



WACE 2016- 2017

Summary of courses

The Arts

Dance: ATAR, General

Design: ATAR, General

Drama: ATAR, General

Media Production and Analysis: General

Music: General

Visual Arts: ATAR, General

Dance ATAR

The Dance ATAR course acknowledges the interrelationship between practical and theoretical aspects of dance – the making and performing of movement and the appreciation of its meaning. Through critical decision-making in individual and group work, movement is manipulated and refined to reflect the choreographer’s intent. Students use a wide range of creative processes, such as improvisation and the use of choreographic elements and devices and draw on their own physicality and the interpretation of existing work of others to create unique dance works. They investigate how technologies are used to extend and enhance dance design. They also learn how dance styles and forms are historically derived and culturally valued. Through dance, students experience an intrinsic sense of enjoyment and have an opportunity to achieve a high level of movement skills.

Dance General

The Dance General course acknowledges the interrelationship between practical and theoretical aspects of dance – the making and performing of movement and the appreciation of its meaning. Through decision-making in individual and group work, students use a wide range of creative processes, such as improvisation and the use of choreographic elements and devices to create dance works. They also learn how dance styles and forms are historically derived and culturally valued. Through dance, students experience an intrinsic sense of enjoyment and have an opportunity to achieve a high level of movement skills.

Design ATAR

In the Design ATAR course students develop skills and processes for current and future industry and employment markets. Students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to understand design principles and processes, analyse problems and possibilities, and devise innovative strategies within design contexts. These include photography, graphics, dimensional design and technical graphics. The Design ATAR course also emphasises the scope of design in professional industries allowing students to maximise university pathways.

Design General

In the Design General course students develop skills and processes for current and future industry and employment markets. Students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to understand design principles and processes, analyse problems and devise innovative strategies through projects. Students are able to focus on particular contexts from a choice of photography, graphics,

dimensional design and technical graphics. The Design General course also emphasises the scope of design in trade based industries allowing students to maximise vocational pathways.

Drama ATAR

The Drama ATAR course focuses on drama in practice and aesthetic understanding as students integrate their knowledge and skills. They engage in drama processes such as improvisation, play building, text interpretation, playwriting and dramaturgy. This allows them to create original drama and interpret a range of texts written or devised by others by adapting the theoretical approaches of drama practitioners like Stanislavski and Brecht. Students' work in this course includes production and design aspects involving directing, scenography, costumes, props, promotional materials, and sound and lighting. Increasingly, students use new technologies, such as digital sound and multimedia. They present drama to make meaning for a range of audiences and adapt their drama to suit different performance settings. The focus in this course is on both individual and ensemble performance, as well as the roles of actor, director, scenographer, lighting designer, sound designer, costume designer and dramaturge.

Drama General

The Drama General course focuses on drama in practice and aesthetic understanding as students integrate their knowledge and skills. They engage in drama processes such as improvisation, play building, text interpretation, playwriting and dramaturgy. This allows them to create original drama and interpret a range of texts written or devised by others by adapting the theoretical approaches of drama practitioners like Stanislavski and Brecht. Students' work in this course includes production and design aspects involving directing, scenography, costumes, props, promotional materials, and sound and lighting. Increasingly, students use new technologies, such as digital sound and multimedia. They present drama to make meaning for a range of audiences and adapt their drama to suit different performance settings. The focus in this course is primarily on ensemble performance and team work.

Media Production and Analysis General

The Media Production and Analysis General course aims to prepare students for a future in a digital and interconnected world by providing the skills, knowledge and understandings to tell their own stories and interpret the stories of others. Students are encouraged to explore, experiment and interpret their world, reflecting and analysing contemporary life, while understanding that this is done under social, cultural and institutional constraints. Students, as users and creators of media products, consider the important role of audiences and their context. This course focuses on the development of technical skills in the practical process.

Music General

The Music General course encourages students to explore a range of musical experiences, developing their musical skills and understanding, and creative and expressive potential, through a selected musical context. The course consists of a written component incorporating Aural and Theory, Composing and arranging, Investigation and analysis, in addition to a practical component. The Aural and Theory content in the written component is generic, and can be adapted and extended to suit any selected context. The practical component consists of three different options and can be delivered in a different context, independent of the written component. Students select only one option, and can choose to perform on an instrument or voice, submit a composition portfolio, or complete a production/practical project. The Music General course provides

opportunities for creative expression, the development of aesthetic appreciation, and understanding and respect for music and music practices across different times, places, cultures and contexts. Students listen, compose, perform and analyse music, developing skills to confidently engage with a diverse array of musical experiences both independently and collaboratively. Studying music may also provide a pathway for further training and employment in a range of professions within the music industry.

Visual Arts ATAR

In the Visual Arts ATAR course, students engage in traditional, modern and contemporary media and techniques within the broad areas of art forms. The course promotes innovative practice. Students are encouraged to explore and represent their ideas and gain an awareness of the role that artists and designers play in reflecting, challenging and shaping societal values. The Visual Arts ATAR course allows students to develop aesthetic understandings and a critical awareness to appreciate and make informed evaluations of art through their engagement of their own art practice and the work of others.

Visual Arts General Course

In the Visual Arts General course, students engage in traditional, modern and contemporary media and techniques within the broad areas of art forms. The course promotes innovative practice. Students are encouraged to explore and represent their ideas and gain an awareness of the role that artists and designers play in reflecting, challenging and shaping societal values. Students are encouraged to appreciate the work of other artists and engage in their own art practice.

English

English: ATAR, General

English ATAR

The English ATAR course focuses on developing students' analytical, creative, and critical thinking and communication skills in all language modes, encouraging students to critically engage with texts from their contemporary world, the past, and from Australian and other cultures. Through close study and wide reading, viewing and listening, students develop the ability to analyse and evaluate the purpose, stylistic qualities and conventions of texts and to enjoy creating imaginative, interpretive, persuasive and analytical responses in a range of written, oral, multimodal and digital forms.

English General

The English General course focuses on consolidating and refining the skills and knowledge needed by students to become competent, confident and engaged users of English in everyday, community, social, further education, training and workplace contexts. The course is designed to provide students with the skills to succeed in a wide range of post-secondary pathways by developing their language, literacy and literary skills. Students comprehend, analyse, interpret, evaluate and create analytical, imaginative, interpretive and persuasive texts in a range of written, oral, multimodal and digital forms.

Health and Physical Education

Health Studies: ATAR

Outdoor Education: ATAR, General

Physical Education Studies: ATAR, General

Health Studies ATAR

In this ATAR course students explore health as a dynamic quality of life. They examine the impact of social, environmental, economic and biomedical determinants on health and their collective contribution to health disparities, as well as exploring approaches to address barriers which prevent groups from experiencing better health. Students apply inquiry skills to examine and analyse health issues, develop arguments and draw evidence-based conclusions. The course also provides students with opportunities to develop skills that will enable them to pursue careers in health promotion, research or community health care.

Outdoor Education ATAR

Through interaction with the natural world, the Outdoor Education ATAR course aims to develop an understanding of our relationships with the environment, others and ourselves, and ultimately contribute towards a sustainable world. The integrated approach within this course allows for practical activities, theoretical concepts, and relationship with the environment to be incorporated into a meaningful program of learning. It provides students with an opportunity to develop essential life skills and physical activity skills, an opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of the environment and develop a positive relationship with nature. The course aims to develop self-awareness and leadership through opportunities to plan for, and facilitate, outdoor experiences.

The course will prepare students for career and employment pathways in areas such as outdoor leadership, environmental interpretation, environmental planning, facilities management, eco-tourism, military service, outdoor education, and the many unforeseen areas evolving in the outdoors industry.

Outdoor Education General

Through interaction with the natural world, Outdoor Education aims to develop an understanding of our relationships with the environment, others and ourselves. The Outdoor Education General course focuses on outdoor activities in a range of environments, including bushwalking, sailing, climbing and orienteering. It provides students with an opportunity to develop essential life skills and physical activity skills, and an opportunity to develop a comprehensive understanding of the environment and develop a positive relationship with nature. The course also provides students with opportunities to develop skills that will enable them to pursue personal interests and careers in outdoor pursuits, environmental management, or eco-tourism.

Physical Education Studies ATAR

Physical Education Studies contributes to the development of students' physical, social and emotional growth. In the Physical Education Studies ATAR course students learn about physiological, psychological and biomechanical principles, and apply these to analyse and improve personal and group performances in physical activities. Throughout the course, students learn through integrated written, oral and active learning experiences. The course also provides students with opportunities to develop skills that will enable them to pursue personal interests and potential in physical activity as athletes, coaches, officials, administrators and/or volunteers.

Physical Education Studies General

Physical Education Studies contributes to the development of students' physical, social and emotional growth. The Physical Education Studies General course provides students with opportunities to understand and improve performance through the integration of theoretical concepts and practical activities. Through engagement as performers, leaders, coaches, analysts and planners of physical activity, students may develop skills that can be utilised in leisure, recreation, education, sport development, youth work, health and medical fields.

Humanities and Social Science

Accounting and Finance: ATAR

Career and Enterprise: General

Economics: ATAR

Geography: ATAR

Modern History: ATAR

Politics and Law: ATAR

Accounting and Finance ATAR

The Accounting and Finance ATAR course focuses on financial literacy and aims to provide students with the knowledge, understandings and a range of skills that enables them to make sound financial judgements. Students develop an understanding that financial decisions have far reaching consequences for individuals and business. The course will provide students with the understanding of the systems and processes through which financial practices and decision making are carried out, as well as the ethical, social and environmental issues involved. Through the preparation, examination and analysis of a variety of financial documents and systems, students develop an understanding of the fundamental principles and practices upon which accounting and financial management are based. An understanding and application of these principles and practices enables students to analyse their own financial data and that of businesses and make informed decisions, forecasts of future performance, and recommendations based on that analysis.

Career and Enterprise General

Career education involves learning to manage and take responsibility for personal career development. The Career and Enterprise General course involves recognising one's individual skills and talents, and using this understanding to assist in gaining and keeping work. The course develops a range of work skills and an understanding of the nature of work. Key components of the course include: the development of an understanding of different personality types and their link to career choices; entrepreneurial behaviours; learning to learn; and the exploration of social, cultural and environmental issues that affect work, workplaces and careers.

Economics ATAR

Economics explores the choices which all people, groups and societies face as they confront the ongoing problem of satisfying their unlimited wants with limited resources. The Economics ATAR course aims to develop students' ability to analyse the allocation, utilisation and distribution of scarce resources that determine our wealth and wellbeing. The study of Economics provides a

framework for examining society's issues and identifying possible solutions which assist decision making. The emphasis of the course is on the Australian economy.

Geography ATAR

The study of the Geography ATAR course draws on students' curiosity about the diversity of the world's places and their peoples, cultures and environments. It provides students with the knowledge and understanding of the nature, causes and consequences of natural and ecological hazards, international integration in a range of spatial contexts, land cover transformations, and the challenges affecting the sustainability of places. In the ATAR course, students learn how to collect information from primary and secondary sources, such as field observation and data collection, mapping, monitoring, remote sensing, case studies and reports.

Modern History ATAR

Studying the Modern History ATAR course enables students to become critical thinkers and helps inform their judgements and actions in a rapidly changing world. Students are exposed to a variety of historical sources, including government papers, extracts from newspapers, letters, diaries, photographs, cartoons, paintings, graphs and secondary sources, in order to determine the cause and effect, and the motives and forces influencing people and events. Through the process of historical inquiry, students are encouraged to question and evaluate historical sources; identify various representations and versions of history; use evidence to formulate and support their own interpretations; and communicate their findings in a variety of ways.

Politics and Law ATAR

The Politics and Law ATAR course provides a study of the processes of decision making concerning society's collective future. It aims to develop the knowledge of the principles, structures, institutions and processes of political and legal systems primarily in Australia. It brings together the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government to demonstrate how society is governed and how each branch of government is held to account. It examines the democratic principles practised in Australia and makes comparisons with other political and legal systems.

Languages

Italian: Second Language: ATAR

Italian: Second Language ATAR

The Italian: Second Language ATAR course is designed to further develop students' knowledge and understanding of the culture and the language of Italian-speaking communities, providing them with opportunities to gain a broader and deeper understanding of Italian and extend and refine their communication skills. The course focuses on the interrelationship of language and culture, and equips students with the skills needed to function in an increasingly globalised society, a culturally and linguistically diverse local community, and provides them with the foundation for life-long language learning. Relevant and engaging tasks, delivered through a range of appropriate contexts and topics, develop literacy in the Italian language as well as extend literacy development in English.

Enrolment in a WACE language

If you wish to study a WACE language course (excluding Aboriginal Languages of Western Australia), you will need to complete an application for permission to enrol.

Enrolment criteria considerations include education, residency and time spent in the country where that language is spoken and use of that language outside the classroom. It is your responsibility to ensure that the form is completed fully and accurately before it is submitted. The application, stating the deadlines for submission, is available on the Authority website at www.scsa.wa.edu.au/internet/Events_and_Forms/Application_Order_Forms.

You should discuss your enrolment options with your careers counsellor.

Mathematics

Mathematics Methods: ATAR

Mathematics Specialist: ATAR

Mathematics Applications: ATAR

Mathematics Essential: General

The six mathematics courses are differentiated, each focusing on a pathway that will meet the learning needs of a particular group of senior secondary students.

Mathematics Methods ATAR

This course focuses on the use of calculus and statistical analysis. The study of calculus provides a basis for understanding rates of change in the physical world, and includes the use of functions, their derivatives and integrals, in modelling physical processes. The study of statistics develops students' ability to describe and analyse phenomena that involve uncertainty and variation.

Mathematics Methods 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, this course is designed for students whose future pathways may involve mathematics and statistics and their applications in a range of disciplines at the tertiary level.

Mathematics Specialist ATAR

This course provides opportunities, beyond those presented in the Mathematics Methods ATAR course, to develop rigorous mathematical arguments and proofs, and to use mathematical models more extensively. Mathematics Specialist contains topics in functions and calculus that build on and deepen the ideas presented in the Mathematics Methods course, as well as demonstrate their application in many areas. The Mathematics Specialist course also extends understanding and knowledge of statistics and introduces the topics of vectors, complex numbers and matrices. Mathematics Specialist is the only ATAR mathematics course that should not be taken as a stand-alone course and it is recommended to be studied in conjunction with the Mathematics Methods ATAR course as preparation for entry to specialised university courses such as engineering, physical sciences and mathematics.

Mathematics Applications ATAR

This course focuses on the use of mathematics to solve problems in contexts that involve financial modelling, geometric and trigonometric analysis, graphical and network analysis, and growth and decay in sequences. It also provides opportunities for students to develop systematic strategies

based on the statistical investigation process for answering statistical questions that involve analysing univariate and bivariate data, including time series data.

The Mathematics Applications ATAR course is designed for 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 course is designed for students who have a wide range of educational and employment aspirations, including continuing their studies at university or TAFE.

Mathematics Essential General

The Mathematics Essential General course focuses on using mathematics effectively, efficiently and critically to make informed decisions. It provides students with the mathematical knowledge, skills and understanding to solve problems in real contexts for a range of workplace, personal, further learning and community settings. This course provides the opportunity for students to prepare for post-school options of employment and further training.

Science

Biology: ATAR

Chemistry: ATAR

Human Biology: ATAR

Integrated Science: General

Physics: ATAR

Biology ATAR

A unique appreciation of life and a better understanding of the living world are gained through studying the Biology ATAR course. This course encourages students to be analytical, to participate in problem-solving and to systematically explore fascinating and intriguing aspects of living systems, from the microscopic level through to ecosystems.

Students develop a range of practical skills and techniques through investigations and fieldwork in authentic contexts, such as marine reefs, endangered species, urban ecology, or biotechnology. Scientific evidence is used to make informed decisions about controversial issues.

Chemistry ATAR

The Chemistry ATAR course equips students with the knowledge, understanding and opportunity to investigate properties and reactions of materials. Theories and models are used to describe, explain and make predictions about chemical systems, structures and properties. Students recognise hazards and make informed, balanced decisions about chemical use and sustainable resource management. Investigations and laboratory activities develop an appreciation of the need for precision, critical analysis and informed decision making.

This course prepares students to be responsible and efficient users of specialised chemical products and processes at home or in the workplace. It also enables students to relate chemistry to other sciences, including biology, geology, medicine, molecular biology and agriculture, and prepares them for further study in the sciences.

Human Biology ATAR

The Human Biology ATAR course gives students a chance to explore what it is to be human—how the human body works, the origins of human variation, inheritance in humans, the evolution of the human species and population genetics. Through their investigations, students research new discoveries that increase our understanding of human dysfunction, treatments and preventative measures.

Practical tasks are an integral part of this course and develop a range of laboratory skills; for example, biotechnology techniques. Students learn to evaluate risks and benefits to make informed decisions about lifestyle and health topics, such as diet, alternative medical treatments, use of chemical substances and the manipulation of fertility.

Integrated Science General

The Integrated Science General course enables students to investigate science issues in the context of the world around them. It encourages students to develop their scientific skills of curiosity, observation, collection and analysis of evidence, in a range of contexts. The multidisciplinary approach, including aspects of biology, chemistry, geology and physics, further encourages students to be curious about the world around them and assume a balanced view of the benefits and challenges presented by science and technology. Students conduct practical investigations that encourage them to apply what they have learnt in class to real-world situations and systems.

Physics ATAR

In the Physics ATAR course students will learn how energy and energy transformations can shape the environment from the small scale, in quantum leaps inside an atom's electron cloud, through the human scale, in vehicles and the human body, to the large scale, in interactions between galaxies. Students have opportunities to develop their investigative skills and use analytical thinking to explain and predict physical phenomena.

Students plan and conduct investigations to answer a range of questions, collect and interpret data and observations, and communicate their findings in an appropriate format. Problem-solving and using evidence to make and justify conclusions are transferable skills that are developed in this course.

Technologies

Automotive Engineering and Technology: General

Computer Science: ATAR

Design: General

Food Science and Technology: General

Materials Design and Technology: General

Automotive Engineering and Technology General

In the Automotive Engineering and Technology general course students develop skills and understandings relating to the component parts, accessories, systems and technologies of the automotive vehicle. Students develop the principles underpinning the operation of vehicle systems

and subsystems. They also develop the knowledge and skills needed to service, maintain and repair these systems. Students develop effective communication, teamwork skills and environmental awareness when developing solutions to planning and managing automotive vehicle systems.

Design General

In the Design General course students develop skills and processes for current and future industry and employment markets. Students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to understand design principles and processes, analyse problems and devise innovative strategies through projects. Students are able to focus on particular contexts from a choice of photography, graphics, dimensional design and technical graphics. The Design General course also emphasises the scope of design in trade based industries allowing students to maximise vocational pathways.

Food Science and Technology General

The Food Science and Technology General course provides opportunities for students to explore and develop food-related interests and skills. Food impacts on every aspect of daily life and is essential for maintaining overall health and wellbeing. Students organise, implement and manage production processes in a range of food environments and understand systems that regulate food availability, safety and quality. Knowledge of the sensory, physical, chemical and functional properties of food is applied in practical situations. Students investigate the food supply chain and value-adding techniques applied to food to meet consumer and producer requirements. Principles of dietary planning, adapting recipes, and processing techniques, are considered for specific nutritional needs of demographic groups. Occupational safety and health requirements, safe food handling practices, and a variety of processing techniques, are implemented to produce safe, quality food products. This course may enhance employability and career opportunities in areas that include nutrition, health, food and beverage manufacturing, food processing, community services, hospitality and retail.

Materials Design and Technology General

The Materials Design and Technology General course is a practical course. Students can choose to work with metal, textiles or wood, with the design and manufacture of products as the major focus. Students have the opportunity to develop and practise skills that contribute to creating a physical product, while acquiring an appreciation of the application of a design process, and an understanding of the need for materials sustainability. Students will learn and practise manufacturing processes and technologies, including principles of design, planning and management.

Endorsed Programs

An endorsed program is a significant learning program that has been developed for students in Years 10, 11 and 12. The program may have been developed by the Authority, or it may have been developed by a private provider, such as a university, community organisation, training institution, or a school, and subsequently endorsed by the School Curriculum and Standards Authority.

Endorsed programs address areas of learning not covered by courses.

Each endorsed program consists of a series of lessons, classes and/or activities designed to lead to the achievement of a common goal or set of learning outcomes. Endorsed programs can be delivered as part of the school curriculum or as extra-curricular activities.

All endorsed programs successfully completed and reported to the Authority:

- are listed on the student's WASSA
- may contribute towards the breadth-and-depth requirement of the WACE
- may contribute towards the C grade requirement of the WACE.

For WACE purposes a student can count a maximum of 4 unit equivalents from endorsed programs, two in Year 11 and two in Year 12.

Each endorsed program is allocated one, two, three or four unit equivalents.

An example of an Authority-developed endorsed program is the new Workplace Learning program:

Workplace Learning (ADWPL)

Workplace Learning is an Authority-developed endorsed program that is managed by individual schools and open to students in Years 10, 11 and 12. To complete this endorsed program, a student works in one or more real workplace/s to develop a set of transferable workplace skills. The student must record the number of hours completed and the tasks undertaken in the workplace in the Authority's *Workplace Learning Logbook*. The student must also provide evidence of his/her knowledge and understanding of the workplace skills by completing the Authority's *Workplace Learning Skills Journal* after each 55 hours completed in the workplace. Unit equivalence is allocated on the basis of 1 unit equivalent for each 55 hours completed in the workplace, to a maximum of 4 units. The total number of hours completed in the workplace is reported on the student's WASSA.

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Further information about endorsed programs can be found at
<http://wace1516.scsa.wa.edu.au/endorsed/>