



# VCE COURSE PLANNING

## 2021

For the details of each VCE subject offered at UHS go to the school's website:  
[www.unihigh.vic.edu.au](http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au)

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## **COURSE SELECTION TIMELINE**

### **Wednesday May 20th: Virtual VCE Expo**

All domains will present information about subjects on offer in a video conferencing expo. This will coincide with the launch of the UHS VCE Expo website. The website will allow you to explore general information about the VCE and VCE subjects offered at UHS. The UHS VCE Expo can be accessed via the following link:

<https://sites.google.com/unihigh.vic.edu.au/uhs-vce-expo/home>

Note: A UHS account is required to access the website.

### **Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> June: Course Selection Information Sessions**

All year 10 & 11 students will attend a Course Selection Information Session. The purpose of the session is to create awareness of course options within the VCE program and after VCE, provide information about the subject selection process and alert students to the upcoming deadlines.

### **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> July – Friday 14<sup>th</sup> August: Interview and due date for course selection**

All year 10 and 11 students will attend an interview with the Principal, or Assistant Principal and Head of Sub school. At this interview students discuss and justify their subject selection and submit their completed VCE course selection sheet, as well as the VET Enrolment form, if applicable. The course selection sheet is then passed onto the Sub School Coordinator, Head of Sub school, and then onto the Careers Coordinator.

### **Monday 24<sup>th</sup> August: VCE Office begins to process Course Selection Sheets**

After consultation and advice from the Principal the timetable blocks will be constructed. As a result of this process, some students may be required to modify their course of study. Students will be consulted, as required, about any changes to courses.

### **Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> November: VCE 2021 Orientation Program**

Students will attend orientation sessions each day in relation to VCE and the subjects they will be studying in 2021. A timetable will be made available to students closer to the program dates. Attendance is compulsory. Students can access Compass for further orientation information before school commences in 2021.

### **Term 4 Week 8: Students Enrol for their 2021 VCE Studies**

Each student will be required to attend an interview to confirm their continued enrolment at the school. Further details of Enrolment Day procedures will be forwarded early in Term 4.

## INTRODUCTION

The Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) is the culmination of students' secondary schooling, as well as providing a pathway to future options, be they tertiary education (University, TAFE or private providers), training or employment.

The two years of study towards the VCE are challenging, but also provide a time of enjoyment and fulfilment. Therefore we encourage students to engage in the many activities that UHS provides, including sport, music, clubs, forums, school musical and music performances.

A successful VCE begins with appropriate course selection. In selecting a VCE program, students should focus on their interests, skills and aspirations. At UHS we have a supportive and rigorous process in place to help students in their selections.

This handbook is one of the steps in assisting students to select the right VCE course.

We also encourage parents and students to visit the UHS VCE Expo website (a UHS account is required to access this website: <https://sites.google.com/unihigh.vic.edu.au/uhs-vce-expo/home>).

## THE VCE PROGRAM

### The VCE is a two-year course of study.

UHS offers a comprehensive range of VCE studies. Each study is made up of 4 semester units. Units 1 & 2 are usually taken in Year 11 (first year) while Units 3 & 4 are usually taken in Year 12 (second year). It is possible for Year 11 students who have demonstrated ability to select a Unit 3 & 4 study in their first year.

The School recommends that its students undertake a total of 22 units over two years. Typically a student will take six units in each semester in their first year and five units in each semester in their second year.

### The Certificate

To be awarded the VCE Certificate students must satisfactorily complete a total of **no fewer than 16 units**. These units must include:

3 units of English Studies (including a Unit 3 & 4 sequence).

3 sequences of Unit 3 & 4 Studies other than English.

### Flexibility within the VCE

UHS provides opportunity for students to build diversity into their programs, accessing VCE studies in Year 10. Students are required to meet established guidelines based on their interests and academic success.

## THE VCE AND THE CAREER DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Students consult with the Career Development Coordinator when choosing a VCE course. The Careers Coordinator provides students with up-to-date information and ensures that choices are related to career ambitions.

Each student will participate in the following specific aspects of the Career Development program:

### Year 10

- Individual MIPs interview - To broaden knowledge of careers and qualifications.
- Virtual VCE expo and information evening for parents & students as well as access to UHS VCE Expo website.
- Course Selection Information Session.
- Distribution and explanation of the VCE Course Planning Guide.
- Individual counselling, particularly those students affected by clashes and studies not offered.

### Year 11

- Ongoing support for students with their courses of study.
- Course Selection information session.
- Participation in Tertiary Focus Program.

### Year 12

- Workshops outlining timelines and processes for University and TAFE applications and job applications.
- Workshops focussing on SEAS and Tertiary Scholarship Applications.
- Interviews to assist with tertiary applications.
- Attendance at Tertiary Information Sessions.
- Counselling during the period for change of preferences.

### Course Selection

Students are encouraged to choose a VCE course based on career intentions, interests and abilities.

The selection process requires students to identify courses or careers that they are considering (or at least broad areas). This is to ensure that necessary prerequisites for further study are covered, as well as providing diversity and flexibility so that interests and abilities are catered for.

### University of Melbourne Extension Program (UMEP)

The University of Melbourne Extension Program provides an exciting opportunity for high-achieving students to undertake first-year university study while still in Year 12. The subjects offered through the Extension Program build on VCE studies and extend the study to a first-year university level, providing an excellent way to broaden knowledge and interest. The University of Melbourne Extension Program enriches students' educational opportunities through enrolment in University of Melbourne subjects, and enhances links between the University, students and schools.

### Approved Higher Education studies in schools (previously Extension Studies program)

The VCAA provides for very able students to have an opportunity to undertake an approved Higher Education study as part of the VCE. Such studies are recognised as Higher Education studies contributing to completion of the VCE.

If you are undertaking such a study, it may count as an increment (fifth or sixth study) in the ATAR provided that it is passed, that VCAA co-requisite or prerequisite conditions were met, and subject to restricted study combinations.

The VCAA Handbook states that only one Higher Education Study may count towards satisfactory completion of the VCE. Similarly, only one Higher Education Study may contribute to your ATAR.

Students can obtain further details from their VCE Co-ordinator when finalising their Year 12 Course of Study. Detailed information is available at:

<http://www.futurestudents.unimelb.edu.au/umep>

**Extension studies are also offered at:**

La Trobe University [www.latrobe.edu.au/vceplus](http://www.latrobe.edu.au/vceplus)

## School of Languages

Many students choose to study a range of languages offered by the Victorian School of Languages. In some cases, native speakers are maintaining the language spoken at home, while others choose a foreign language that is not offered by this school.

## VET (Vocational Education and Training) in Schools

UHS is a member of the Inner Melbourne VET cluster. Through this cluster students are able to choose to complete **one** VET program as part of their VCE. Most VET programs are delivered on Wednesday afternoons at venues outside the school.

## VCAL (Victorian Certificate of Applied Learning)

VCAL is an alternative, practical way of learning which suits some students more than VCE studies.

Although VCAL is not offered at UHS, interested students will be assisted to source VCAL providers by the Careers Coordinator.

## VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING (VET) WITHIN THE VCE PROGRAM

### What is VET?

Vocational Education and Training refers to enhanced senior school studies, which enable a secondary student to combine their VCE studies with vocational training.

### Features of VET

It is a two-year program combining general VCE studies and accredited vocational education and training.

It enables students to complete a nationally-recognised vocational qualification (e.g. Certificate II in Hospitality Operations) and the Victorian Certificate of Education (VCE) at the same time;

It allows students to go directly into employment or receive credit towards further study;

It focuses on students developing industry specific and workplace skills;

It is a vocationally oriented school program designed to meet the needs of industry.

### How does VET Work?

A VET program is usually made up of:

VCE VET units: delivered by a Registered Training Organisation (e.g. TAFE), student's school or another school.

Structural Workplace Learning (SWL): This involves an employer accepting a student on a one day a week basis or one week block. SWL enables the student to demonstrate acquired skills and knowledge in an industry setting. During the work placement, a student will have specific tasks to undertake in order to demonstrate competence. They will be regularly monitored and may be assessed on the job.

### Contribution to the VCE

VET is fully incorporated into the VCE.

Key features include:

VET programs have a Unit 1-4 structure. NB: If student wish to study a Unit 3/4 VET in Year 12 they need to have successfully completed a Unit 1/2 in the same VET subject.

Up to two of the three sequences other than English, can be approved VCE VET unit 3/4 sequences.

VET programs contribute directly to the ATAR score OR as a 5<sup>th</sup> or 6<sup>th</sup> subject.

In 2021, University High School students will be able to choose from the VET programs, under subject offerings.

**Interested students can obtain information about 2021 VET offerings from the Careers Co-ordinator or visit the Inner Melbourne VET Cluster website [www.imvc.com.au](http://www.imvc.com.au)**

## GUIDELINES FOR UHS STUDENTS SELECTING A VCE COURSE OF STUDY

1. You will undertake 6 Units per semester in Year 11 and 5 Units per semester in Year 12. A student who wishes to take more than 22 units and/or a language other than English not offered at the school must consult their Co-ordinator.
2. Study carefully the list of studies on offer. For detailed descriptions go to <http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au/>  
Click on the tab 'Academic curriculum'.
3. Use the VCE Course Planning Page to map out a course of study. You should plan a two year course, however, choices for 2021 may be reviewed at the end of next year.
4. Remember Units 3/4 must be done together, in sequence.
5. When choosing a program remember to:
  - Choose a program which is realistic in terms of your academic ability.
  - Choose a program which is consistent with your future career.
    - Students can make themselves aware of any prerequisites for a particular career by contacting the Careers Coordinator at UHS or referring to the VTAC website.
  - Try to broaden your programme beyond those subjects strictly required for any particular vocation.
  - Seek guidance from a wide range of people rather than rely on the judgement of any one person:
    - Parent/ Relatives
    - Career Development Coordinator
    - Sub-School Coordinator
    - Domain Leaders
    - Year 10 and VCE teachers

### **Please note the following:**

Whilst every effort has been made to give students up-to-date advice when choosing courses, responsibility for decisions made rests with the student. All placements are subject to the availability of spaces in classes, staffing and room availability. Preference for studying Unit 3/4 subjects is given to students in Year 12.

## Guidelines for: Choosing English subjects Year 11 & Year 12

To be awarded the Certificate students **MUST** satisfactorily complete three units of English Studies; including a Unit 3 & 4 sequence of an English Study.

### Year 11

To complete the English requirement students must satisfactorily complete at least one unit of:

- English Units 1/2
- Literature Units 1/2
- English Language Units 1/2
- English as an Additional Language (EAL) Units 1/2 – if eligible

\*For purpose of the ATAR Score students **can only** count **two** Unit 3/4 English Studies in their primary four studies.

It is recommended however that:

- Students wishing to choose Literature Units 1 & 2 also take English Units 1 & 2
- Students wishing to choose English Language Units 1 & 2 also take English Units 1 & 2

\*Students not wishing to take English Units 1 & 2 will need a special recommendation from the Head of English/EAL.

### Year 12

To complete the English requirement students must satisfactorily complete at least one of the following:

- English Units 3/4
- Literature Units 3/4
- English Language Units 3/4
- English as an Additional Language (EAL) Units 3/4 (if eligible)

## Choosing sequences of Maths subjects Year 11 & Year 12

For details please refer to the Math VCE Study Summary in the *2021 Course Outlines* [www.unihigh.vic.edu.au](http://www.unihigh.vic.edu.au). You may also seek advice from your maths teacher or the Head of Maths.

\*For purpose of the ATAR Score students **can only** count **two** Unit 3 & 4 Maths Studies in their primary four studies.

## **Year 10 students wishing to do Unit 1/2 and Year 11 students wishing to do Unit 3/4 subjects**

Only students who have achieved high results and shown considerable application and interest in their work should contemplate a Unit 1/2 or 3/4 subject.

Students should note that they can disadvantage their Year 11 studies if they are not prepared for the work of undertaking a Unit 3 and 4 subject.

Students may undertake one or more Unit 1/2 or Unit 3/4 subject.

The criteria for selection include:

1. Regular attendance at school
2. Completion to a high level of all Year 9 or 10 subjects
3. Completion to a high level of relevant Unit 1 & 2 subjects
4. A positive attitude to learning and support of all school expectations as in the UHS Code of Conduct.

### **Please Note:**

- **There are limited spaces in some subjects. Preference is given to Year 12 students for Unit 3 & 4 subjects.**
- **The final recommendation on any placement will be made by the appropriate Sub-School Heads.**

## VET Subject Offerings:

- Acting
- Allied Health Assistance
- Animal Studies
- Applied Fashion Design and Technology
- Building and Construction
- Business
- Early Childhood Education and Care
- Carpentry
- Community Services
- Game Design and Animation
- Dance
- Early Childhood
- Electrotechnology
- Engineering Studies
- Equine Studies
- Hospitality
- Integrated Technologies
- Justice
- Laboratory Skills
- Music (Performance or Sound Production)
- Makeup
- Plumbing
- Screen and Media (Creative)
- Screen and Media (Games)
- Sport and Recreation
- Tourism

More details found at: [www.imvc.com.au](http://www.imvc.com.au). Click on courses, VET in Schools

## VCE Subject Offerings:

Title of VCE Unit	1	2	3	3
Accounting	*	*	*	*
Algorithmics			*	*
Australian and Global Politics	*	*		
Australian Politics			*	*
Global Politics			*	*
Biology (M)	*	*	*	*
Business Management	*	*	*	*
Chemistry	*	*	*	*
Classical Societies and Cultures	*	*	*	*
Drama	*	*	*	*
Economics	*	*	*	*
English	*	*	*	*
English as Additional Language (EAL)	*	*	*	*
English Language	*	*	*	*
French	*	*	*	*
Further Mathematics			*	*
General Mathematics	*	*		
Geography	*	*	*	*
German	*	*	*	*
Health and Human Development	*	*	*	*
History- Revolutions			*	*
History- Twentieth Century	*	*		
Information technology- Computing	*	*		
Information technology- Informatics			*	*
Latin	*	*	*	*
Legal Studies	*	*	*	*
Literature	*	*	*	*
Mathematical Methods	*	*	*	*
Media	*	*	*	*
Music Performance	*	*	*	*
Music Style and Composition	*	*	*	*
Outdoor Education and Environmental Studies**	*	*	*	*

<b>Philosophy</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Physical Education</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Physics</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Product Design</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Psychology</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Specialist Mathematics</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Studio Arts</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Theatre Studies</b>	*	*	*	*
<b>Visual Communication and Design</b>	*	*	*	*

**Additional Information:**

\*\* Extra Fees may apply

Students may also choose to complete a University Extension Subject