Elective Summaries

YEAR 9 & 10 - 2014

Name: _______________________       HR: ______
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INTRODUCTION

In Years 9 and 10 students study a combination of prescriptive and elective subjects.

The compulsory subject areas include Religious Education, English, Mathematics, Science, Society and Environment, Physical Education and Health Education. Students are allocated to these compulsory areas by the College.

This booklet gives a brief description of the wide range of electives offered by the College.

Student choice will depend upon

- interests
- abilities
- preparation for on-going studies in Year 11 and 12
- career directions

The elective descriptions provide students with an insight into the Year 9 offerings and the flow-on into Year 10. Students are encouraged to discuss their choices with the appropriate teachers if they require further details.

Year 9 Electives: There are 6 periods of electives to choose. Subjects are offered as 2 periods per week. Please list your option selection in order of preference from 1 to 4.

Year 10 Electives: There are 8 periods of electives to choose. Subjects are offered as either 2 or 4 periods per week. Please list your option selection in order of preference from 1 to 5.

Combinations can be: Four “2 period Electives”
Two “4 period Electives”,
One “4 period Electives” and Two “2 period Electives”

Students have been provided with an Electives selection form which outlines the selection procedure.

The form must be completed as indicated and handed into their Homeroom Teachers by the due date. Students are to choose carefully as changes will not be allowed.

FRIDAY - 30 AUGUST 2013
THE ARTS - YEAR 9

The Design and Visual Arts course encourages students to explore their ideas and express themselves visually by producing paintings, drawings as well as problem solving the design and manufacture of functional and decorative items eg ceramic mugs, printed bags. Students have opportunities to experiment with a range of artistic media and consolidate their design and visual communication skills in creating their own highly imaginative art works.

DESIGN & VISUAL ARTS
Timetabled for two periods per week

This course encompasses both fine art and design through discrete projects.

In the Fine Art focused projects the emphasis is on working as a student artist, expressing and communicating individual ideas through art works and beginning to developing personal artistic style. Students are given the opportunity to explore a variety of art making studio disciplines such as painting, ceramics, sculpture, textiles, printmaking and new technologies. Drawing, inquiry and art theory underpins all practical work.

In the Design component of this course students will design and produce functional objects, for hypothetical clients, which solve design problems. The focus is on both the beauty and functionality of the object. Students work to solve everyday design problems. Projects will focus on a variety of design disciplines including jewellery making, fashion design, graphic design and interior design. The theory component of the course focuses on the importance of Art and Design in society and the development of visual language and communication.

The Design and Visual Art course affords students the opportunity to be creative, experiment and engage their imagination whilst realising the importance of art and design in our every day lives and society as a whole.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Studio Areas</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Drawing</td>
<td>Pencil, charcoal, conte, oil pastels, chalk pastels, pen and inks</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Painting</td>
<td>Acrylic, water colour, gouache, w/s oils</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Printmaking</td>
<td>Monotypes, lino prints, collographs, screen printing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graphic Art</td>
<td>Illustration, posters, tickets, books, CD covers, cards</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ceramics</td>
<td>Pots, ornaments, sculptures</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Textiles &amp; Fibre</td>
<td>Fabric painting, batik, tie dye, embroidery, felting, printing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sculpture</td>
<td>Clay, papier-mâché, wire, mixed media</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hybrid Arts</td>
<td>Combining a range of these studio areas to create artworks</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
VISUAL ARTS
Timetabled for two periods per week

This course follows on from the Year 9 course and introduces students to the Visual Arts subject pathways offered in Years 11 and 12.

Students are given the opportunity to explore a variety of art making studio disciplines such as painting, ceramics, sculpture, printmaking and new technologies. Art skills are developed and honed through drawing and inquiry.

Students are encouraged to understand the importance of the visual arts in society through the study of art history and theory.

The course allows students the opportunity to be creative, experiment and engage their imagination whilst realising the importance of art in our everyday lives. The theory component of this course focuses on the importance of art in society and the development of visual language and communication.

This course is recommended as a pre-requisite for the WACE Visual Arts courses to be introduced in 2015 - 2016.

This course is designed to develop student skills and/or understanding in the areas of:

- Working with a variety of artistic media
- Drawing
- Understanding and applying the Elements and Principles of Art and Design
- Visual language
- Brainstorming
- Visual inquiry and idea generation
- Time management
- Critical Analysis
- Art history

DESIGN
Timetabled for two periods a week

This course follows on from the Year 9 course and introduces students to the Design subject pathway offered in Years 11 and 12.

In this course students will design and produce functional objects, for hypothetical clients, which solve design problems. The focus is on both the beauty and functionality of the object. Students work to communicate messages through design artefacts and plan for the production of their design work for retail sale. Projects will focus on design within a dimensional context including jewellery, fashion accessories and home wares.

The course allows students the opportunity to be creative, experiment and engage their imagination whilst realising the importance of design in our everyday lives. The theory component of this part of the course focuses on the importance of design in society and the development of visual language and communication.

This course is recommended as a pre-requisite for the General and ATAR Design Courses. This course is designed to develop student skills and/or understanding in the areas of:

- Drawing
- Understanding and applying the Elements and Principles of Art and Design
- Typography
- Design process
- Brainstorming and planning
- Problem solving
- Time and project management
- Analysis
- Design history
The Drama course offers students an opportunity to develop confidence in communication in both individual and group situations, and to enrich their lives by satisfying the need for creative and imaginative outlets for expression. It caters for a wide range of students in a manner which is both practical and fun.

**DRAMA**
*Timetabled for two periods a week*

This course follows Year 8 course. Using the elements of drama, students will learn about themselves and others while developing their ability to share and communicate within a cooperative process. It is designed to develop and extend skills in creating and sustaining dramatic action and characterisation. Through the process of improvisation students develop scripts for performance and explore a variety of styles and forms of drama.

This course is designed to develop student skills and/or understanding in the areas of:

- Relaxation and concentration
- Verbal and non-verbal techniques
- Co-ordination and expressive movement
- Role play
- Playbuilding techniques
- Characterisation
- Text interpretation
- Development of script
- Commedia dell’Arte (and mask making)
- Basic stage craft
THE ARTS - YEAR 10

DRAMA (2P)
OPTION ONE
Timetabled for two periods a week

This course follows on from the Year 9 course and is designed to develop students further in their skills and understanding of Drama. It provides a useful foundation for students wishing to pursue a Year 11 Drama Course of Study. In addition to building upon existing knowledge, the students will also gain skills and/or understanding in the areas of:

- Vocal quality and projection
- Voice production
- Fundamentals of play production
- Design elements, such as: Costume, makeup and lighting
- Evaluation techniques
- Interpreting and performing scripts
- Monologue techniques
- Narrative, compilation and issue based playbuilding.

DRAMA STUDIES (4P)
OPTION TWO
Timetabled for four periods a week

This is highly recommended for students wishing to pursue the Year 11 and 12 Drama WACE courses of study.

Semester Two - Exploring Drama
Through small-scale drama performance projects, students develop their voice and movement skills, interacting in and with the performance space, using technologies such as sets, lighting and sound. In this unit, students are to focus on acting and at least one other role from the following: directing, designing, managing, playwriting, and dramaturgy.

Semester Two - Drama Events
Students participate in a public performance for an audience other than their class members. They extend their skills in improvisation and relate these to playwriting structures through a focus on characterisation, use of dialogue and creating drama narratives with dramatic tension.

Assessment: Students are assessed in the following three areas:

Performance/production
Improvising and devising original drama, interpreting drama texts, rehearsing, designing lighting, sound, sets, costumes and graphics for programs, posters and promotion.

Demonstrating the development of confidence and competence in the use of drama skills, techniques, processes and technologies in a range of performance contexts. Managing a range of production processes, evaluating and modifying them as necessary.

Response
Response to, analysis and evaluation of own, others’ or professional drama works.

Investigation
Research work in which students plan, conduct and communicate an investigation of drama works, rehearsal processes, forms and styles, drama practitioners, companies and ensembles, issues and/or cultural contexts, using a range of primary and secondary sources.

Types of evidence include a journal/portfolio (written or digital) to show evidence of research and the development of ideas, reflection on learning processes and evaluation of research, performance and production processes.
THE ARTS - YEAR 9

MEDIA
Timetabled for two periods a week
This course is an introduction to the WACE courses that are offered in Year 10 or Year 11. Students are introduced to the skills, techniques and conventions of audio visual production and broadcast radio.

This course is designed to develop student skills and/or understanding in the areas of
- Brainstorming and planning
- Scriptwriting and storyboarding
- Audio visual production
- Radio broadcast
- Group collaboration
- Time management
- Problem solving

MUSIC
Timetabled for two periods per week
This course is suitable for those students who are at present learning an instrument and intend to continue their musical studies. Students have the opportunity to perform in choirs and other College music ensembles.

This course is designed to develop student understanding in the areas of
- Aural skills
- Music theory
- Music history
- Music analysis
- Composition
- Performance
- Music technology such as Sibelius

Music in the Twentieth Century
Students will explore music in the twentieth century, with particular emphasis on music for film, experimental western music and the influence of the technical age. As part of their composition process, students complete full scores and have the opportunity to perform, record and produce their own music.

All students learning an instrument who wish to further their musical experience and knowledge are encouraged to choose Music as an option.

This course is designed to compliment the instrumental music program. However, students do not need to take music as an elective if they wish to study instrumental music. Students studying instrumental music through Mercedes College are expected to be part of the ensemble program, as this is a component of their overall instrumental.
THE ARTS - YEAR 10

MEDIA STUDIES (4P)
OPTION TWO
Timetabled for four periods a week

This course follows on from the introductory unit completed in Year 9 and is designed to develop students further in their skills and understandings as above.

This course is designed to further develop student skills in the areas of:
- Brainstorming and planning
- Scriptwriting and storyboarding
- Audio visual production - including skill workshops in sound, on set techniques and lighting
- Radio Broadcast
- Target audience and cultural contexts
- Written response techniques
- Film analysis
- Group collaboration
- Time management
- Problem solving

Please note this media course requires regular attendance as they involve a lot of group work

MEDIA (2P)
OPTION ONE
Timetabled for two periods a week

This course follows on from the introductory unit completed in Year 9 and is designed to develop students further in their skills and understandings as above.

This course is designed to further develop student skills in the areas of:
- Brainstorming and planning
- Scriptwriting and storyboarding
- Audio visual production - including skill workshops in sound, on set techniques and lighting
- Radio Broadcast
- Target audience and cultural contexts
- Written response techniques
- Film analysis
- Group collaboration
- Time management
- Problem solving

Please note this media course requires regular attendance as they involve a lot of group work

MUSIC
Timetabled for two periods per week

This course continues to expand on skills developed in Year 9. Students are encouraged to be actively involved in listening to, writing and playing music. This course is designed to prepare students for stage 2 and 3 music through performance, listening and directing music.

A Journey Through Time
This unit explores the development of Western Art Music. Students will be given the opportunity to perform in ensembles covering all genres of music. They will study selected works, gaining knowledge of form, composers and compositional techniques used in music.

This course is designed to compliment the instrumental music program. However, students do not need to take music as an elective if they wish to study instrumental music. Students studying instrumental music through Mercedes College are expected to be part of the ensemble program, as this is a component of their overall instrumental assessment.

It is highly recommended that students who wish to select Year 11 music choose this elective, as it will enhance their musicianship skills and enable them to prepare for Music as a WACE subject in Year 11 and 12.
PHYSICAL EDUCATION STUDIES
Timetabled for two periods per week

The Lower School Physical Education Studies Course is designed as an extension of the General Physical Education programme focusing on enhancing lifelong enjoyment and involvement in an active and healthy lifestyle. The course involves both theory and practical components.

The practical component focuses on broadening and developing students’ fundamental movement skills, knowledge and attitudes in a variety of physical activities, including individual, team and aquatic activities. It is intended that the programme will also enable students to make responsible decisions about physical activity and safety in relation to their own and others’ health and wellbeing.

Physical activities completed throughout the year include;

- Badminton
- AFL Football
- Basketball
- Street Hockey
- Cricket
- Canoeing

The theory component explores the functional anatomy of the human body to develop student’s knowledge of the musculoskeletal and cardio-respiratory systems.

To cover the cost of the specialist instructors and the use of outside venues for the physical activities a fee is charged for this elective.
**HEALTH & PHYSICAL EDUCATION - YEAR 10**

**SPORTS & RECREATION (2P)**  
**OPTION ONE**  
Timetabled for two periods per week

The Sport and Recreation Course is designed as an extension of the General Physical Education programme to provide students both practical and theoretical experiences to broaden their knowledge and skills in a sporting context.

The practical component focuses on developing a repertoire of movement and tactical skills in team and individual sports with the aim of developing an appreciation of sport as a lifelong activity to be played on a competitive or recreational basis. It is intended that the programme will provide opportunities for students to enhance and refine their own physical skills in order to perform to their potential.

Physical activities completed throughout the year include:
- Ultimate Frisbee or Speedminton
- Self Defence
- Touch Football
- Squash
- Lawn Bowls

The theory component explores the principles of fitness training and methods used to test fitness levels, and the necessary skills and knowledge required for the prevention, and management of sporting injuries.

Completing this course will enable students to determine if they are interested in selecting Certificate I Sport & Recreation in Year 11.

To cover the cost of the specialist instructors and the use of outside venues for the physical activities a fee is charged for this elective.

**PHYSICAL EDUCATION STUDIES (4P)**  
**OPTION TWO**  
Timetabled for four periods per week  
(2 practical and 2 theory sessions per week)

The Physical Education Studies Course focuses on learning through movement and personalised learning experiences. Students are introduced to simple movement, conditioning, psychological and social concepts that provide a basis for assessing and enhancing their participation in selected physical activities.

Students undertaking the course will develop skills, knowledge and understanding that will enable them to pursue their personal interests and potential in physical activity as athletes, coaches, officials and/or administrators.

The practical component focuses on developing a repertoire of advanced movement patterns, strategies and tactics in team and individual sports in order to improve the quality of skill performance.

Physical activities completed throughout the year include;
- Beach Volleyball
- Speedminton
- Volleyball
- Bronze Medallion

The theory component explores the interrelationships between motor learning and psychological, biomechanical and physiological factors that influence individual and team performance.

Completing this course will enable students to determine if they are interested in selecting Physical Education Studies in Year 11.

To cover the cost of outside venues for the physical activities a fee is charged for this elective.
**SCIENCE - YEAR 9**

**GALAXY TREK**  
Timetabled for two periods per week  
2 periods per week

Galaxy Trek is a course that will introduce students to exciting world of Space Science. The course will demonstrate the way science interacts with society and technology through student access to video conferencing, web resources, online data collection and a variety of multimedia. This course will be based on several programs run through the Victorian Space Science Education Centre (VSSEC) in addition to school developed resources.

An additional cost may be involved as a result of an excursion to Gin Gin where we will visit the Gravity Discovery Centre and Observatory. A visit to Scitech may also be planned. **Galaxy Trek** will be divided into four units

**Unit 1 – Space, the final frontier ........**  
Students will learn about
- Astronomy through time and examine the work of famous astronomers such as Copernicus and Galileo.
- The life of Stars through video conferences with scientists in Melbourne and online games
- Taking images with the SPIRIT telescope at UWA

**Unit 2 – Mars Rocks!**  
Students will learn about
- Mars, its geology, geography and what it would be like to work on Mars by working with scientists across Australia
- Complete a Web based project to select a landing site for the Mars Rover Mission

**Unit 3 – Robotic Mission to Mars**  
The Robotic Mission to Mars will allow students to remotely control a real rover on the VSSEC Mars surface. After completing a pre-mission training program and site selection activity, students will take on the roles of scientists and engineers in Mission Control to complete a mission and collect data for further analysis

**Unit 4 – It IS Rocket Science!**  
Students will
- Learn about the basic principles of Rocket Science
- Construct and launch water rockets and balloon rockets

Students who enjoy a challenge in their science and enjoy integrating technology into their learning will find this course very interesting!
This course will introduce students to the skills and tools used in the exciting area of forensic science. It will use the ideas and skills developed in the areas of Chemistry, Biology and Physics covered in science.

The major topics of the course are focused around the collection and analysis of the crime scene, and laboratory techniques used to analyse the collected evidence.

Students will learn about:

- Scientific techniques to analyse fingerprints, classify fingerprints and lift fingerprints from surfaces
- Making impressions and casts of footprints
- Autopsy procedures
- Analysis of hair and fibre samples
- Analysis of ink and paper samples as well as handwriting samples
- Identifying blood types and analyse blood spatter patterns
- Blood spatter patterns
- DNA analysis
- Detecting the presence of small amounts of chemicals in samples taken from a crime scene

The course will also involve a case study as an investigation project at the end of the year.

Students who enjoy a challenge in their science will find this course very interesting!
This course is for students who enjoy solving puzzles and have a passion for mathematics. Students will work collaboratively to play and create maths games and puzzles, solve problems. They will have the option of attending the MAWA maths games camp, and will use a variety of technologies to investigate mathematical concepts.

Note: You do not need to be an expert at mathematics; however, general mathematical competence will be required.
LANGUAGES - YEAR 9

The Languages learning area has 6 learning outcomes which ensure that a student's socio-linguistic and socio-cultural understandings are developed and applied to the target language to allow the student to make meaning of the language and to express themselves in that language.

Students are required to listen and respond, to view and respond and to read and respond both orally and in a variety of texts in their target language. Language is studied for two periods per week.

ITALIAN

In vacanza! Buon viaggio!
Il ferragosto is the time of the year when Italians take vacation seriously. This period of time compares well to our summer holidays – a time to relax, go on holiday, visit friends and go to the beach.

This semester focuses on le vacanze scolastiche – school holidays, amusement parks and viaggiare all'estero – travelling abroad.

Festeggiiamo!
Festa is a word that may mean party, a holiday or a festival. This semester the focus is on the many celebrations which form part of the Italian way of life.

One task will be to organise the ideal festa – cibo, bevande, locale e invito (food, drink, location and invitation).

FRENCH

En vacances! Bon voyage!
Holidays and travelling around French-speaking countries are the main themes of this Semester's course. Students look at French holiday activities and how these compare to their own.

Other topics also include describing French cities, transport, weather, postcard writing and conversing at the train station.

Les fêtes!
Les fêtes is a phrase that can mean party, a holiday or a festival. This semester the focus is on the many festivals and/or celebrations which form part of the French way of life.

One task will be to organise the ideal fête – nourriture, boissons, endroit et invitation (food, drinks, location and invitation)!

CHINESE (MANDARIN)

Personal identity, everyday life and popular culture
个人的衣食住行, 家庭和职业

Semester 1 will build on the language that students learnt in Year 8. During Term 1 and 2 Students will explore Chinese Language and culture from a personal perspective, enabling them to share information related to personal identity, aspects of everyday life, and popular culture. Students will primarily use Pinyin (the Chinese Romanized reading system); however, students will also begin to recognize and read Hanzi (Chinese Characters).

Students will continue learning Chinese New Year, Lantern Festival and Dragon Boat Festival to enhance their understanding about Chinese culture.

Topics include: Where I live, Family and Occupations.

Hobbies, daily routines and body parts
业余爱好，日常生活和身体部位

Students continue to explore Chinese Language and Culture from a personal perspective. They will be able to discuss information related to personal identity, aspects of everyday life, and popular culture in more detail, and their confidence in the language will increase. Students will continue to use Pinyin (the Chinese Romanized reading system), and their knowledge of Hanzi will increase (Chinese Characters).

They will explore some of the traditional activities that people love in China, such as Martial Arts, Table Tennis (ping pong) as well as writing calligraphy.

Topics include: Hobbies and Sports, Daily Routines and Body Parts.
ITALIAN
Timetabled for four periods per week

Semester One - Questo mio mondo
This unit introduces the Italian language and culture from a teenager’s perspective. Students engage in activities associated with their world, aspects of youth and Italian culture, and their personal identity.

Students begin to develop the skills and strategies to participate in Italian in a range of situations including sharing of personal information and obtaining information from others.

Students will prepare for the Dante Alighieri Competition this semester.

Semester Two - Cose da fare, luoghi da visitare
Students have the opportunity to examine the activities that are popular today while building on their developing language skills in order to share information about where and how they spend their time.

Students learn more about Italy, as well as exploring the language and skills that will enable them to welcome Italians to their own country.

An excursion to Northbridge and European Foods to witness the contribution made by Italian migrants in our own city of Perth takes place this semester.

These courses are a prerequisite for students wishing to continue Italian in Year 11 and 12.

FRENCH
Timetabled for four periods per week

Semester One - Le Monde des Jeunes
This unit introduces the French language and culture from a teenager’s perspective. In the context of le Monde des Jeunes, students engage in activities associated with their own world and personal identity. They become familiar with certain aspects of the youth culture and living in a French-speaking community.

Comparisons with aspects of their own lives and those of teenagers elsewhere are made by looking at music, clothing and pastimes. The understanding of what it is to be a French or a French-speaking teenager is also broadened.

This semester involves preparing for the Alliance Française Competition.

Semester Two - La Francophonie
Students have the opportunity to extend their knowledge of the Francophone world by focussing specifically on a French-speaking region, community or country. This enables the student to understand the diversity of the French-speaking world and design a virtual trip to a Francophone country.

Cultural, physical, historical and environmental factors are examined to understand the impact they have had on the French language. An awareness of the values and beliefs of different Francophone communities, and the implicit connection between language and attitudes, will be developed.

An excursion to a restaurant to sample some foods from different French speaking countries takes place this Semester.

These courses are a prerequisite for students wishing to continue French in Year 11 and 12.
LANGUAGES - YEAR 10

CHINESE
Timetabled for four periods per week

Semester One - 年 (teenagers)
Students share and obtain information from others related to personal identity, aspects of living in Chinese-speaking communities, and popular culture. They begin to develop an understanding of what it is to be Chinese and Chinese-speaking, and compare their own lives to those of others in Chinese-speaking communities.

Students will have the opportunity to build relationships with Chinese students from our sister school in China.

Semester Two - 课余生活 (things to do)
Students share information about their own sense of space or place, and develop a sense of space and place related to China and Chinese-speaking countries. They begin to develop the skills needed to travel within, and learn more about Chinese-speaking communities and cultures.

Students examine the activities that are popular with youth today and share information about where and how they spend their leisure time. They express their opinions in simple discussions. Students learn about China and to communicate with Chinese friends.

These courses are a prerequisite for students wishing to continue Chinese in Year 11 and 12.
PERSONAL ECONOMICS & FINANCE
Timetabled for two periods per week

Personal Economics and Finance is a course that will allow students to develop economic and financial knowledge, effective planning skills and the skills to select and interact with providers of goods, services and information – i.e. the knowledge and skills that will allow them to survive economically when they leave school.

Individuals derive income from a variety of sources and use this income for the consumption of goods and role of government in their financial lives.

These concepts may be studied in the contexts of the economics of:
- buying a car
- an overseas holiday
- entering a mobile phone contract
- using credit
- career choice and income

Students choosing to study Personal Economics and Finance, as well as gaining credit towards secondary graduation with the Curriculum Council, will gain a sound grounding in Economics should they choose to continue their study of this subject in Years 11 and 12.

MCIS
Mercedes
Crime Investigation Studies (Law)
Timetabled for two periods per week

MCIS, or Mercedes Criminal Investigation Studies is a Politics and Law based option course for Year 10 students that focuses on the role of criminal law in Western Australia and in the popular culture enjoyed by Western Australians.

Within this context students will learn:
- the role and source of criminal law
- the elements of a crime
- the enforcement of criminal law
- the Criminal Code of Western Australia
- the impact of the media on criminal enforcement and trials (this may include current event high profile trials, Australian shows such as ‘Border Security’ and ‘The Force’ and international shows like NCIS and Judge Judy)
- the role of forensic science in criminal cases
- comparing crime across societies.

The course will make use of current events and technology to enhance the learning of students.

Students will also have the opportunity to attend Law Week activities and visit the Magistrate Courts.
PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS - YEAR 10

PHILOSOPHY & ETHICS
So you think you can think
Timetabled for two periods per week

Everyone does philosophy.

Everyone thinks about life, the way they live, what is right and wrong, and how we know things at least some of the time.

The word philosophy is from the Greek meaning the love of wisdom, so if you enjoy questioning fundamental aspects of life, our existence, reason, and the human mind then this is the elective for you!

Philosophy teaches us not what to think but how to think. Different ideas about people, rules and how to live are introduced, debated and applied to real life. We examine philosophers from Plato to Walt Disney and explore ideas of our world reflected in celebrity, pop culture and ourselves.

This unit covers the key concepts addressed in the Stage 1 course, and is an exciting introduction to critical thought in everyday life, a skill that is increasingly needed in our society. Three basic questions are asked: How do we know? What is real? And how should we live?

We will also look at ideas of reason and happiness. You will examine the basic components of argument: the concept of fairness; concepts of human fulfilment and wellbeing; and the ethics and values of friendship.

Group work and discussion is a major focus and students will explore some basic elements of reasoning; the distinction between opinion and evidence; the idea of the person; work and leisure; and rights and obligations in society.
BUSINESS & TECHNOLOGY  
Timetabled for two periods per week

This course is designed to give students hands on experience in the world of business and develops student’s skills and knowledge in the use of technology in a personal and business context.

This course incorporate the use of technology into everyday personal and business tasks such as; banking, investing, borrowing, personal taxation, budgeting and marketing. Students will investigate realistic business tasks, develop sound money management skills and learn to devise documents such as curriculum vitae, letters and advertisements to a professional business standard.

Students visit a well-known business to gain an understanding of the successful marketing techniques. They develop their own comprehensive marketing package including the creation of a business name, logo and print advertisement.

This course allows students to explore business and finance concepts in a fun, practical manner that will help them in their personal lives.

MULTIMEDIA:  
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY  
Timetabled for two periods per week

This course provides students with the opportunity to use multimedia technology in a creative manner. Students will use audio software to create podcasts, graphic software to create a range of paraphernalia, develop Web authoring skills and become adept users of the Internet.

Incorporated into the course is the use of digital cameras, scanners and microphones. Students will also discuss current ethical and legal issues in the IT environment.

By successfully completing this course, students will have a stronger understanding of information technology at both a practical and ethical level.
BUSINESS STUDIES with
CERTIFICATE I IN BUSINESS
(BSB10107)
Timetabled for four periods per week

The key objective of this subject is to introduce students to a range of financial, legal and business skills which will lay the foundation for their successful participation in society as young adults. It introduces aspects of Accounting, Consumer Law and Certificate II and III in Business in Year 11 and 12. It also allows students to gain initial awareness of these subject areas. In addition, students are provided with the opportunity to complete a Certificate I Business, a nationally recognised certificate, which may assist with entry to an Institute of Technology. Within the context of developing investment strategies and financial literacy, students undertake an online stock market simulation in which they construct and monitor a hypothetical share portfolio.

Movement in the value of the portfolio and individual shares is interpreted and students learn at first hand the need to balance risk and return. Students are given the opportunity to make a profit through the successful operation of a small business within the College for a two week period in Term 3. The business ideas are endless and have included jewellery, scarves, lip gloss, beauty products, mirrors, cards, pencil cases and notebooks.

Students studying Business will develop effective decision-making skills related to consumer behaviour and the management and evaluation of personal financial matters, resulting in improved economic, consumer and financial literacy. This course is both fun and challenging. The course integrates the use of computers in key areas of reporting, analysing and researching information. Students develop skills in the use of spreadsheets, as a financial tool, and make extensive use of the internet in researching information and implementing decisions.

Units of Competency for Cert I in Business
(partnering with Central Institute of Technology)

- BSBOHS201A Participate in OHS processes
- BSBADM101A Use Business equipment and resources
- BSBCMM101A Apply basic communication skills
- BSBITU101A Operate a personal computer
- BSBITU102A Develop keyboard skills
- BSBLED101A Plan skills development

FEE
All Certificate courses have an external administration fee attached, at the time of printing the fee was $70, this fee can be subject to change.

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
Timetabled for four periods per week

The focus for this unit is personal information and communication technologies and using technology to meet personal computing needs. This includes the study of how an individual’s use of information technology can their daily lives. Students investigate computer systems and understand the configuration needed to meet their personal needs. Students also develop graphical manipulation skills and good design principles. Students use the Adobe suite of software to create their own graphics, and manipulated images.

Students will study computer architecture and learn programming principles through the design and control of Lego robotics. Robotics is a fun way to learn how to create fully functional self running mechanisms. Students have the opportunity to follow their designs from the initial concept to a practical working model.

Students will find this course fun and interesting as well as rewarding. Students will acquire and apply a range of knowledge and skills to create information solutions that inform, persuade, educate or entertain. It will also provide a good foundation for the Applied Information Technology course offered in Years 11 and 12.
FOODS
Timetabled for two periods per week

Food To Share
Preparing food to share with others is fun and rewarding. Students learn the courses of the formal menu and examine the factors that impact on menu planning. They discover if their ‘Kitchen Rules’ by having the opportunity to participate in a range of practical activities to develop their food preparation skills while preparing and presenting food for others.

Food for the Future
Students examine the history of food in Australia. From the time of the Aborigines, early settlement and the multicultural influences, past and present on our food. They develop and prepare food that satisfies Australians food preferences, whilst ensuring it is correctly labelled, suitably packaged and sustainable. Practical activities will focus on meeting the food needs of consumers today without compromising the food needs of those in the future.

TEXTILES
Timetabled for two periods per week

Designing With Textiles
In this course students will have the opportunity to make a selection of items demonstrating self-expression. Students will learn time saving techniques using a variety of today’s fabrics as well as trends in fashion and develop their creative design ideas.

Practical activities include:
- Designer beach bag……. upholstery fabric
- A Rock ‘n roll skirt for the Social! ……. satin
- Winter PJ’s ……. flannelette
- Teddy bear ……. fur

CARING FOR CHILDREN
Timetabled for two periods per week

Where Did I Come From?
Watching and helping young children grow can be fun. Students will have the opportunity of learning about babies and become informed in a number of different areas.

These include:
- puberty
- pregnancy
- the developmental stages of an infant from conception to birth
- stages in the birth process
- the basic needs of infants including bathing, feeding and clothing
- why babies cry

Practical activities include:
- the making of a heat pack and nursery item

Baby Sitters Of Tomorrow!
Students of today are the baby-sitters of tomorrow, and the parents of the future. Parenting is learned not instinctive and this course teaches:
- the developmental stages of a child to pre-school age with a focus on language development
- roles and responsibilities of carers
- the importance and benefits of play
- child rearing practices in various cultures
- feeding of toddlers

Practical activities include:
- eye spy pillows
- dolls for Africa
FOODS
Timetabled for two periods per week

Passport To A Food Adventure
‘Around the world in twenty weeks’ - Come to the land of exotic culinary delights!

From Thailand to Italy, Japan to Mexico. Students sample and prepare foods from many countries around the world while investigating cultural traditions, influences on food patterns and the development of the ‘Australian Diet’.

The Café Strip
Healthy food doesn’t have to be boring! This unit covers all aspects of nutrition and the development of a healthy lifestyle through a wide range of practical food preparation.

LEISURE FOR LIVING
Timetabled for two periods per week

As the pace of modern life gets quicker, leisure time has become increasingly important as a way to relieve stress and recharge our energy levels. This course introduces students to a number of leisure activities which are fun and can turn into life-long hobbies.

Throughout the year a number of topics are covered.

These can include:
- grooming and wardrobe planning
- card making
- Mosaics
- elements of design
- beading/jewellery making
- gift cookery
- scrapbooking
- power point design
- job interview research skills

TEXTILES
Timetabled for two periods per week

Dress To Impress
Advanced designing and sewing skills will be incorporated in the planning and construction of garments.

Practical activities include:
- Sportswear ……… stretch fabrics / techniques
- A winter jacket ……… commercial patterns
- Summer garment ……… elements of design
CERTIFICATE I in HOSPITALITY (KITCHEN OPERATIONS) (SIT10307)
4 Periods per Week

Mercedes College in partnership with Polytechnic West provides the opportunity for students to complete Certificate I in Hospitality (Kitchen Operations) as one of the electives offered in Year 10. As a result of this partnership, students entering VET for School Students Training will be enrolled at Polytechnic West but will be taught at Mercedes College. Successful completion of all of these units will result in Certificate I in Hospitality (Kitchen Operations) being awarded.

DURATION
This is a 1 year training program

RECOGNITION
Your Certificate and/or Statement of Attainment for successfully completed units will be recognised by any Polytechnic College or other Registered Training Organisation nationally.

ASSESSMENT DETAILS
Assessment will be based on the student completing tasks and activities to demonstrate they have gained the skills and knowledge required. Assessment methods will include observation, practical activities, portfolios and work-based activities.

FEE
All Certificate courses have an external administration fee attached, at the time of printing the fee was $70. An additional fee is charged for food and ingredients, the fee in 2012 was $240. Both fees can be subject to change.

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<th>Training Package Title:</th>
<th>Tourism, Hospitality &amp; Events (SIT07)</th>
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<tr>
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Elective Unit
- SITHCCC007A | S6348 | Prepare sandwiches |
- SITHCCC006A | S6347 | Prepare appetisers & salads |
- SITHIND001B | WB948 | Develop & update hospitality industry knowledge |