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24

MELBA COPLAND

SECONDARY SCHOOL



COURSE GUIDE

PRINCIPAL'S WELCOME

The Melba Copland Secondary School (MCSS) community consists of the High School Campus, Year 7-9 and the Senior Campus, Year 10-12. We are high performing; supportive and vibrant school and we acknowledge and celebrate the rich diversity of our community. We seek to know every young person and work in partnership with families to develop purposeful educational experiences, to nurture and challenge students to become resilient, respectful and committed young people who make a positive contribution to the school and their community.

The MCSS senior campus provides for students to complete the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate, Vocational Education and Training (VET) courses which deliver nationally recognised certificates and qualifications. The academic rigour of our curriculum is demonstrated by the high standards achieved by our students.

MCSS offers many opportunities for all students to challenge themselves across many areas, especially in the academic, sports and extracurricular areas. Many of the programs we offer include extension, enrichment and leadership opportunities such as the school musical, the dance showcase, Indigenous programs, STEM and in sport.

A rigorous academic curriculum is offered to meet the needs of students - with many courses available in a wide variety of areas and facilitated by expert teachers. We offer a widely utilised study program to support students.

Wellbeing at MCSS encompasses the students' cognitive, social, and emotional states of being, and supports them developmentally to discover who they are and who they aspire to become. To meet this end, student wellbeing is a whole-school approach, and we strive to provide an environment that promotes engagement, diversity, and inclusivity so that students, staff and families feel supported, valued and have purpose.

We are a dynamic, inspiring and nurturing learning community, dedicated to educating our students for an exciting future.

Kind Regards,



Jennifer Howard
Executive Principal



Shannon Carnovale
Principal

Contents

Principal's Welcome.....	2
Campus Community.....	6
MCSS Board.....	6
MCSS Parents & Citizens Association	6
Student Leadership	6
Financial Contributions and Library Trust Fund.....	6
Community Access Programs	7
Communication with the School Community.....	7
School Facilities.....	8
Pastoral Care Program	9
Learning Support Programs	10
Individual Learning Plans (ILP)	10
Inclusion Support Program (ISP)	11
The Learning Hub	11
International Learning Perspective.....	12
International Student Program.....	12
Programs Of Excellence	13
Vocational Education and Training (V)	13
Vocational Courses At Mcss Senior Campus.....	13
Australian School-Based Apprenticeships	14
Talented Athlete Academy	15
ACT Senior Secondary Certificate – Guidelines	16
Course Guide.....	18
Ancient History (A/T/M)	18
Biology (A/T)	18
Business (A/T/M)	19
Business Services (A/V)	19
Chemistry (T).....	20
Chinese (A/T).....	20
Connected Learning (A/M)	21
Construction Pathways (A/M/V).....	22
Contemporary English (A/M)	22
Contemporary Mathematics (A/M)	23

Dance (A/T/M)	23
Data Science (A/T).....	24
Design and Emerging Technologies (A/T/M)	24
Digital Technologies (A/T)	25
Drama (A/T/M).....	25
Earth & Environmental Science (A/T)	26
Economics (A/T/M)	26
English (T).....	27
English as an Additional Language (EAL) (A/T)	28
Essential English (A/M)	28
Essential Mathematics (A)	29
Exercise Science (A/T)	29
Food Science and Nutrition (A/T/M)	30
Food Studies (A/M)	30
French (A/T)	31
Furniture Making (A/M).....	31
Global Studies (A/T/M)	32
Horticulture (A/M/V)	32
Hospitality (A/T/M/V)	33
Interdisciplinary Inquiry (A/T/M)	34
Interdisciplinary Science – Flight (A/T/M)	34
Japanese (A/T).....	35
Legal Studies (A/T/M)	36
Literature (T)	37
Mathematical Applications (T).....	37
Mathematical Methods (T)	38
Media (A/T/M)	38
Metal Products (A/M)	39
Modern History (A/T/M).....	39
Music (A/T/M).....	40
Networking and Cyber Security (A/T)	41
Outdoor and Environmental Education (A/T/M).....	41
Pathways to Work and Learning (A/M/V)	42
Philosophy (A/T/M).....	42

Photography (A/T/M)	43
Physical Education (A/M).....	44
Physics (T).....	44
Politics (A/T/M)	44
Pre-Modern History (A/T/M)	45
Psychology (A/T/M)	45
Robotics and Mechatronics (A/T)	46
Senior Science (A/M)	47
Social and Community Work (A/M)	47
Sociology (A/T)	48
Spanish (A/T)	48
Specialised Media (A/T/M)	49
Specialist Mathematics (T).....	49
Specialist Methods (T).....	50
Sports Development (A/T/M)	51
Sport Recreation and Leadership (A/M/V)	51
Visual Art (A/T/M).....	52

CAMPUS COMMUNITY

The College Campus encourages members of our community to participate in decisions that promote positive opportunities for students. We live in a rapidly changing world where students will need to make informed decisions and adapt as learners.

Central to making decisions is the intention to maintain a caring and supporting campus, guiding students through from adolescent years to adulthood. Parent and carer involvement during this period is essential. Opportunities are many and varied at the college and a student's goals may change multiple times. Engaging all stakeholders in these discussions and decisions is crucial.



MCSS Board

The MCSS Board is an elected body with the responsibility for school governance to support the school's educational policies and procedures. The Board also ensures that the provision of facilities, equipment and resources are maintained at appropriate levels and standards. Finally, the Board oversees the annual budget of the school.

MCSS Parents & Citizens Association

The P&C Association promotes the educational welfare and interests of the school by encouraging close co-operation among parents, pupils, school staff and community members. In addition, the P&C through fundraising can contribute to supplementary assistance for purchasing educational equipment and resources for student benefit.

Student Leadership

Leadership groups on each campus are energetic groups of students committed to addressing student issues of common concern, including fundraising for charities, organising school events, and advancing student leadership development. Our SRC students are also on the ACT SRC.

Financial Contributions and Library Trust Fund

All contributions to ACT Government schools are voluntary but hugely valuable. These voluntary contributions from parents, carers and other citizens form a major part of our school budget each year. These funds support the full range of educational programs and activities and the purchase of educational materials.

Details of specific amounts are available at the time of student enrolment. Costs for camps, excursions and competitions are generally advised separately as the need arises.

Community Access Programs

Sporting and student development opportunities are fostered through community access to the dual-campus facilities. Sports and dance organizations are regular users of our facilities, and the Police and Community Youth Clubs (PCYC) programs are continuing to grow.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE SCHOOL COMMUNITY

MCSS communicates with the wider school community in a variety of ways including:

- MCSS Fortnightly Wrap is published throughout the year and is available electronically via the website.
- Meet the Teachers Evening for Year 11 is held early in the year for new parents.
- Reporting on student performance occurs at least four times a year. Mid-semester reports are distributed at the end of terms 1 and 3. Comprehensive semester reports are distributed at the end of each semester.
- Parent/Teacher Interviews are held each semester. In addition, parents and carers are encouraged to contact the college whenever they have a concern.
- College assemblies are conducted for celebrations and communication with students.
- Teachers will contact a parent/carers in cases where there is a significant issue of concern that cannot be communicated by scheduled reporting activities.
- The School Facebook page is updated regularly and contains details of events, success stories and important notices to the school community. Please like our page.

SCHOOL FACILITIES

The MCSS College Campus has benefited from significant ongoing investment in learning facilities and information technology. It is a modern, well-designed campus where students can choose a variety of academic and technically supported challenges. Some of our facilities include:

- Performing Arts Theatre with dance studio and music performance studios.
- Creative Arts Studio.
- Wireless networked campus and sophisticated computer network facilities across all curriculum areas including interactive whiteboards.
- Specialised IT laboratories for Multimedia, Photography, Computer Aided Design, Robotics and CISCO Certification.
- Industrial technology facilities for engineering and construction industries.
- Modern science laboratories.
- Industrial kitchen and hospitality facilities including a newly furnished café.
- Regional trade skills centre facilities for Horticulture, Construction and Hospitality.
- Indoor sports gymnasium with climbing wall, basketball, and futsal courts.
- Fitness lab equipped with weights and cardio equipment.
- Library information resource centre for seminars, individual and group study.
- Student spaces throughout the campus including warm and friendly cafeteria, outdoor learning areas, study corners and relaxing grounds.



PASTORAL CARE PROGRAM

Student Wellbeing provides support for students, their parents, carers, and teachers by promoting a safe learning environment for all students that is flexible and responsive to the needs of the individual and the wider school community.

MCSS has a unique structure and a diverse student population ranging from Year 7 to 12. The Student Wellbeing team on each campus coordinates the pastoral care needs of the students, the behaviour management across the school and the delivery of targeted programs to meet individual needs. The focus of Student Wellbeing at MCSS is to foster and support students to achieve their potential.

The Pastoral Care Program involves staff, students and the wider school community designing and implementing initiatives that focus on addressing the social and emotional wellbeing of each student. This personalised approach embeds qualities of productive and respectful relationships and a strong sense of community and individual responsibility. It recognises that school communities consist of representatives from all groups in society and that a shared positive culture of inclusivity is essential.

Pastoral Care at MCSS is underpinned by an ethos of care and respect for all, with the goal of building the capacity of the whole school community to support each student to grow and develop and engage in meaningful and successful learning.

Each year group has a Year Coordinator who builds strong relationships with the students and provides a link between parents and staff and assists in the monitoring of behaviour and academic progress. There is a Student Wellbeing Executive on the college campus dedicated to managing the Student Wellbeing Program.

The School Psychologist is available to all students and their parents, including appointments for case management and making referrals on behalf of a student or their parent/carer to agencies that offer assistance and advice outside the school system.

MCSS has a team of careers staff with the responsibility of guiding students through their career pathways. There is a strong focus on the transition of Year 10 into college and for Year 11 and 12 students to get up to date and relevant information on possible careers and further education opportunities.

The Careers Advisor also coordinates work experience, vocational courses and training, School Based Apprenticeships (SBAs) and many other programs designed to offer students links between school, the workforce or further study or training.

Provision is made for students with special needs through the development of personalised learning programs and Individual Learning Plans (ILPs).

Students are encouraged to contribute to the development of programs and services delivered by providing feedback or sharing their ideas with members of the Student Leadership Group. Students also can participate in a variety of forums and meetings designed to facilitate information sharing between staff and students.

Student support at MCSS is a shared responsibility between students, teachers, parents, and carers. Students are expected to:

- Demonstrate respect and courtesy to all members of the school community.
- Have a positive commitment to their learning.
- Act in a manner that ensures their own physical safety and well-being, and the safety of other members of the school.

We encourage parents to maintain regular contact with the school so that the school can best meet the needs of their students.

LEARNING SUPPORT PROGRAMS

MCSS offers a comprehensive, integrated support program for students with additional needs to enable equitable access and participation in our school. Our various programs are designed to meet the individual needs of learners and works actively to eliminate barriers to inclusion.

Individual Learning Plans (ILP)

Students accessing a Disability Education program are required to have an Individual Learning Plan (ILP). The ILP identifies the personalised adjustments required for a student to access, participate, and achieve in learning. An ILP is developed by a collaborative team consisting of parents/carers, the student where possible, the school principal or delegate, the DECO (Disability Education Coordinator), teachers and other relevant professionals and agency representatives.

Inclusion Support Program (ISP)

Students who meet eligibility criteria may be entitled to support in their mainstream classes. This support can be delivered in many ways including, but not limited to, Learning Support Assistants providing in-class support, specialist tutorials, teacher liaison, modified curriculum and assessment, professional learning for classroom teachers and home-school liaison. They may qualify due to a physical or intellectual disability, a language disorder, impaired vision or hearing, chronic medical condition, mental health, or pervasive developmental disorder and will be allocated resources for support based on their educational access and participation needs using the Student-Centred Appraisal of Need (SCAN) process.



The Learning HUB

The Learning Hub provides a safe learning space for students that require extra support to complete work or understand assessment. All Year 11 and 12 students funded through the Disability Education Program (DEP) will be given the opportunity for a line in the Learning Hub.

The students can access the Learning Hub for many kinds of support, including:

- Study skills
- Organisation skills
- Clarifying work
- Finishing workbooks

ASBA students are placed in the Learning Hub to complete their training modules and seek help when required, in consultation with the Careers Team.

INTERNATIONAL LEARNING PERSPECTIVE

The College Campus is committed to engaging all students with a broader view of the world. From understanding human rights to experiencing different cultures, these are important experiences for young people today.

Our collective responsibility to equip the leaders of the future with the compassion and intercultural understanding for others is a priority for our school.

Across the 7-12 community of MCSS, over 40 cultural backgrounds are reflected. It is this diversity that adds value to the daily experience for students and staff at MCSS.

Some of the special aspects of the MCSS international learning perspective include:

- International Student Exchange students from North/South America and Europe join the College for up to 1 year. They participate in every facet of college life and become a valued member of the MCSS community. MCSS students also have access to these exciting and challenging opportunities.
- International Student Excursions are coordinated by the College Campus staff for both cultural and sporting opportunities. The international experience will continue to develop as staff and students engage fully with other cultures and pursuits. MCSS is building a network of international 'sister school' partnerships.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT PROGRAM

The International Fee-Paying Student (IPS) Program provides for overseas students through immersion to strengthen their English-speaking skills and attain academic and vocational excellence in an Australian school.

The IPS program involves a series of special events across the year. This involves excursions within and around Canberra to give students the opportunity to experience the Australian culture such as gold mining and bush activities. Students experience the hospitality student's expertise with a few special lunches. Students also are given the opportunity to develop links with ANU, CIT and UC to see where their future pathways lie.

Students will generally complete the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate and the IPS Coordinator ensures a very high level of academic supervision in addition to a strong pastoral care provision for all international students.

The safe and healthy Canberra environment continues to attract students to the College Campus. This program is particularly popular with students from Asian countries including China, Japan, Korea, and Vietnam. The college is preparing for future growth through involvement with our sister schools in Japan.

PROGRAMS OF EXCELLENCE

The College Campus provides a suite of opportunities for students to achieve excellence. These programs include:

- The Regional Arts Program (RAP) offers students both community and college-based opportunities to excel in drama, dance, and music. The modern performance facilities at the College Campus connect students with an industry level experience.
- The Talented Athlete Academy builds on the success of students across many sports. Talented students can personalise their study and sports performance schedules through their involvement in this program.
- The MCSS Outdoor Education Program provides challenging courses for students seeking their 'personal best', developing personal resilience and leadership strengths.
- Vocational Education and Training (VET) Certification and Australian School-Based Apprenticeships (ASBAs) engage students with focussed career challenges. VET involvement is extremely rewarding and a highly regarded experience for students and staff. This dimension of learning on the College Campus is the highest growth area due to the rising need for all students to attain qualifications for career futures. Many students can complete Canberra Institute of Technology studies in parallel with their ACT Senior Secondary certificate.
- University Extension Programs include the ANU Secondary College and University of Canberra (UCAN) opportunities. UCAN also provides a bridging program.

VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET)

Vocational courses are designed to provide knowledge and skills relevant to a particular area of employment and to further education and training.

Vocational courses:

- Help students try different careers.
- Offer students the opportunity to undertake learning in the workplace.
- Help students gain entry to training organisations such as CIT.
- May help students gain a traineeship or apprenticeship.
- May help students gain employment.

Vocational Courses at MCSS Senior Campus

The college vocational courses are based upon National Training Packages endorsed by industry. Successful completion of all required competencies and vocational placements will provide a student with a Vocational Certificate recognised throughout Australia.

Vocational teachers maintain strong links with industry and ensure that students have opportunities to extend their learning through excursions and training with external providers and through vocational placements.

The following Vocational courses are offered at MCSS:

- Construction – Leading to Certificate I in Construction
- Hospitality – Leading to Certificate I, II in Hospitality
- Horticulture – Leading to Certificate I, II in Horticulture

Students may achieve a Statement of Attainment for partial completion of a certificate.

Belconnen Region Trade Skills Centre Courses (RTO National Code – 88005)

- Construction Pathways - Certificate I
- Horticulture – Certificate I & II
- Hospitality - Certificate I & II

External Courses Offered by other RTOs (may vary throughout the academic year)

- **Academy of Interactive Entertainment** – Creative Industries (Game Dev.) Certificate II
- **Canberra Institute of Technology (CIT)** –Responsible Service of Alcohol, White Card, Asbestos Awareness
- **Royal Life Saving Society Australia** – Senior First Aid Certificate

Australian School-Based Apprenticeships

Australian School Based Apprenticeships (ASBA) allows students undertaking vocational courses to work part-time in the relevant industry, as well as completing their ACT Senior Secondary certificate. Students attend the workplace as a paid employee. This may occur one day per week, at weekends or in

school holidays. An ASBA is an excellent way to develop industry experience and gain valuable contacts in the workplace. The careers advisor will help students organise an ASBA placement.



TALENTED ATHLETE ACADEMY

The Talented Athlete Academy (TAA) is a sports excellence initiative aimed at talented sporting students at MCSS. The TAA program was established to support athletes while studying at MCSS and to provide specialised learning opportunities.

The sporting program is designed to enhance the sporting performance of students selected, by developing a holistic approach to their athletic development.

A successful athlete needs to focus not only on skill development but nutrition, goal setting, motivation, correct recovery, leadership, injury prevention and rehabilitation, cross training, and tactics strategy.



The MCSS TAA program can develop the whole athlete through a series of sessions that run throughout the academic year. Sessions will include:

- Professional fitness testing with UCRISE.
- Australian Institute of Sport recovery sessions.
- ADFA over water obstacle course.
- Professional Coaching observation seminars.
- Strength and Conditioning coaching.
- Motivational speakers with family members.
- Attendance at major sporting events.

ACT SENIOR SECONDARY CERTIFICATE – GUIDELINES

MCSS awards the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate (formally the ACT Year 12 Certificate) to all students who successfully complete Years 11 and 12. The ACT operates a system of school-based curriculum and assessment within the policy and procedures of the ACT Board of Senior Secondary Studies (BSSS).

School-based curriculum means that college teachers are involved in all

curriculum development and that colleges determine what courses they offer to students. MCSS is committed to offering high quality educational programs from a wide range of academic and vocational areas.

Assessment in the ACT is continuous school-based assessment. This means there are no external subject-based examinations. Courses are taught and assessed unit by unit. Moderation is conducted every semester to ensure comparability of grades from different schools, and the ACT Scaling Test (AST), a higher order thinking examination, is used to compare Tertiary scores from different schools for calculation of the ATAR.

The ACT BSSS requirements for an ACT Senior Secondary Certificate package are:

- A minimum of four different A, T, M, H, C or E courses from at least three different course areas. These must include at least two A, T or M courses and one of these must be in the English course area.
- Completing at least 17 standard units.
- Completing the package in no more than five years.

What are standard Units and Courses?

A standard unit has a value of 1.0 and is delivered for a minimum of 55 hours, generally over one semester. You may also be awarded 0.5 standard units which means that the unit was delivered for a minimum of 27.5 hours, generally over one term.

A course is a combination of units within a particular discipline.

Course Distribution Patterns

Courses have differing types indicating the duration of study in the course. The duration of study is indicated by the labels: **minor**, **major**, **major-minor**, and **double major**.

- **minors** require a minimum of 2 standard units.
- **majors** require a minimum of 3.5 standard units.
- **major-minors** require a minimum of 5.5 standard units.
- **double majors** require a minimum of 7.0 standard units.

What are A, T, M, V, E, H & R courses at MCSS?

- An **A** course is one which is accredited by the ACT BSSS as educationally sound and appropriate for students studying in Years 11 and 12.
- A **T** course is accredited by the ACT BSSS as providing appropriate preparation for higher education.
- An **M** course is accredited by the ACT BSSS as providing appropriate educational experiences for students who satisfy specific disability criteria.
- A **V** course is a vocational education and training program combined with an **A**, **T** or **M** course. A **V** course leads to a vocational Certificate or Statement of Attainment as defined by the Australian Qualifications Framework (AQF).
- An **H** course is designed and accredited by an Australian higher education provider and where successful completion of the course will be recognised towards an undergraduate degree with that provider.
- An **E** course is a VET course delivered by an external Registered Training Organisation (RTO), eg CIT.
- An **R** unit or course is designed to provide personal development, recreational or community service activities. (These units can count towards the accumulation of units towards the ACT Senior Secondary Certificate but do not count towards majors or minors.)

COURSE GUIDE

Ancient History (A/T/M)

The Ancient History curriculum enables students to study life in early civilisations based on the analysis and interpretation of physical and written remains. The ancient period, as defined in this curriculum, extends from the development of early human communities to the end of late antiquity AD 650, with a particular focus on the ancient societies of Europe, the Near East and Asia.

Units

- Investigating the Ancient World
- Ancient Societies
- People, Power and Authority
- Reconstruct the Ancient World
- Reconstruct Ancient Societies

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: https://www.bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/ancient_history_a-t-m

Biology (A/T)

Biology is the study of the fascinating diversity of life as it has evolved and as it interacts and functions. Investigation of biological systems and their interactions, from cellular processes to ecosystem dynamics, has led to biological knowledge and understanding that enable us to explore and explain everyday observations, find solutions to biological issues, and understand the processes of biological continuity and change over time.

This subject explores ways in which scientists work collaboratively and individually in a range of integrated fields to increase understanding of an ever-expanding body of biological knowledge. Students develop their investigative, analytical and communication skills through field, laboratory and research investigations of living systems.

Units

- Biodiversity and Connectedness
- Cells and Organisms
- Heredity and Continuity of Life
- The Internal Environment

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: [bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/biology_a-t](https://www.bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/biology_a-t)

Business (A/T/M)

Students will study of the management of resources and the provision of goods and services, as well as the complexities of operating enterprises at the local, national, and global levels. They investigate ethical practices, including social responsibility and sustainability enabling them to engage with the world as responsible citizens and businesspeople. Students develop their knowledge and understanding of business structures. They develop an understanding of the principles and methods of marketing and advertising as central to business activity. Students develop the knowledge, understanding and skills to make business plans for specific contexts and markets. They develop an understanding of business leadership principles, and the ethical and regulatory contexts in which leadership occurs.

Units

- Business Opportunities
- Business Marketing
- Leading a Business
- Business Finance and Planning
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/commerce/business_a-t-m

Business Services (A/V)

The Business Administration course develops information management and office processes skills. The course is based on nationally recognised competencies, which will help the student to enter the workplace or to pursue further training. Each unit focuses on general computer use, communication skills and office procedures.

Units

- Information Management
- Workplace Practices
- Relationship Development
- Project Management
- Independent Study

This is a nationally recognised Vocational course with competency standards approved by the Australian Skills Qualification Authority (ASQA). Students completing the course are eligible to receive:

- Certificate I in Business Administration.
- Certificate II in Business Administration.

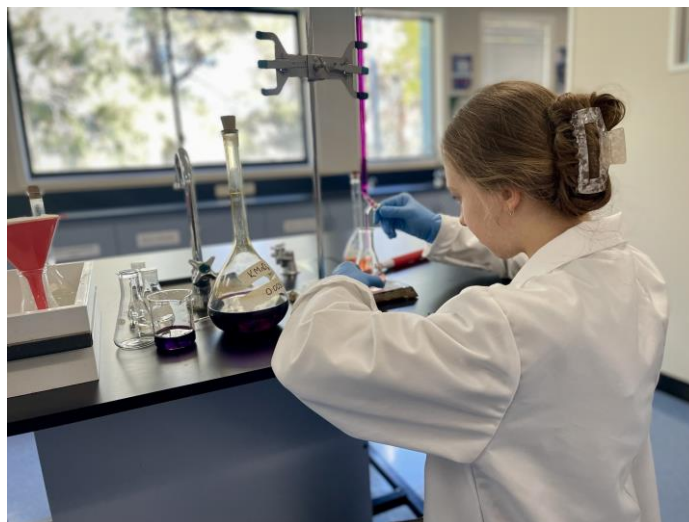
Work placement is an essential component of achieving these certificates. A Statement of

Attainment will be awarded where at least one competency is achieved.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/commerce/rename_page2

Chemistry (T)

Chemistry is the study of materials and substances, and the transformations they undergo through interactions and the transfer of energy. Chemists can use an understanding of chemical structures and processes to adapt, control and manipulate systems to meet particular economic, environmental and social needs. This includes addressing the global challenges of climate change and security of water, food and energy supplies, and designing processes to maximise the



efficient use of Earth's finite resources. Chemistry develops students' understanding of the key chemical concepts and models of structure, bonding, and chemical change, including the role of chemical, electrical and thermal energy. Students learn how models of structure and bonding enable chemists to predict properties and reactions and to adapt these for particular purposes.

Units

- Chemical Fundamentals
- Molecules
- Equilibrium and Redox Reactions
- Structure, Synthesis and Design

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/chemistry_t

Chinese (A/T)

China has a long history and hundreds of millions of people speak and write Chinese in their daily life. It's also the source of a wide range of classical and popular culture.

You can learn to speak and write Chinese, explore Chinese culture, and discover new perspectives. Open your eyes to a new opportunity.

The following options are available for study in Chinese.

Beginning Chinese is offered to students new to Chinese language study. The course builds skills in basic speaking, reading and writing.

Continuing Chinese is offered to students who have studied Chinese for 2 years or those with Chinese family background who wish to improve their reading and writing skills in Chinese.

Advanced Chinese is offered to native speakers who have completed their junior high school studies in China or in a Chinese speaking region. Students will also improve their English through translation lessons and they learn how to observe issues in society through the comparison of different ways of thinking. They also have the opportunity to appreciate both Chinese and English literary works.

Units

- The Individual
- Society and Community
- The Changing World
- Diverse Perspectives

Minors and majors are available in this course.

- Beginning: Little or no knowledge of the language experienced.
- Continuing: At least 3 years prior study experienced.
- Advanced: Aimed mainly at native speakers.
- Appropriate levels will be determined in consultation with the teacher upon completion of the BSSS Eligibility form.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/languages

Connected Learning (A/M)

Connected Learning will be particularly valuable to students for their future life, study, and work. It offers the opportunity for students to learn about how to be, grow and flourish in an increasingly complex and interconnected world. The course builds critical reading and analysis skills that are vital to future study.

Units

- Finding Balance
- Giving and Meaning
- Relationships and Communication
- An Independent Life
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: [bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/Integrated Learning/rename_page](https://bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/Integrated_Learning/rename_page)

Construction Pathways (A/M/V)

Construction Pathways focuses on the construction processes and industry practices required to create, maintain and repair the built environment in an increasingly technological and complex world. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills associated with traditional and contemporary tools, and materials used by the Australian building and construction industry to create structures. They examine the challenges facing the construction industry in adapting to new technology, building systems, products and practices, and explore future options.

Units

- Industry Practices
- Construction Processes
- Innovations in Construction
- Construction Project
- Independent Study

This is a nationally recognised Vocational course with competency standards approved by the Australian Skills Qualification Authority (ASQA). Students completing the course are eligible to receive:

- CPC10120 - Certificate I in Construction

A Statement of Attainment will be awarded where at least one competency is achieved.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/technologies/rena_me_page3

Contemporary English (A/M)

The study of Contemporary English develops students' literacy ability to become effective users of language and producers of texts. It focuses on developing reading, writing, speaking and listening skills. The focus of Contemporary English A/M is the literacy skills students will require in employment and post-college life.

Units

- Unit 1 – Contemporary English
- Unit 2 – Contemporary English
- Unit 3 – Contemporary English
- Unit 4 – Contemporary English

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/english/contemporary_english_a-m

Contemporary Mathematics (A/M)

The focus of Contemporary Mathematics A/M is the numeracy skills students will require in employment post-college and to manage their personal finances. These numeracy skills are aligned with Level 3 of the Australian Course Skills Framework, which was developed by the Australian Government in consultation with employer and industry groups.

This course is designed to meet the needs of students who are not otherwise catered for in the new courses integrating the Australian Curriculum. It has been written with both 0.5 and 1.0 units to allow maximum flexibility for the colleges in meeting the needs of their students.

Units

- Unit 1 – Contemporary Mathematics (Numeracy in the Workplace)
- Unit 2 – Contemporary Mathematics (Financial Numeracy)
- Unit 3 – Contemporary Mathematics (Numeracy Skills for Living)
- Unit 4 – Contemporary Mathematics (numeracy skills required for maintaining personal and supporting others' health)

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/mathematics/contemporary_mathematics_a-m

Dance (A/T/M)



Dance is the language of movement. It is an art form that uses the body as an instrument of communication and creativity. It has its own specific language, processes and techniques that are explored through creation, performance and evaluation of dance, demanding intellectual and physical rigour.

The Dance course is designed to cater for students with a keen interest in dance who would like to develop their movement skills in a variety of dance styles. It is also

aimed at students who value dance as an art form and as a medium for enjoyment and personal development.

The Dance T course is designed for students who wish to study dance for its intrinsic value. It also caters for students who are aiming at tertiary studies in dance and related areas, e.g. performing arts, community arts, physical education teaching, primary and early childhood teaching and dance therapy.

In Dance, students learn as artists, by making and interpreting dance performances that communicate to audiences. They learn as audiences, by responding critically to dance.

Students develop skills in appreciating, creating, performing, and producing dance independently and collaboratively for a range of contexts. In Dance, movement is a knowledge. Students learn as they engage with the history, lineage, technical dance skills, theories and concepts of dance, choreographers and critics that came before them, and become literate in the vocabularies and ideas of a range of styles and forms.

Units

- Creativity in Dance
- Communicating Meaning in Dance
- Dance in Context
- Collaboration in Dance
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/dance

Data Science (A/T)

Data Science is the key to solving the problems of global issues such as climate change, consumerism, energy, health and poverty through data analysis, statistical inference, predictive modelling and related methods in order to understand and analyse phenomena. Students explore and develop solutions to interesting problems in a range of contexts, forming opinions and challenging attitudes using data as evidence to form compelling and persuasive arguments for change and innovation.

Units

- Data Representation and Analysis
- Big Data Analysis and Techniques
- Machine Learning
- Data Research Project
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: [bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital technologies/data_science_a-t-v](https://bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital_technologies/data_science_a-t-v)

Design and Emerging Technologies (A/T/M)

Design and Emerging Technologies offers students a range of career pathways in design in fields such as engineering, fashion, furniture, jewellery, textile and ceramics, at both professional and vocational levels. Students will also be able to understand how the selection and use of technologies contributes to a sustainable and improved future. Students studying

technologies will learn about the design process and its application.

Units

- Design Processes
- Product Design
- Design for Manufacturing
- Innovation and Design
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/technologies/design_and_emerging_technologies_a-t-m

Digital Technologies (A/T)

Digital Technologies transform the way we communicate, learn, collaborate and work within our world. Students create new ways of doing things, generating their own ideas and creating digital solutions to problems of individual, community and global interest. They learn about computational thinking and the application of the design process to create and develop digital solutions using a variety of digital technologies.

Units

- Digital Assets
- Digital Applications
- Digital Solutions
- Structured Project
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital_technologies/digital_technologies_a-t-m-v

Drama (A/T/M)

The study of Drama develops knowledge and understanding through exploration of performance and production elements. Dramatic works have the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, excite the imagination, and encourage students to reach their creative and expressive potential. Drama builds confidence, empathy, understanding about human experience, and a sense of identity and belonging. Students develop self-management, problem solving, leadership and interpersonal skills. They learn to be resourceful, critical, and creative thinkers, and develop capacity to take risks. Students experience the challenge and pleasure that comes from the study of drama that can be transferred to a range of careers and situations. There are opportunities to become involved in a major college production or

our Regional Arts Program.

Units

- Creativity in Drama
- Communicating Meaning in Drama
- Drama in Context
- Adaptation in Drama
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/drama

Earth & Environmental Science (A/T)

Earth and Environmental Science is a multifaceted field of inquiry that focuses on interactions between the solid Earth, its water, its air and its living organisms, and on dynamic, interdependent relationships that have developed between these four components. Earth and environmental scientists consider how these interrelationships produce environmental change at a variety of timescales. To do this, they integrate knowledge, concepts, models and methods drawn from geology, biology, physics and chemistry in the study of Earth's ancient and modern environments. Earth and environmental scientists strive to understand past and present processes so that reliable and scientifically-defensible predictions can be made about the future.

Units

- Introduction to Earth Systems
- Earth Processes
- Living on Earth
- The Changing Earth

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/earth_and_environmental_science_a-t

Economics (A/T/M)

In Economics, students study the allocation of limited resources to satisfy unlimited wants and needs. In doing so they address the economic problem of scarcity: what to produce, how much to produce and for whom to produce. They use a range of approaches and perspectives on economics to investigate these fundamental problems to form conclusions and make predictions. Students develop their knowledge and understanding of the history and development of economic theories and concepts, the application of theories in real world contexts, and the roles of stakeholders in addressing economic scarcity, inefficiencies, and

inequalities. They develop an understanding of the significance of economics to interpreting their day to day lives and choices, and their subsequent impact.

Units

- Microeconomic Foundations
- Debates in Microeconomics
- Macroeconomic Foundations
- Debates in Macroeconomics
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/commerce/economics_a-t-m

English (T)

English focuses on developing students' analytical, creative and critical thinking and communication skills in all language modes. It encourages students to engage with texts from their contemporary world, with texts from the past and with texts from Australian and other cultures. Such engagement helps students develop a sense of themselves, their world and their place in it.

It is possible to undertake a major or major/minor (5.5 units) or double major (7 or 8 units) course. This requires students to undertake two different units in various semesters.



Units

- Communication of Meaning
- Representations Through Texts
- Comparative Texts
- Perspectives

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/english/english_t

English as an Additional Language (EAL) (A/T)

English as an Additional Language (EAL) focuses on language learning and the explicit teaching of the structure, linguistic features and sociolinguistic and sociocultural aspects of Standard Australian English (SAE). Through close study of language and meaning, students of EAL explore how learning in and through English language and literature influences their own and others' personal, social and cultural identities and thought processes. They develop skills that enable them to use different registers of spoken and written SAE so they can communicate effectively in a range of contexts and for a variety of purposes in order to become effective cross-cultural users of language and dialect.

Units

- Language and Culture
- Perspectives in Texts
- Communication
- Issues and Attitudes
- Bridging 1: Communication Foundations
- Bridging 2: Consolidate Communication
- Bridging 3: Responding to Texts
- Bridging 4: Connecting to Texts

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/english/eal_english_as_additional_language_a-t

Essential English (A/M)

Essential English focuses on consolidating and refining the skills and knowledge needed by students to become competent, confident and engaged users of English in many contemporary contexts including every day, community, social, further education, training and workplace contexts. Essential English is designed to provide students with the skills that will empower them to succeed in a wide range of post-secondary pathways.

The Australian Curriculum provides a sequence of four units to allow students to complete a major.

Units

- Comprehending and Responding
- Making Connections
- Understanding Perspectives
- Local and Global

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/english/essential_e

[English a-m](#)

Essential Mathematics (A)

Essential Mathematics focuses on enabling students to use mathematics effectively, efficiently and critically to make informed decisions in their daily lives. Essential Mathematics provides students with the mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding to solve problems in real contexts, in a range of workplace, personal, further learning and community settings. This subject offers students the opportunity to prepare for post-school options of employment and further training.

Units

- Unit 1 – Calculations, Percentages and Rates, Measurement, Algebra and Graphs
- Unit 2 – Representing and Comparing Data, Percentages, Rates and Ratios, Time and Motion
- Unit 3 – Measurement, Scales, Plans and Models, Graphs and Data Collection
- Unit 4 – Probability and Relative Frequencies, Earth Geometry and Time Zones, Loans and Compound Interest

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/mathematics/essential_mathematics_a-m

Exercise Science (A/T)

Exercise science examines theories of the biological, physiological, biomechanical and psychological, the interrelationship and influences on performance and participation in physical activity. Students develop insights into the science underpinning sports performance and movement. When students undertake practical activities in Exercise Science they gain knowledge through experiential learning.

This course prepares students for further study and provides pathways into careers such as physiotherapy, sport and injury prevention, fitness training and allied health.

Units

- Anatomy and Physiology of the Human Body
- Factors Affecting Performance
- Preparation for Training and Performance
- The Body in Motion
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/health_outdoor_and_physical_education/exercise_science_a-t-m

Food Science and Nutrition (A/T/M)

In Food Science and Nutrition, students integrate scientific method, knowledge and skills, and apply them to designing and carrying out investigations that explore the links between food, health, and diet-related diseases. In practical scientific investigations, students formulate and test hypotheses by collecting, presenting, analysing, and evaluating data in order to describe trends and clarify theoretical concepts related to food and nutrition. Food Science and Nutrition delivers two units in each of the two domains of study: food science and human nutrition.

Units

- Properties of Food
- Food Processing and Products
- Food Origins
- Food and Nutrition
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/food_science_and_nutrition_a-t-m

Food Studies (A/M)

This course covers the study of food, health, society and environment. The practical nature of this course provides the skills desirable for the home or workplace. Students develop skills in cooking techniques, food presentation, effective communication and teamwork while learning how to select, prepare and store foods, including commercial varieties and food of different ethnic cuisines.

Food is fundamental to our lives and impacts directly on the wellbeing of individuals, families and communities. In Food Studies, students experience the role of food across a range of contexts, cultures, and experiences. They learn to value the contributions of primary producers, manufacturers, retailers and cooks to the experience of a healthy and sustainable life. They explore and respond to the factors that determine food choices locally, nationally and globally.

The course also includes valuable aspects of budgeting and home planning and is designed to help students appreciate the responsibilities of living independently.

Units

- Food and Health
- Food Choices
- Food Communities
- Contemporary Food
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/technologies/rena_me_page4

French (A/T)

Students gain cultural and social insight into francophone countries as well as language proficiency. Beginning and Continuing French are offered to students. They cater both for students who are interested in taking up the study of the language for the first time and for those who already have some competence with the language. Advanced French is available for native speakers of French or those who have studied at Francophone schools.

Units

- The Individual
- Society and Community
- The Changing World
- Diverse Perspectives

Minors and majors are available in this course.

- Beginning: Little or no knowledge of the language experienced.
- Continuing: At least 3 years prior study experienced.
- Advanced: Aimed mainly at native speakers.
- Appropriate levels will be determined in consultation with the teacher upon completion of the BSSS Eligibility form.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/languages

Furniture Making (A/M)

Furniture Making Pathways develops the knowledge, understanding and skills that underpin the furniture making and cabinet making industry. Students investigate the processes and practices that are required in the production of furniture and cabinets, utilizing existing and new technologies to best place them for future opportunities within the industry. Key concepts and ideas in the Furniture Making Pathways course include the purpose of furniture and cabinet making business, occupations, future directions, and trends. Industry practices and processes for a variety of purposes are explored and applied across a range of applications and simulations and as such allows for investigation in a diverse range of occupations.

Units

- Tools and Components
- Furniture Making

- Furniture Production
- Materials and Design
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/technologies/furniture_construction_c

Global Studies (A/T/M)

By undertaking Global Studies, students come to appreciate the nature of global politics. They examine what can be achieved, and why there is a plurality of views on decisions about progress and reform. Students explore how its key participants respond to global challenges and collectively create opportunities for the betterment of the world. A focus of analysis is the choice between pursuing self-interest and the collective good.

Units

- Global Actors
- Global Processes
- Global Challenges
- Global Opportunities
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/global_studies_a-t-m

Horticulture (A/M/V)

Horticulture focuses on the processes and industry practices required to design, create, and maintain plant specific environments and business in an increasingly technological and information rich world. Students develop knowledge and understanding of scientific concepts in plant biology and physiology, soil nutrients and climate in conjunction with the skills to use traditional and contemporary tools, and materials of the horticulture industry for a range of purposes and in an array of contexts. They examine the challenges that exist in the horticulture industry in adapting to new technology, client demands, urbanisation and changing climatic conditions, and explore future options.

Units

- Nursery Systems
- Horticulture Maintenance and Management
- Sustainable Horticulture and Conservation
- Producing Food

- Independent Study

This is a nationally recognised vocational course with competency standards approved by the Australian Skills Qualification Authority (ASQA). Students completing the course are eligible to receive a:

AHC10316 - Certificate I in Horticulture, and

AHC20422 - Certificate II in Horticulture.

Work placement is an essential component of achieving these certificates. A statement of attainment will be awarded where at least one competency is achieved.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/vet_courses/horticulture_amv

Hospitality (A/T/M/V)



In Hospitality, students focus on the dynamic nature of the hospitality industry and develop an understanding of contemporary approaches and issues related to food and hospitality. Students investigate contemporary hospitality issues and current management practices, and explore concepts such as the legal and environmental aspects, trends in hospitality and consumer protection. They procure, recycle and use resources in light of sustainability and environmental protection.

Units

- Hospitality Essentials
- Hospitality Operations
- Hospitality Industry
- Hospitality Management
- Independent Study

Through the theoretical and practical components of this course students are provided with opportunities to develop skills, concepts, processes and attitudes crucial to making valid decisions regarding hospitality issues.

These qualifications allow for further training at a higher level at CIT, other training providers or on the job training whilst working in the hospitality industry.

This is a nationally recognised Vocational course with competency standards approved by the Australian Skills Qualification Authority (ASQA). Students completing the course are eligible

to receive:

- SIT10222 - Certificate I in Hospitality, and
- SIT20322 - Certificate II in Hospitality.
- Certificate II Hospitality.

Work placement is an essential component of achieving these certificates. A Statement of Attainment will be awarded where at least one competency is achieved.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/technologies/hospitality_a-t-m-v

Interdisciplinary Inquiry (A/T/M)

This course promotes interdisciplinary, multidisciplinary and transdisciplinary approaches. Students can learn how to transfer capabilities such as the research process, information management, critical thinking, creativity, effective teambuilding, leadership, and collaborative decision making and will communicate with a diverse range of people.

Units

- Communication Inquiry
- Creativity and Innovation Inquiry
- The Critical Thinking Inquiry
- Collaboration Inquiry
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: [bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/Integrated Learning/rename_page8](https://bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/Integrated_Learning/rename_page8)

Interdisciplinary Science – Flight (A/T/M)

Interdisciplinary Science A/T/M engages students in investigating the complex relationships between systems and domains of science inherent to investigating phenomena and problems in the world today. They develop the scientific, mathematical, and technological skills to engage with the study of contemporary interdisciplinary science topics and develop an understanding of problems confronting society.

Units

- Interdisciplinary Systems
- Modelling Systems
- Interdisciplinary Solutions

- Contemporary Innovations in Science
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/interdisciplinary_science_a-t-m

Japanese (A/T)

Three levels of Japanese are offered - Beginning, Continuing and Advanced. The course places emphasis on communication and aims to provide students with the skills necessary to express themselves effectively in both written and spoken Japanese. It also offers opportunities for travel, and for learning about other people and cultures, especially through links with our sister school in Osaka and regular excursions and student exchanges.



Units

- The Individual
- Society and Community
- The Changing World
- Diverse Perspectives

Minors and majors are available in this course.

- Beginning: Little or no knowledge of the language experienced.
- Continuing: At least 3 years prior study experienced.
- Advanced: Aimed mainly at native speakers.
- Appropriate levels will be determined in consultation with the teacher upon completion of the BSSS Eligibility form.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/languages

Legal Studies (A/T/M)



Legal Studies explores the law, and its institutions and processes, in a social, economic and political context allowing students to investigate, question, and evaluate their personal view of the world and society's collective future.

Students undertaking the Legal Studies course investigate the regulation of conduct in society and how justice is constituted in a range of contexts.

Students develop analytical and critical thinking skills and learn to question and challenge assumptions about the world around them. They develop thinking, literacy, communication, and numeracy skills that allow them to examine conflict resolution and justice issues. Students learn to develop research questions and methodologies. Furthermore, they develop skills to communicate effectively and to present logical and coherent arguments whilst critically analysing the strengths and limitations of the arguments that ground their own thinking.

Knowledge and understanding of law, legal systems, justice, and punishment empowers students to become engaged, active, and reflective citizens. In understanding a wide range of social phenomena, they develop intercultural understanding and cultural competence. The study of Legal Studies provides knowledge, skills and understanding to interpret the world, which can be utilised in a wide range of tertiary and industry pathways.

Units

- Crime and Justice
- Civil Law
- Contemporary Issues and the Law
- International Law
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act-senior-secondary-system/curriculum/bsss-courses/humanities-and-social-sciences/rename-page9

Literature (T)

Literature focuses on the study of literary texts, developing students as independent, innovative and creative learners and thinkers, who appreciate the aesthetic use of language, evaluate perspectives and evidence, and challenge ideas and interpretations. Literature explores how literary texts shape perceptions of the world and enable us to enter other worlds of the imagination. In this subject, students actively participate in the dialogue and detail of literary analysis and the creation of imaginative and analytical texts in a range of modes, mediums and forms.

Units

- Ways of Reading and Creating
- Intertextuality
- Power of Literature
- Literary Interpretations

It is possible to undertake a major or major/minor (5.5 units) or double major (7 or 8 units) course. This requires students to undertake two different units in various semesters.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/english/literature_t

Mathematical Applications (T)

Mathematical Applications is designed for those students who want to extend their mathematical skills beyond Year 10 level but whose future studies or employment pathways do not require knowledge of calculus. The subject is designed for students who have a wide range of educational and employment aspirations, including continuing their studies at university or TAFE.

Units

- Unit 1 – Consumer Arithmetic, Algebra and Matrices, and Shape and Measurement
- Unit 2 – Univariate Data Analysis and the Statistical Investigation Process, Linear Relationships, and Trigonometry
- Unit 3 – Bivariate Data Analysis, Growth and Decay in Sequences and Graphs and Networks
- Unit 4 – Time Series Analysis, Loans, Investments and Annuities and Networks and Decision Mathematics

Mathematical Methods students may change to Mathematical Applications at any time in Year 11 or at the beginning of Year 12.

Mathematical Applications students with outstanding results may move to Mathematical Methods without penalty after Term 1 or Semester 1.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:

bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/mathematics/mathematical_applications_t

Mathematical Methods (T)

The major themes of Mathematical Methods are calculus and statistics. They include as necessary prerequisites studies of algebra, functions and their graphs, and probability. They are developed systematically, with increasing levels of sophistication and complexity. Calculus is essential for developing an understanding of the physical world because many of the laws of science are relationships involving rates of change. Statistics is used to describe and analyse phenomena involving uncertainty and variation. For these reasons this subject provides a foundation for further studies in disciplines in which mathematics and statistics have important roles. It is also advantageous for further studies in the health and social sciences. In summary, the subject Mathematical Methods is designed for students whose future pathways may involve mathematics and statistics and their applications in a range of disciplines at the tertiary level.

Units

- Unit 1 – Topic 1 – Functions and Graphs, Topic 2 – Trigonometric Functions – Topic 3 – Counting and Probability
- Unit 2 – Topic 1 – Exponential Functions, Topic 2 – Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences and Series, Topic 3 – Introduction to Differential Calculus
- Unit 3 – Topic 1 – Further Differentiation and Applications, Topic 2 – Integrals, Topic 3 – Discrete Random Variables
- Unit 4 – Topic 1 – The Logarithmic Function, Topic 2 – Continuous Random Variables and Normal Distribution, Topic 3 – Interval Estimates for Proportions
- Unit 5 – This unit combines Unit 3b and Unit 4a Should this say Unit 3 - Topic 2 and Unit 4 - Topic 1

Similar to Specialist Mathematics, students considering enrolling in Mathematical Methods should have achieved success in Year 10 Advanced Mathematics.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/mathematics/mathematical_methods_t

Media (A/T/M)

The study of Media develops knowledge and understanding of traditional and contemporary media practices through engagement with media works from a range of different styles, times, places, and cultures. Through exploration of codes and conventions, students understand that media stems from traditions, that media is dynamic and changes over time and that media works differ widely in different contexts. They learn as consumers and content creators, by responding critically to media products, concepts, and theories. Through theories of communication and evaluation of media products, students enrich their intercultural

understanding.

Units

- Creativity in Media
- Communicating Meaning in Media
- Media in Context
- Narratives in Media
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/medi_a_a-t-m-v

Metal Products (A/M)

The study of Metal Products provides opportunities for students to engage with emerging technologies, make connections with industry, apply standards and practices through the manufacturing of their metal projects.

This course is intended to meet the needs of students who have a general interest in industrial technology trades as well as those intending to choose a career pathway into traditional metal trades and related service industries.

Units

- Working with Metal
- Techniques in Metal Manufacture
- Welding and Cutting Skills
- Metal Project
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/technologies/rena_me_page12

Modern History (A/T/M)

The Modern History curriculum enables students to study the forces that have shaped today's world and provides them with a broader and deeper comprehension of the world in which they live. While the focus is on the 20th century, the curriculum refers back to formative changes from the late 18th century onwards and encourages students to make connections with the changing world of the 21st century.

Units

- Understanding the Modern World

- Change in the 20th Century
- Modern Nations
- The Modern World Since 1945
- Understanding Modern Nations - This unit combines Understanding the Modern World b and Modern Nations a
- Modern World - This unit combines Change in the 20th Century b and The Modern World since 1945 a

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/modern_history_a-t-m

Music (A/T/M)



Music is unique as an aural art form that develops cognitive, kinaesthetic, empathetic, and aesthetic capacities in students. It is an integral part of culture, society, and personal identity. In Music, students learn about principles, practices and approaches to music making, and develop a critical understanding of self and perspectives on the world. The critical study of music engages in research, development of technical skills, communication and involves students in debate on contemporary issues. Through listening, performing, composing, presenting, and producing, students develop an informed appreciation of music. This course has been written with open expectations around prior technical skills. This is intended to increase access to students from a wide range of musical backgrounds, traditions, and experiences.

Teachers will make judgements and form expectations in line with the achievement standards but apply them to a wide range of music making activities.

Units

- Creativity in Music
- Communicating Meaning in Music
- Music in Context
- Improvisation and Variation in Music
- Independent Study

Performance and theory are an assessable part of each course. Students can study Music at tertiary (T) or Accredited (A) levels. Tertiary study is suggested for students who have reached

Grade 3 music studies outside of school.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/music_a-t-m-v

Networking and Cyber Security (A/T)

Networking and Security focuses on network technologies and architecture, and the devices, media and services and operations in different types of networks. Students learn how networks facilitate device to device communication through an exploration of core networking technologies and their configuration. The security of data and the implications of networked systems for data privacy are considered from many perspectives, including the technical implementation of secure protocols and the ethical challenges associated with providing encrypted communications and storage for all users.

Units

- Networking and Cyber Security
- Network and Administration Security
- Designing and Securing Enterprise Networks
- Cloud and Distributed Systems
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
[bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital technologies/networking and security a-t-v](https://bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital_technologies/networking_and_security_a-t-v)

Outdoor and Environmental Education (A/T/M)

Outdoor and Environmental Education provides students with skills and knowledge to understand the role of the environment in mental health and physical wellbeing. It provides skills allowing students to safely and respectfully participate in physical activity in diverse outdoor environments. It allows students to understand the concept of discriminating between risk and challenge and to develop social and leadership skills. Students develop insights into environmental sustainability, particularly in local contexts. This course prepares students for lifelong physical and recreational activity as well as employment pathways.

Units

- Discover Outdoor Environments
- Planning and Management
- Responsibility of Self and Others
- Sustainable Outdoor Recreation
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/health_outdoor_and_physical_education/outdoor_and_environmental_education_a-t-m

Pathways to Work and Learning (A/M)

This course is designed for individuals who are seeking foundation skills development to prepare for workforce entry or vocational training pathways. It aims to provide a foundation for students to improve their literacy, numeracy and digital technology skills as well as develop life skills and career planning. This includes developing skills in; understanding self, identifying opportunities, demonstrating career enhancing decision making, goal setting and actioning plans.

Units

- The Career Mindset
- Workplace and Learning Practices
- Enterprise Skills
- Creating Opportunities
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: [bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/Integrated Learning/rename_page16](https://bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/Integrated_Learning/rename_page16)

Philosophy (A/T/M)

Philosophy empowers students to reflect on themselves and the world. They investigate the challenges faced by individuals and society and interrogate approaches used to address questions, and consider solutions to, those challenges. Students critically analyse and deploy philosophical ideas from a range of periods and cultures to understand enduring problems and critique accepted wisdoms and arguments about solutions. They refine analytical and critical thinking skills and learn to question and challenge assumptions about the world around them.

Units

- Knowledge and Knowing
- Existence and Reality
- Judgement and Value
- Philosophy in the World
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/rename_page17

Photography (A/T/M)

The study of photography can be used to broaden personal experience and understanding of an increasingly interconnected and technologically rich world. Photography enables students to explore and understand self, others, the world, and their place in it, as creators and consumers.

Images are the language of photography, and are used to represent, question, and communicate concepts and ideas. Students learn how photography stems from traditions and has styles, forms and conventions that inform its visual language. Photographic practice has the capacity to engage, inspire and enrich all students, excite their curiosity and imagination. Photography builds resilient, empathetic, and resourceful people with the ability to shape and respond to a changing world. Students develop interpersonal skills to work collaboratively and independently, making and responding to photographic works for a range of audiences.

Students develop general capabilities and transferable skills through the creative process that are readily transferable to other roles in the creative industries. They become problem solvers, and critical and creative thinkers, and these skills are relevant to a wide range of career and life pathways. Students develop sophisticated technical, conceptual knowledge and skills to be informed, visually literate communicators. Students apply their skills and capabilities in specific photographic and commercial and artistic endeavours, and more broadly in a range of personal interests and work contexts.

Units

- Creativity in Photography
- Communicating Meaning in Photography
- Photography in Context
- Narrative in Photography
- Independent Study

There are no prerequisite units in Photography. Students are able to enrol in Photography classes at any time. It is possible to undertake a major or major/minor or double major.



Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/photo_graphy_a-t-m

Physical Education (A/M)

Physical Education Studies are the study of biological, physiological, psychological, social and cultural influences on performance and participation in physical activity. Students develop knowledge, understanding and skills, including physical literacy competencies, to support them to be resilient, to strengthen their sense of self, to build and maintain relationships, and to make decisions to enhance their health and physical participation.

Units

- Sports Skill Acquisition
- Leisure and Recreation
- Building and Improving Teams
- Sport, Activity, Culture and Society

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/health_outdoor_and_physical_education/physical_education_studies_a-m

Physics (T)

Physics is a fundamental science that endeavours to explain all the natural phenomena that occur in the universe. Its power lies in the use of a comparatively small number of assumptions, models, laws and theories to explain a wide range of phenomena, from the incredibly small to the incredibly large. Physics has helped to unlock the mysteries of the universe and provides the foundation of understanding upon which modern technologies and all other sciences are based.

Units

- Linear Motion and Waves
- Thermal, Nuclear and Electrical
- Gravity and Electromagnetism
- Revolutions in Modern Physics

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/physics_t

Politics (A/T/M)

Students in Politics develop a greater understanding of society and the forces which shape the world around them — politically, economically, socially, and ethically.

The study of Politics can equip students with skills in critical analysis, logic, reasoning, and problem solving, which enable them to apply their learning in addressing a wide range of contemporary concerns. Students critically analyse and deploy, theories, concepts and methods that variously attempt to explain and understand political ideology and political change, and causes, processes, and consequences of political phenomena.

Units

- Political Theory
- Political Systems
- Australia in the World
- Activism and Protest
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/australian_and_global_politics

Pre-Modern History (A/T/M)

The Pre-Modern History curriculum enables students to study life in the pre-modern period based on the analysis and interpretation of physical and written remains. The pre-modern period is global in scope and covers the period c. 400-1750 CE. The study of pre-modern history illustrates the development of some of the distinctive features of contemporary societies. Pre-modern history is also concerned with the possible motivations, and actions of individuals and groups, and how they shaped the political, social and cultural landscapes of the pre-modern world.

Units

- Transformation
- Golden Ages
- Conflict
- Power

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/pre_modern_history_a-t-m

Psychology (A/T/M)

Psychology is the study of the human mind and behaviour. Students develop an understanding of themselves and others by exploring the interactions of biological, social, and psychological factors in individuals and groups. The study of Psychology enables learners to understand how individuals think, feel and act within different contexts. Such knowledge has

the potential to empower and enhance individual abilities and facilitate awareness of the human condition, along with tolerance and respect for others.

As a science, the subject matter of this course is founded on knowledge and understanding that has been gained through systematic inquiry and scientific research. Students are introduced to new discoveries and advances, as well as considering the ethical issues relating to treatment and research. As a result, students learn scientific inquiry skills, to think critically, to evaluate evidence, to solve problems and to communicate understanding of human behaviour, thoughts, and feelings scientifically.

Units

- Self and Identity
- Cognition and Emotions
- Normality and Abnormality
- Groups and Society
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/psychology_a-t

Robotics and Mechatronics (A/T)

This course explores automation and physical computing through the engineering disciplines of robotics and mechatronics. The course introduces fundamental principles of both electronics and mechatronics before investigating microcontrollers that can be programmed to drive electrical circuits and mechanical systems.

Students apply their knowledge to the design and construction of real systems, examining how these solutions address problems, needs and challenges faced by individuals and societies. They design and program control software for autonomous and manual interfaces, correcting for noise and unexpected variations in data inputs and processing.

Robotics and Mechatronics aims to build theoretical and practical knowledge to prepare students for technical pathways such as engineering, IT, electronics and science.

Units

- Building and Programming Circuits
- Digital and Analog Interactions
- Robotics and Mechatronic Systems
- Applications of Robotics
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: [bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital technologies/robotics and mechatronics a-t-m-v](https://bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/digital_technologies/robotics_and_mechatronics_a-t-m-v)

Senior Science (A/M)

There is an innate human curiosity and desire to understand the universe. The study of Senior Science encourages and enables students to develop an understanding of the universe through observation, questioning, experimentation, discussion, critical analysis and creative thinking.

Students explore key concepts and models through active enquiry into phenomena and through contexts that exemplify the role of Science in society. They learn how an understanding of Science is central to the identification of, and solutions to, some of the key issues facing an increasingly globalised society. The subject explores ways in which scientists work collaboratively and individually in a range of integrated fields to increase understanding of an ever-expanding body of scientific knowledge.

Scientific processes challenge current understanding and are continually re-evaluated. Students are constantly encouraged to examine and reconsider their understanding of scientific concepts, their inquiry methods and phenomena.

The study of Science equips students with the skills to be independent thinkers and life-long learners who are confident to pursue a wide range of study pathways and careers.

Units

- Biological Senior Science
- Environmental Senior Science
- Chemical Senior Science
- Physical Senior Science
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/science/senior_sci_ence_a-m

Social and Community Work (A/M)

In Social and Community Work, students explore the ways in which individuals and communities are shaped and operate, and the interventions that can be made to empower individuals and groups. They investigate the nature of wellbeing, social cohesion, and community life. Students examine theories, concepts and ideas from the social sciences and social work and draw upon them to understand how individuals relate to their environment.

Units

- Community Organisations
- Societies and Communities
- Children and Young People

- Contemporary Ageing
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/social_and_community_a-t-m-v

Sociology (A/T)

Sociology empowers students to develop an understanding of how subjectivity and society are interconnected, thereby allowing them to better appreciate how their own identities, beliefs, struggles, and experiences are profoundly shaped and reshaped through the interplay between micro and the macro dimensions, across time and space. Sociology allows students to explore the how and why of human behaviour, with a particular focus on gender, race, class, and intersectionality.

Units

- Constructing Identity
- Understanding Difference
- Applying Sociology
- Structure and Agency
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/humanities_and_social_sciences/sociology_a-t-m

Spanish (A/T)

Spanish is available to study at Beginning, Continuing and Advanced level. The course emphasises skills in speaking, listening, reading and writing as well as increasing appreciation of Spanish and Latin American cultures.

Units

- The Individual
- Society and Community
- The Changing World
- Diverse Perspectives

Minors and majors are available in this course.

- Beginning: Little or no knowledge of the language experienced.
- Continuing: At least 3 years prior study experienced.

- Advanced: Aimed mainly at native speakers.
- Appropriate levels will be determined in consultation with the teacher upon completion of the BSSS Eligibility form.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/languages

Specialised Media (A/T/M)

The study of Specialised Media develops knowledge and understanding of traditional, contemporary, and emerging media practices through engagement with media works from a range of different styles, times, places, and cultures. Through exploration of innovation, adaptation, entrepreneurship and interdisciplinary inquiry, students understand that media stems from traditions, that media is dynamic and changes over time and that media works differ widely in different contexts. They learn as consumers and content creators, by responding critically to media products, concepts, and theories. Through theories of communication and evaluation of media products, students enrich their intercultural understanding.

Units

- Innovation in Media
- Adaptation in Media
- Entrepreneurship in Media
- Interdisciplinary Inquiry in Media
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/specialised_media_a-t-m

Specialist Mathematics (T)

Specialist Mathematics provides opportunities, beyond those presented in Mathematical Methods, to develop rigorous mathematical arguments and proofs, and to use mathematical and statistical models more extensively.

Specialist Mathematics has been designed to be taken in conjunction with Specialist Methods.

Specialist Mathematics is designed for students with a strong interest in mathematics, including those intending to study mathematics, statistics, and engineering, or advanced study in all sciences and associated fields.

Units

- Unit 1 – Combinatorics, Vectors in the Plane and Geometry
- Unit 2 – Trigonometry, Real and Complex Numbers and Matrices

- Unit 3 – Vectors in Three Dimensions, Complex Numbers
- Unit 4 – Applications of Integration, Differential Equations and Statistical Inference

This course is for the mathematically talented. Students considering Specialist Mathematics should have achieved success in Year 10 Advanced Maths. It is an important course for those who may wish to use Mathematics as a focus of tertiary studies.

This course is only available as a double major or major/minor. All Specialist Mathematics students must also be enrolled in Mathematical Methods. At the end of Year 12 Specialist Maths students should have completed a major in Mathematical Methods and either a minor or major in Specialist Mathematics. These two courses will combine to create either a major/minor or double major in Specialist Mathematics.

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/mathematics/specialist_mathematics_t

Specialist Methods (T)

Specialist Methods has been designed to be taken in conjunction with Specialist Mathematics. It extends the coursework from the Mathematical Methods course.

The major themes of Specialist Methods are calculus and statistics. They include as necessary prerequisites studies of algebra, functions and their graphs, and probability.

Together, mathematics and statistics provide a framework for thinking and a means of communication that is powerful, logical, concise and precise.

The subject Specialist Methods is designed for students with a strong interest in mathematics, including those intending to study mathematics, statistics, and engineering, or advanced study in all sciences and associated fields.

Units

- Unit 1 – Topic 1 – Functions and Graphs, Topic 2 – Trigonometric Functions – Topic 3 – Counting and Probability
- Unit 2 – Topic 1 – Exponential Functions, Topic 2 – Arithmetic and Geometric Sequences and Series, Topic 3 – Introduction to Differential Calculus
- Unit 3 – Topic 1 – The Logarithmic Function, Topic 2 – Further Differentiation and Applications, Topic 3 – Integrals
- Unit 4 – Topic 1 – Simple Linear Regression, Topic 2 – Discrete Random Variables, Topic 3 – Continuous Random Variable and the Normal Distribution, Topic 4 – Interval Estimates for Proportions

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/mathematics/specialist_methods_t

Sports Development (A/T/M)

Sports Development is an integrated study that focuses on specialised sports development for the individual. Students learn about principles of high performance, self-awareness and understanding of their prowess in an individual sport. They learn about and practice ways of maintaining elite performance. This course prepares students aspiring to participate in elite sport.

Units

- Personal Development in a Sport
- Building and Elite Athlete
- Athletes in Society
- Performance Analysis
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/health_outdoor_and_physical_education/sports_development_a-t-m

Sport Recreation and Leadership (A/M)

Sport and Recreation is a growth industry in Australian society. These forms of recreation include social sport, fitness programs and outdoor and community based recreational pursuits. They are an intrinsic part of the Australian psyche and form a substantial part of leisure time. Sports, Fitness & Leadership focuses on the significance that the Sports and Recreation Industry has in the life of individuals and communities. It is a subject that provides students with the opportunities to learn in, through and about health wellbeing activities.

Units

- Sport & Recreation Industry
- Active Lifestyles & Sports Leadership
- Sports Coaching & Management
- Community Activities & Events

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course: bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/health_outdoor_and_physical_education/sport_recreation_and_leadership_a-m-v

Visual Art (A/T/M)



The study of Visual Arts develops knowledge and understanding of traditional and contemporary art works through engagement with art from a range of different styles, times, places, and cultures. Through exploration of traditional and non-traditional art forms, students develop the technical proficiency and confidence as art-makers to communicate their ideas. They learn as consumers and art creators, by responding critically to art works, concepts, and theories, enriching their

intercultural understanding. Students critically and creatively analyse their world and develop curiosity, knowledge and understanding of the evolving and dynamic nature of art.

Units

- Creativity in Visual Arts
- Communicating Meaning in Visual Arts
- Visual Arts in Context
- Narratives in Visual Arts
- Independent Study

Please refer to the BSSS website link for more information on this course:
bsss.act.edu.au/act_senior_secondary_system/curriculum/bsss_courses/arts_page_2/visual_arts_a-t-m



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