. Your comments might include;

- Questions that you may still have.
- You may like to list more preferences for 200 hour Courses.
- Perhaps there is a subject that you would have liked to have done that is not offered on the Course Interest Survey.
- A general comment about subject selections.

Some Important Considerations:

- 200 hour courses for Year 9 in 2012 will only proceed if sufficient numbers of students choose them. The initial selection of a course does not mean that it will run, this depends on the overall choices of students and timetabling and staffing constraints.
- 200 hour Courses that do not end up running may be offered as 100 hour Courses in Subject Selection Round 2.
- If you are contemplating taking a French, German, Latin or Japanese Continuers for the HSC then you must choose the corresponding 200 hour Course in Years 9 & 10.

***Subject Selections – Round 1, should be returned to Mr Simmons
no later than Friday 5th August 2011***

Subject Selection Round 2

On Monday 15th August 2011, once it has been determined which 200 hour Courses will be offered in Years 9 & 10, you will be issued with a second Subject Selection Survey.

This Survey will let you know which 200 hour Courses are being offered and which of these Courses you have been placed in. It will also list all of the 100 hour Courses that will be offered for Year 9 2012.

You will be asked to list at least three preferences (in order).

***Subject Selections – Round 2, should be returned to Mr Simmons
no later than Thursday 18th August 2011***

What happens if I change my mind?

In Term 4, after your Yearly Exams, you will be given a *Feedback Form*. This form will let you know;

- Your two 200 hour Courses that you will be studying in Years 9 & 10
- If you were a successful applicant for the Accelerated Commerce class
- Your 100 hour Course that you will be studying in Year 9

There will be a Request to Change Elective slip that you can return to Mr Simmons if as a result of the Yearly Exams you have changed your mind.

If you have a request then you return this slip to Mr Simmons and he will indicate to you whether or not there is room available in the elective and either;

- a. Place you in your new elective, OR
- b. Place you on a waiting list for any available vacancies as they arise.

Note:

- **Please read through this booklet carefully and discuss with your parents the various choices open to you.**
- **It will be difficult to change Elective Courses once you have been placed in your original choice, so choose carefully.**
- **It is important that you return your Subject Selections no later than the due dates, as decisions have to be made based on your choices. If you return your Selections late there can be no guarantee that you will be given any of your choices.**

IMPORTANT DATES:

Tuesday 2nd August: Year 8 into 9 Subject Selection Parent Evening

Friday 5th August: Subject Selections – Round 1 (200 hour Courses) due

Monday 15th August: Subject Selections – Round 2 (100 hour Courses) issued

Thursday 18th August: Subject Selections – Round 2 (100 hour Courses) due