



Community service logbooks

Contact

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New community service logbooks have been printed and can be ordered now in preparation for 2010. The order form is on the Council website at http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/internet/Senior_Secondary/Community_Service.

Deputy principal and curriculum coordinator workshops

Contact

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The Curriculum Council is holding a series of workshops for secondary school deputy principals and curriculum coordinators in October. Principals are also encouraged to attend if they are available.

The workshops will provide participants with an update of WACE requirements, enrolment trends, examinations and reporting. Information will also be provided on resources, other support materials and the national curriculum.

Registrations for these events are now open at www.curriculum.wa.edu.au. A selection of dates and venues are provided. Limited places are available at each venue and these are indicated on the registration page. Morning tea and a light lunch will be provided.

The Curriculum Council looks forward to participation from deputy principals, principals and curriculum coordinators. Please direct enquiries to pdenquiry@curriculum.wa.edu.au.

Endorsed programs update

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New endorsed programs

The following new programs have been endorsed:

Community organisation programs

- Aries Technology: nine programs
- Australian Red Cross Cadets: four levels
- Conservation Volunteers Australia: Fauna Program
- Conservation Volunteers Australia: Flora Program
- Outward Bound: Navigator Program
- Royal Life Saving Society: Bronze Medallion

The details of these programs are available on the Council website at

<http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/Apps/EP/display.aspx?type=1>.

Personal development programs

- Darling Range Sports College: Personal Fitness A and B
- Department of Education and Training: Community Service
- Department of Education and Training: Learning to Live (L2L): 5 modules
- John Curtin College of the Arts: Production Stagecraft 1–4
- Mercy: Service-Learning
- Outward Bound: School Program
- Peer Support Australia: Peer Support Program
- Re-engineering Australia Foundation: F1 in Schools Technology Challenge
- Volunteering WA: YVolunteer

The details of these programs are available on the Council website at

<http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/Apps/EP/display.aspx?type=4>.

2. Re-endorsement of programs

The following programs have been re-endorsed

- Anglicare WA: Changemakers – Learning by Building Community
- Australian Army Cadets – all levels
- Curriculum Council Generic Personal Development Programs
- Curriculum Council Workplace Learning programs WL1 and WL2
- John Curtin College of the Arts: Ballet Showcase 1–4
- WA Police Rangers

Japanese: Second Language minor syllabus refinements

Contact

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Following advice from the Senior Secondary Education Committee and the Japanese: Second Language Course Advisory Committee, the Curriculum Council formed a working group with a representative from each sector/system and the professional association to reach agreement on final syllabus changes in relation to consistency and accuracy of the grammar section.

The Council accredited the revised syllabus at its September meeting. The updated syllabus will be posted on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo. The syllabus will have a watermark and footer to clearly identify it as the syllabus for 2010.

Materials Design and Technology update

Contact

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The revised Materials Design and Technology course has been re-accredited by the Curriculum Council for teaching in Year 11 Stage 1 and Stage 2 from the start of 2010 and in Year 12 Stage 3 in 2011. The first exam on the revised syllabus will be in 2011.

The Council surveyed 165 schools and teacher feedback indicated that 92 per cent of teachers approved of the course changes and revised format.

Further minor refinements to the syllabus may be required following this year's examinations, including the submission of folios. All schools will be advised of any further refinements.

Minor changes to the 2010 Applied Information Technology syllabus

Contact

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In response to teacher feedback, the Curriculum Council has made minor refinements to the Applied Information Technology syllabus for teaching in 2010. The updated syllabus document is now on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo. The document has a watermark and footer to clearly identify it as the syllabus for 2010.

At each stage, the VET units have had some minor content dot points deleted, clarified or updated.

The following unit content for Stage 2 and 3 has been updated:

- Unit 2B 'Hardware components and functions', dot point network components, network card has been changed to network interface card; and switch has been added
- Unit 3B 'Hardware components and functions', dot point protocols, HTTPS has been added.

Minor changes to the 2010 Aviation syllabus

Contact

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In response to teacher feedback, the Curriculum Council has made minor refinements to the Aviation syllabus for teaching in 2010. The revised syllabus will be implemented for both Stage 2 and Stage 3.

The updated syllabus document is now on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo. The document has a watermark and footer to clearly identify it as the syllabus for 2010.

The revisions fall into four categories as set out below:

- **Redrafted unit descriptions:** the unit descriptions have now been rewritten to better reflect the revised and redistributed content of the units.
- **Practical flight skills:** the syllabus now incorporates explicitly stated practical flight skills. These skills have always been an integral component of the course and are tested in a practical test as part of the Stage 2 and Stage 3 WACE examinations.
- **Pathways:** suggested pathways for students are now included. The recommended pathways that make it clear that a familiarity with the knowledge and understandings and skills that were developed in Stage 2 would be advantageous for students intending to undertake Stage 3.
- **Refinement of content:** certain areas of content that Aviation teachers identified as being either unclear or out of date have been replaced and/or deleted.

Minor changes to the 2010 Computer Science syllabus

Contact

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In response to teacher feedback, the Curriculum Council has made minor refinements to the Computer Science syllabus for teaching in 2010. The updated syllabus document is now on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo. The document has a watermark and footer to clearly identify it as the syllabus for 2010.

At each stage, the VET units have had some minor content dot points deleted, clarified or updated.

The following unit content for Stage 2 and 3 has been updated:

- Unit 2A 'Hardware components', second dot point has been removed as it was essentially the same as the first dot point.
- Unit 2A 'Software components', dot point utility software, virus checking software has been added.
- Unit 3B 'Tools', Data representation and organisation, dot point connection of databases has been moved to Components, Software components.

Minor changes to the 2010 Earth and Environmental Science syllabus

Contact

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The Curriculum Council has endorsed amendments.

In response to teacher feedback, the Curriculum Council has made minor refinements to the Earth and Environmental Science syllabus for teaching in 2010. The updated syllabus document is now on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo. The document has a watermark and footer to clearly identify it as the syllabus for 2010.

The changes fall into one of three categories:

- The core *Working scientifically* and *Earth and environmental science skills* referred to in each of the units, and which are described in detail in the preamble on page 6 in the course document, are now incorporated as essential skills into the unit content of each unit.
- Certain elements of content that were considered by the Earth and Environmental Science Course Advisory Committee (CAC) to be unclear have been deleted.
- Content has been added to the syllabus where, in the view of the CAC, such additions serve to clarify the syllabus.

Minor changes to the 2010 Mathematics syllabus (2CMAT and 3AMAT)

Contact

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In response to teacher feedback, the Curriculum Council has made minor refinements to the Mathematics syllabus for teaching 2CMAT and 3AMAT in 2010. The updated syllabus document is now on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo. The document has a watermark and footer to clearly identify it as the syllabus for 2010.

2CMAT

The words *or readily factorised form* have been added to dot point 1.3.2 to make the syllabus description more explicit.

Dot point 1.3.2 of the 2CMAT unit syllabus now reads:

1.3.2 solve quadratic equations:

- algebraically, if in factored form or readily factorised form
- graphically.

3AMAT

The phrase (*event A or B, event A and B, event A given event B, complement of A*) have been added to dot point 3.1.3 to make the syllabus description more explicit.

Dot point 3.1.3 of the 3AMAT unit syllabus now reads:

3.1.3 use sample spaces to calculate simple probabilities and probabilities for compound events (event A or B, event A and B, event A given event B, complement of A).

Music syllabus refinements

Contact

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Further refinements to the draft revised Music syllabus were discussed with teachers at the professional development day on 20 July and at a joint DET, AISWA, CEO consultation forum on 31 August. The draft revised syllabus has been reviewed to incorporate teacher feedback from the consultation forum and from context specific critical readers.

Following the 28 October Council meeting, schools will be advised of the final syllabus changes and the implementation timeline. The updated syllabus will be posted on the Council website and indicated with an 'updated' logo.

Professional development in Term 4

Contact

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The Curriculum Council is working in collaboration with key stakeholders, including sector/systems, universities and professional organisations, to develop a range of professional development events to be held from late October to early December.

These events will further support teachers in their implementation of the WACE courses and will focus on new content, assessment and planning and pedagogy. A calendar of events for each course will be placed on course pages on the Council website in the first week of Term 4. Information will also be published in future eCirculars.

VET industry specific course update

Contact

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Sport and Recreation (SIS09) course

The endorsement of the new training package on which this course will be based has been delayed until the end of 2009. Further development and consultation on this course will be completed in early 2010 when the course will be finalised. It will be available for schools to use in 2011.

Community Services (CHC08) course

The Community Services (CHC02) course has been mapped to the new CHC08 training package. Although there is considerable change to code numbers and names of the units of competency, there are only minor changes to the actual content of the units. The revised course will be available for schools to use in 2010–2011. Any schools using the 2009 version of Community Services (CHC02) will be able to continue using this version for 2010.

Consensus moderation 2009

Contact

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The consensus moderation process for 2009 is almost complete. Follow-up meetings were conducted for each course where a number of teachers could not attend on 20 July or were unable to participate as they arrived late or without the required student assessment files.

All teachers attending a consensus moderation meeting were asked to complete an evaluation form. The feedback from these forms has been collated. Overall, teachers were very positive about the usefulness of the meetings and felt that the meetings, in conjunction with other Council activities and materials, will produce comparable marking and grading.

The Consensus Moderation Report 2009 includes overall data from all teachers and course-specific data. This report is available on the Council website at:

http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/documents/publications/Consensus_moderation_2009_-_Web_Report.pdf.

A small number of schools have not participated in the process for particular courses/stages. These schools are required to mail their materials to the Council for review before their grades will be approved. Students will receive a U notation for these courses/stages until the process has been completed.

Consensus moderation 2010

Contact

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Consensus moderation meetings in 2010 will be conducted on 19 July (the first day of Term 3). Meetings will be held for the following WACE courses wherever sufficient schools are delivering each stage:

- Stage 3 (only) for the 13 courses available for the first time in 2008
- Stages 1, 2 and 3 for the 31 courses available for the first time in 2009.

It is compulsory for each school to send one representative to a meeting for each stage (or pair of units) that the school is delivering. The format of the meetings will be the same as that used this year. Full details will be provided to schools later in 2009.

Meetings will be held in the metropolitan area and where viable in Bunbury, Albany and Geraldton. Where location precludes a school from sending a representative to a meeting, contact will be made with the school later this year to establish an appropriate process to use.

No meetings will be conducted in 2010 for the eight courses which were available for the first time in or before 2007:

- Applied Information Technology
- Aviation
- Earth and Environmental Science
- Engineering Studies
- English
- English as an Additional Language/Dialect
- Media Production and Analysis
- Physical Education Studies.

These courses will be moderated through the school moderation visit/validation process for a sample of schools.

Feedback on proposed grade distributions

Contact

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In early September the Curriculum Council collected the proposed grade distributions for course units completed in the students' final year of schooling and E code subjects completed by all students. These distributions have been reviewed by the Council's moderation officers. As a result, each proposed distribution has either been accepted or it has been suggested that the school reviews particular grade cut-offs. Any changes that have been recommended are based on historical data and/or advice provided during any school moderation visit or validation conducted this year.

The reports showing this feedback for each course and subject will be dispatched to schools on 12 October as part of the Year 12 Results Collection Package. Schools are also able to view and print these reports in SIRS. The SIRS pathway is:

Reports>Other Reports>Report Type>Moderation>Report

- GRD020 – Proposed Grade Feedback for Year 12 Subjects
- GRD021 – Proposed Grade Feedback for Year 12 Courses.

Schools should provide this feedback to teachers. Any suggested changes to grade cut-offs should be considered when assigning final grades for the course units or subject. If the school does not agree with the feedback, the teacher should contact the appropriate moderation officer by phone or email to discuss the reason. The officers are:

All Business and Computing courses and subjects	Ian Gaynor	9273 6350	ian.gaynor@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Arts courses and subjects (except Music)	Christine Adams	9273 6390	christine.adams@curriculum.wa.edu.au
Music	Wendy-Cara Dugmore	9273 6762	wendycara.dugmore@curriculum.wa.edu.au
English Literature/English	John Watson	9273 6374	john.watson@curriculum.wa.edu.au
English as an Additional Language/Dialect	Mary Lynch	9273 6778	mary.lynch@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Home Economics courses and subjects (inc. Materials Design & Technology: Textiles)	Jennifer Wheatley	9273 6335	jennifer.wheatley@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Languages courses and subjects	Nadia Civa	9273 6355	nadia.civa@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Mathematics courses and subjects	Rom Cirillo	9273 6718	rom.cirillo@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Health Physical Education courses and subjects (including Marine & Maritime Technology)	Dino Manalis	9273 6356	dino.manalis@curriculum.wa.edu.au

All Science courses and subjects (inc. Aviation)	Paul Reiffer	9273 6364	paul.reiffer@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Society & Environment (inc. Philosophy & Ethics)	Mandy Hudson	9273 6755	mandy.hudson@curriculum.wa.edu.au
All Design and Technology courses and subjects (inc. Engineering Studies)	Peter Martyr	9273 6366	peter.martyr@curriculum.wa.edu.au
Career & Enterprise/ Workplace Learning	Carole Veith	9273 6379	carole.veith@curriculum.wa.edu.au
General enquiries	Linley Scott	9273 6367	linley.scott@curriculum.wa.edu.au

If, after acceptance of the proposed grade distribution by the Council, unexpected circumstances create a significantly different final grade distribution, the teacher should contact the appropriate moderation officer by phone or email to outline the reason for the variation.

Schools are reminded that grades are not final until confirmed by the Curriculum Council. All marked assessment tasks should be retained or readily accessible as evidence of student achievement at least until grades are confirmed. For students in their final year, grades will be confirmed by the end of November. For all other students, grades will be confirmed by early February 2010.

Data integrity for vocational education and training and endorsed programs

Contacts

Jenny Morup (08) 9273 6309

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Jenny Offer (08) 9273 6313

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Data submitted to the Curriculum Council is used to determine if a student has met WACE requirements.

It is essential schools provide accurate information and are urged to be thorough, especially when collecting and uploading results and achievement data from organisations outside of the school.

To ensure accurate data transfer procedures are in place between schools and registered training organisations (RTOs) or other endorsed program providers, the Council will audit a sample of schools' data with data it has obtained from an RTO or an endorsed program provider. This audit will take place from 26 November to 4 December. The schools chosen for sampling will be notified early in Term 4.

The principal must certify that the achievement data submitted by the school is correct. The confirmation must include that

- results in units of competencies have been verified by the RTO
- qualifications achieved by students have been verified by the RTO
- evidence of achievement of endorsed programs has been verified.

Verification may be in the form of an email or letter bearing the organisation logo or on a letterhead, stating the outcomes have been achieved by the specified students. If available, a copy of the statement of attainment, certificate or other specified evidence of achievement may be used.

The declaration form is available on the next page.



Vocational education and training and endorsed programs achievement declaration form – 2009

This declaration form is to be completed by schools that are reporting student achievement of:

- VET units of competency
- VET qualifications
- Workplace Learning programs (WL1 and WL2)
- university units
- community organisation programs
- personal development programs.

Before the Curriculum Council can accept the VET results and endorsed program achievement data, the school principal must confirm that the relevant RTO/s and endorsed program providers have provided written evidence of achievement and the data has been accurately uploaded to SIRS.

Forms of evidence

Acceptable forms of evidence include:

- copy of the statement of attainment or qualification issued by the RTO
- certificate, award, examination report or academic transcript issued by other providers
- emailed or faxed statement from the RTO or program provider.

It is important that the achievement data submitted to the Curriculum Council is accurate to maintain the integrity of the WACE and the statement of results. Council officers will audit this evidence through school visits and data cross-reference checks with providers.

Declaration by the principal

I certify that the achievement data submitted by the school is correct. The evidence of achievement has been retained by the school for audit purposes.

I confirm that:

(Please tick)

Results in **units of competencies** achieved by students have been verified as stated on SIRS report – CSE005.

Qualifications achieved by students have been verified as stated on SIRS report – CSE007.

Evidence of achievement of other **endorsed programs** has been verified as stated on SIRS report – CSE006.

Name of VET coordinator/contact: _____

Name of endorsed programs coordinator/contact: _____

School: _____ School code: _____

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Principal's signature: _____ Date: _____

Please print name: _____

Please return by 24 November 2009 to:

**Data coordinator
Curriculum Council
27 Walters Drive
OSBORNE PARK WA 6017**

Recording of WACE English language competence

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The default setting in SIRS will automatically record students who have achieved the English language competence standard. The standard is a C grade or better in at least one Stage 1 English unit or Stage 1C or 1D unit in English as an Additional Language/Dialect or a grade of C or better in English Literature (E005) in Year 12. As a result, schools need only check the appropriate field on their student database if a student has achieved ELC by application of the work samples.

For SIS and MAZE schools

The recording of the English language competence standard has been provided in the SIS and MAZE software. Questions relating to this should be directed to the appropriate SIS or MAZE help desk.

For other schools

The record format for student registration and demographic information combined file for schools using Microsoft Excel can be found on the Curriculum Council website at http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/internet/Communications/Publications/WACE_Procedures. Sub-section 5.2.3 contains the record formats for student registration and demographic information combined. The field (column BF) indicating English language competence (ELC) standard is part of the student registration and demographic file (SRGDG). When a school uploads this file to the Curriculum Council database, SIRS will be updated with the ELC standard. It is recommended that schools upload the file containing the ELC standard on or before 2 November 2009.

Reporting community service hours

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While the completion of 20 hours of community service is no longer a requirement for achieving a WACE, the achievement of community service will continue to be acknowledged on a student's statement of results with the total number of service hours collected at the end of Year 12.

The total number of hours can be uploaded to the Council through a field in the student registration and demographic (SRGDG) file by the school at which the student is completing their senior secondary studies. This must be done before the end of November 2009, when the database will be closed for Year 12 changes.

Both the SIS and Maze databases have a field where the number of community service hours can be recorded. For Maze schools, this information will be automatically picked up by the creation of the SRGDG file from October 2009. The SIS 'patch' to pick up this information will be applied in November, and schools will be advised when this happens.

Those schools uploading their SRGDG through an Excel spreadsheet are advised to enter the number of community service hours completed into column BG. The community service completed column remains as column N where you can enter a 'Y' or 'N'. This column will not be used from 2010.

Where a school provides the Council with the actual number of hours completed by students, the statement *X hours of community service has been undertaken in senior secondary schooling* can then be reported on students' statements of results.

For 2009 only:

- schools who have not kept a record of the hours once students had completed the required 20, the 'Y' result (20 hours requirement met) that schools provide to the Council will be converted to the statement *20 hours of community service has been undertaken in senior secondary schooling*.
- for students who have already been given a partial exemption from completing the 20-hour requirement and included the number of hours (e.g. 10), the 'N' result will be converted to the statement *10 hours of community service has been undertaken in senior secondary schooling*.
- If the student has received a previous exemption from community service or has an 'N' result, there will be no statement about community service recorded on their statement of results.

School graduation statistics

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Jenny Offer (08) 9273 6303

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The Curriculum Council annually releases statistics to the media, including the percentage of Year 12 students from each individual school who have graduated in the previous year.

The media's interpretation of what is supplied always receives wide attention.

The population of students used in these statistics is based on the number of full-time Year 12 students enrolled at the school. A full-time Year 12 student is a student who is enrolled in at least four subjects or subject equivalents (credit transfer VET units or competence, endorsed programs and course units).

Therefore, students in their 12th year of school studying a program that will not enable them to meet WACE requirements are not included in the data that is released.

To be included in these statistics, a full-time Year 12 student must:

- have been enrolled in at least 10 D code or E code full-year subjects or their equivalent. At least four of these subjects must be at Year 12 level (E code). However, course units at any stage completed during Year 12 can be counted towards the four subjects at Year 12 level (E code).
- have the opportunity to achieve an average of at least a C in at least eight full-year (or equivalent) Curriculum Council subjects (up to three out of the eight full-year subjects may comprise endorsed programs, including credit transfer VET subject equivalents).
- be enrolled in an E code English subject or two units of an English course during Year 12.

Part-time Year 12 students are not included in this calculation.

Full details of the WACE requirements are available on the Council website at http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/internet/Policy/WACE_Requirements.

Year 11 equivalent studies

Students who completed the equivalent of Year 11 studies at TAFE, interstate or overseas are included in the graduation statistics. Schools should advise the Council, by completing the appropriate form, of students who have completed these studies. The form is available at

http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/internet/Senior_Secondary/Exam_Information.

Students enrolled in Preliminary (P) Stage units

Students enrolled in some P Stage units and at least four subjects or eight course units (Stage 1-3) are considered to be full-time eligible and therefore are included in the graduation statistics.

Students enrolled predominately in P Stage course units and fewer than the minimum number of subject equivalents to calculate the C grade average, are not included in the full-time eligible population. Therefore, they are not included in the graduation statistics.

WACE Year 11 equivalence

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Schools are reminded to complete the appropriate form if they have students who have attained the equivalent of six months' or 12 months' Year 11 studies overseas, interstate or through TAFE.

The form for requesting Year 11 equivalent studies for a Western Australian Certificate of Education (WACE) can be downloaded at

http://www.curriculum.wa.edu.au/internet/Senior_Secondary/Exam_Information.

Students who have completed the equivalent of Year 11 overseas, interstate or through TAFE may achieve a WACE by:

- having completed at least 5 full-year (or equivalent) Curriculum Council subjects
- obtaining an average grade of C or better in at least 4 full-year (or equivalent) Curriculum Council subjects at Year 12 level (E code), and
- meeting the Curriculum Council English language competence requirement.

Students who have received a full year of block credit will also be required to complete two units of an English course and meet the breadth-of-study requirement.

Students who have completed the equivalent of one semester of Year 11 either overseas, interstate or through TAFE may achieve a WACE by:

- having completed at least 7.5 full-year (or equivalent) Curriculum Council subjects;
- obtaining an average grade of C or better in at least 6 full-year (or equivalent) Curriculum Council subjects, four of which are at Year 12 level (E code), and
- meeting the Curriculum Council English language competence requirement.

Students who have received a full semester of block credit will also be required to complete three units from an English course (of which two must be studied in Year 12) and meet the breadth-of-study requirement.