

# 2020 ViSN Online Learning Handbook



# Welcome



Welcome to ViSN, a network of Catholic Education WA (CEWA) secondary schools who work together to deliver online courses to Year 11 and Year 12 students.

ViSN provides students with the opportunity to engage in studies not available at their own school and in doing so, helps them build their technology skills, their ability to work independently and expands their network in the Catholic Education WA (CEWA) system.

Online learning is of particular benefit in transitioning to further study, especially university, where more and more courses are being delivered online.

This handbook outlines the way ViSN works, the benefits of online study and the courses available to study in 2020.

Meredith Roe  
Virtual School Program Manager, CEWA  
[meredith.roe@cewa.edu.au](mailto:meredith.roe@cewa.edu.au)  
0427 697 403



## 2019 ViSN Snapshot

# 130

ViSN course enrolments  
in 2019

# 19

Schools involved in ViSN  
in 2019



# ViSN

Virtual School Network

ViSN is a network of Catholic schools who work together to design and deliver online courses

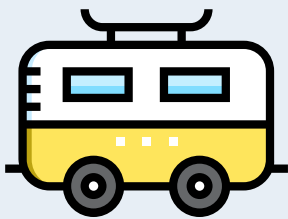
## Why study through ViSN?



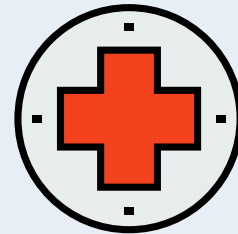
Timetable Clash



Course not available



Travelling with family



Too unwell for school



Away for competitions



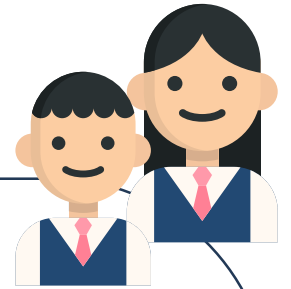
Independent learner

## Online Learner Capabilities

Online learners are capable of:

- ✓ Motivating themselves
- ✓ Working without a teacher in front of them
- ✓ Managing their time
- ✓ Solving problems
- ✓ Using simple technology
- ✓ Organising themselves
- ✓ Meeting deadlines
- ✓ Asking questions when they need help
- ✓ Using teachers feedback to improve their work

## Student Voice



"I find the teachers are always there if you need to ask them anything."



"I'm really enjoying working at my own pace and taking in what I'm learning in a way that is most effective for me."



"ViSN is great as I can have independence with my learning."



"You can spend as much time as you need to on what you deem suitable and appropriate for your own needs."



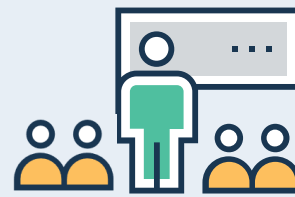
"It's a great way to learn in your own way and to meet your future career needs."

## How does ViSN work?

Students remain enrolled at their own school but register for a ViSN online course, taught by a teacher (usually) in another WA Catholic school.

ViSN courses are compliant with SCSA requirements and can be used towards the calculation of WACE. In other words, they are no different to the courses delivered in a face-to-face classroom. A ViSN course is one of the 5 or 6 courses that are a part of the student's total study program. Someone at your school will check that ViSN will help you meet WACE requirements.

Classmates may be from their own school and/or other Catholic schools around WA.



School A    School B



School C

**5 = 4 + 1**



Students are timetabled by their own school for 5 periods a week for the online course.



Students spend 4 of the 5 lessons working independently or collaboratively online with other students.



Students and the Teacher come together for 1 period a week via Skype.

ViSN teachers are available daily to answer questions, provide feedback, monitor progress and provide assistance.

## Student Access to Learning



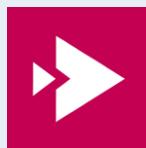
Students and Teachers use a Microsoft product called Teams. It is where they can chat (type and Skype) with their teacher and classmates, access documents, upload assignments for marking and access their course OneNote.



Teachers use a digital notebook called Class Notebook to create their lessons, which students then access on a daily basis. Students work with classmates in the collaborative part of the Class Notebook and independently in their own private section of the Class Notebook. The teacher can see all parts and monitors progress daily.



Forms



Stream



Cloned



Teams



Sway



OneNote





# Support for Students



## **ViSN Teacher**

Only a message, email, Teams Call or phone call away. The first point of call when you need help with your course.



## **School-Based ViSN Mentor**

Available to help you on a daily basis, during school hours. They will also ensure you're progressing as planned.



## **Tech Support**

Your school may have a tech specialist who can help you with ICT issues. If not, the CEWA ICT Service Desk can help.



## **Parents/Guardians**

Your parents/guardians will be able to support you, particularly at home, to ensure you are on track.



## **Online Course Classmates**

Those doing the same online course as you can be a big help if you've got a question or need to clarify something.



# ViSN Teachers

“I love being able to deliver a course to students state-wide who couldn’t do it otherwise. The justice of that appeals to me.”

2019 ViSN Teacher



- Qualified and experienced CEWA teachers.
- Passionate about their learning area and online learning.



- Well trained in the delivery of online learning.
- Based in their own school.



- In regular contact with students and parents.
- Only a phone call, message, email or Teams Call away if you have questions.



## What are the benefits of studying through ViSN?

- Go at your own pace – no holding others up if you don't get the content, no being held back while you wait for others to understand the concept.
- Learning that suits your needs.
- You get to study a course your school may not offer.
- Study with students from other Catholic schools around the state.
- Be better prepared for the transition to university learning as many university courses now deliver a majority of the content online.



## Do the ViSN courses have prerequisites?

Most of the courses have prerequisites, to give you an idea of the level you need to be operating at to be successful in the course. See the course outlines further in this book for details.



## Is there a teacher?

Yes, ViSN teachers are based in their own school but are available to you via Teams message, email, Teams Call or phone. They will let you know when they're available each day to answer your questions and they'll be in regular contact with you each week, to see if you need help or have any questions.



## What does a normal week look like when studying a ViSN course?

You will be timetabled by your own school for 5 periods a week. For 4 of those periods, you work independently and/or with other virtual students doing your course. Your teacher will let you know what has to be completed by the end of each week and in each lesson. The 5<sup>th</sup> period each week will be for you to connect online with your ViSN teacher and all other ViSN students doing the same course.




## Will someone from my own school support me?

Of course! Someone will ensure you arrive at each lesson, take the roll, chat with you about your progress or any concerns you have, help you where they can and make sure you're keeping up with the work. They'll work closely with your ViSN teacher too.




## How do I access my ViSN course?

Once you've registered and been accepted, you will participate in an online orientation program which will outline where you access your courses, where to find your course materials, all about your assessments, how to get help, how to contact your teacher, how to use the software programs etc.



## **Online study is for everyone.**

Some students are better suited to studying online than others. This is because not everyone is a self-motivated, independent studier! With commitment, these skills can be developed. See pages 13 - 14 of this handbook to see what other skills you need to be successful online.




## **I'll be learning on my own.**

This is not the case in ViSN! Our teachers ensure there are plenty of opportunities for you to work online with others in your course. You'll get to know your online class mates well and you'll be able to contact each other too.




## **It will be hard to get hold of my teacher.**

While not in the same school as you, your ViSN teacher is just as accessible as your other teachers. You can contact them anytime during school hours and they'll get back to you within 24 hours (but it's usually within the next hour in reality!)



## **You have to be tech savvy to study online.**

While it helps to have some basic tech understanding, it's not a criteria for being successful online. You'll be shown how Teams and OneNote (our main tools) work during orientation, and your teachers and class mates will help you too.



## **Online classes are second rate, or not as good as face to face classes.**

There is plenty of research from online schools around the world that says otherwise! ViSN is no exception – our data to date says that our students are doing just as well in their ViSN classes, as compared to their face to face classes and in some cases, even better!




## **I won't know my teacher.**

You'll get to know your teacher really well, perhaps even better than some of your face to face teachers! You'll get a chance to meet them in person at ViSN Camp and they are super-skilled at developing positive connections with their students in the online environment.



## **The technology won't work.**

Catholic Education WA (CEWA) has done a lot of work to ensure that all students (online or not) have improved internet access. There are times when things don't go according to plan but don't let internet connection stop you – there's always a plan B in place! In addition to internet access at home and at school, you'll need access to a laptop or desktop computer (yes, you need to do work at home, just like your other courses!)



## **You can't study this course online.**

Most of SCSA courses can be taught online, or we wouldn't be offering it! The ViSN teachers go through a year of training before they start teaching you online so they know all the clever ways to create engaging online lessons for you



## **My parents won't know my teacher.**

Your parents will have plenty of opportunities to meet your ViSN teacher, via email, Teams calls, Parent/Teacher/Student meetings online and the phone. ViSN teachers will contact your parents at the start of the year and share their contact details, so your parents are welcome to contact them at any time...just like in your face to face school.



## **No one will be there to check on me.**

You are going to have plenty of support while you study online. Your school will appoint a staff member as the ViSN mentor and they are your school-based support, ensuring you're on track, that your technology is working, that you're handing in assessments on time, that you don't need any help with content etc. In addition, your ViSN teachers are only a message away and are always keen to help. Your teacher will check your work daily and provide feedback, and your mentor will check on you regularly too.



# Are You Ready to Study Online? (Part 1)

Student Readiness	Technology Skills	Work and Study Habits	Learning Style	Technology / Connectivity
Less Ready 1	Student has little, if any, experience using a computer or the Internet, and has minimal desire to develop more skills in this area.	Student often needs reminders to complete routine assignments, often turns homework in late and has very limited independent study habits.	Student is not a self directed learner and often requires real time feedback from teachers regarding basic directions and follow-up support.	Student does not have consistent access to a computer and a reliable connection to the Internet at home and at school.
2	Student has limited experience using a computer and the Internet, and has expressed a strong interest in developing more skills in this area.	Student sometimes needs reminders and assistance in completing routine assignments and has demonstrated an improvement in independent study habits.	Student is beginning to demonstrate a behaviour of self-directed learning and sometimes requires real-time feedback from teachers regarding basic directions and follow up support.	Student has limited access to a computer with low-speed Internet service at school and at home.
3	Student has strong computer skills and more than adequate experience using a word processor, email application and web browser.	Student rarely needs reminders or assistance in completing routine assignments and has demonstrated good independent study habits.	In general, the student is self-directed and does not require real time feedback from teachers regarding basic directions and follow-up support.	Student has consistent access to a computer with moderate-speed Internet service at home and at school.
More Ready 4	Student has excellent computer skills and significant experience using a word processor, email application and web browser, and is comfortable downloading information from the Internet and using other technology tools and applications.	Student does not need reminders or assistance in completing routine assignments, usually finishes homework ahead of time and has successfully completed an independent study experience or taken an online course.	Student is a self directed learner and demonstrates a high level of comfort and skill in learning new material without requiring real-time feedback from teachers regarding basic directions and follow up support, and deals well with ambiguity.	Student has daily access to a computer with high-speed Internet service at home and at a convenient location in the school building before, during and after regular school hours.



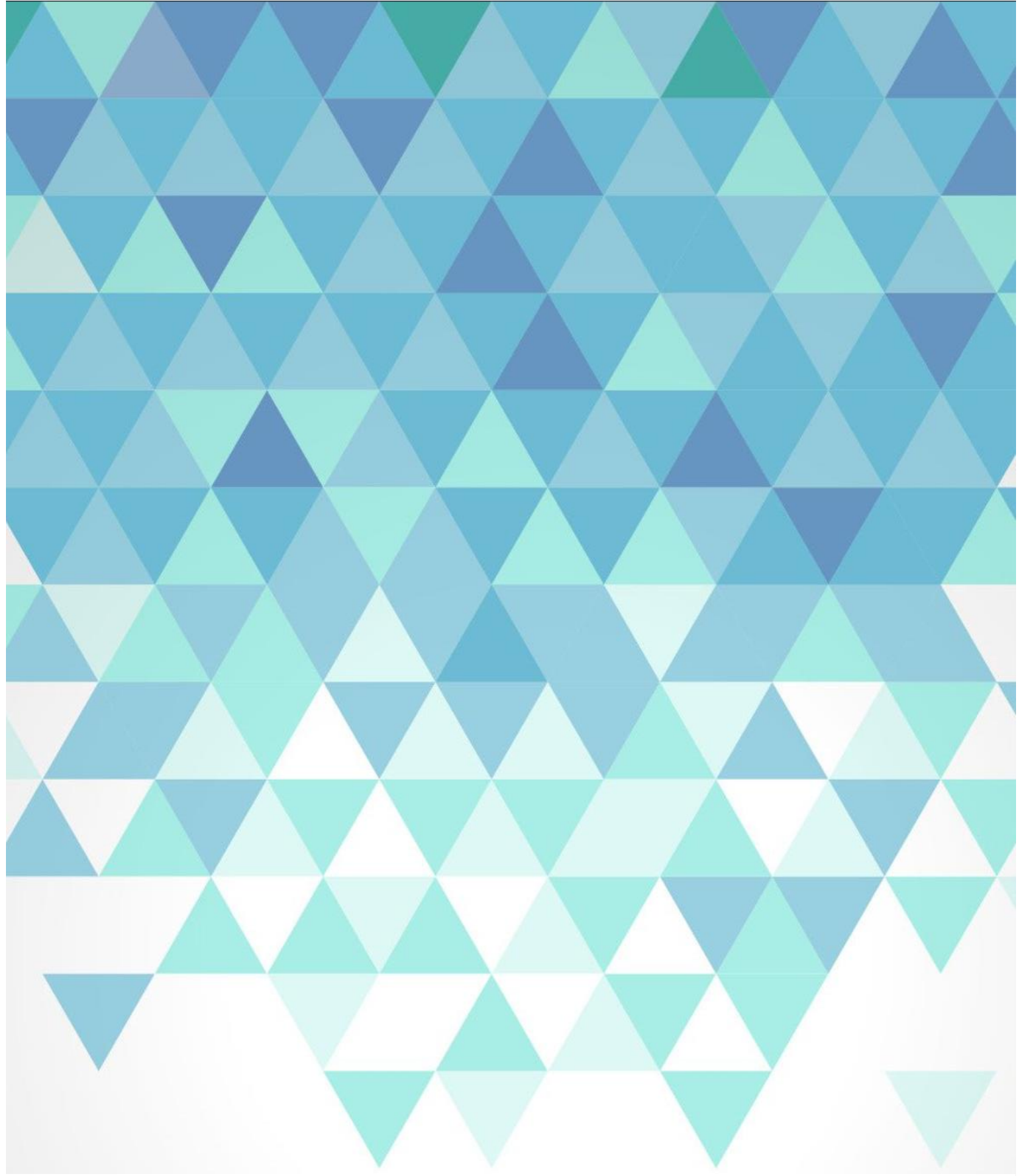
# Are You Ready to Study Online? (Part 2)

Student Readiness	Time Management	Interest / Motivation	Reading / Writing Skills	Support Services
Less Ready 1	Student does not manage his or her time effectively in doing research, basic studies and preparing for tests or quizzes.	Student has little or no interest in the content area of the online course offering and has a negative or unrealistic attitude toward online learning.	Student is reading below grade level and has experienced difficulty with routine writing assignments.	In general, parents and school personnel do not actively support online learning and are unable or unwilling to provide support assistance.
2	Student is beginning to demonstrate effective time management skills in doing research, basic studies and preparing for tests or quizzes.	Student interest in content area of the online course offering, but has expressed concerns about enrolling in an online course or has an unrealistic attitude toward online learning.	Student is reading at grade level and has demonstrated limited proficiency with writing assignments.	Student support system is limited, parents and school personnel are somewhat supportive of enrolment in online courses.
3	Student has demonstrated effective time management skills in doing research, basic studies and preparing for tests or quizzes.	Student has an interest in the content area of the online course offering, and has a positive and realistic attitude toward online learning.	Student is reading at or above grade level and has demonstrated success with a variety of writing assignments.	Student has open access to school based mentoring/ counselling service and parental support.
More Ready 4	Student has demonstrated outstanding time management skills while participating in a variety of clubs, student organizations, sports and work activities.	Student has a strong interest in the content area of the online course offering, is highly motivated to enrol in an online course and has a positive and realistic attitude toward online learning.	Student is reading above grade level, has strong reading comprehension skills and has demonstrated success with complex writing assignments.	Student has access to school-based mentoring/counselling services, parental support is strong and school has adopted policies and identified best practices to support students as online learners.



## What next?

- 1. ViSN Handbook**  
Make sure you've read the ViSN handbook so you know what to expect. This includes ViSN and course information.
- 2. Speak to the ViSN contact in your school**  
Chat to this person about your desire to study a ViSN course. Ask a Deputy who the ViSN contact person is.
- 3. ViSN Interview**  
All students new to ViSN are required to have an interview with a school based person, to determine online suitability .
- 4. ViSN Student Orientation**  
Upon acceptance into the ViSN course, students are sent a link to the online ViSN Student Orientation (in Term 4).
- 5. Start your ViSN course**  
Students will get an email with a link to the course, with pre-start lessons for you to do while checking it all works!



**ViSN**  
Virtual School Network

# 2020 ViSN Course Offerings





# 2020 ViSN Delivery Schools



The following Catholic Education WA (CEWA) schools are supporting equitable access to quality online education by delivering a course in 2020:

Aranmore Catholic College	Leederville
Bunbury Catholic College	Bunbury
Emmanuel Catholic College	Success
Holy Cross College	Ellenbrook
Irene McCormack Catholic College	Butler
John Paul College	Kalgoorlie
John XXIII College	Mount Claremont
Kearnan College	Manjimup
La Salle College	Middle Swan
Mackillop Catholic College	Busselton
Mandurah Catholic College	Mandurah
Mater Dei College	Edgewater
Mercy College	Koondoola
Nagle Catholic College	Geraldton
Sacred Heart College	Sorrento
St Mary's College	Broome
St Norbert College	Queens Park

*ViSN course enrolments are open to all CEWA schools and their students.*

# 2020 ViSN Offerings



Year 11 2020	Year 12 2020
Biology	Biology
Certificate III Business (VET)	Certificate III Business (VET)*
Chemistry	Earth and Environmental Science
Curtin UniReady (Endorsed Program)	Economics
Design (Graphic Design)	Geography
Earth and Environmental Science	Health Studies
English	Human Biology
Economics	Maths Specialist
Geography	Modern History
Health Studies	Politics and Law
Human Biology	
Italian: Second Language	
Maths Specialist	
Modern History	

\* This course is only available to students who commenced the qualification in Year 11.

All courses are ATAR unless otherwise noted.

# BIOLOGY

## 11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1 – Ecosystems and biodiversity

Students examine movement of energy and matter in ecosystems, ecosystem dynamics, abiotic factors, population numbers, species diversity, species interactions as well as biodiversity at all levels.

#### Unit 2 – Single cells & multicellular organisms

Students investigate the interdependent components of the cell system and the multiple interacting systems in multicellular organisms. Photosynthesis and respiration, and the role of enzymes in controlling biochemical systems is also examined.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in a Year 10 Science course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/10405/Biology-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATARGD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/10405/Biology-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATARGD.pdf)

### Student Voice



“Biology will prepare me for what I want to do in my future. Personally I love Biology, all of the content really taps into my main interests.”

## BIOLOGY

### 12 ATAR

#### Course Content



##### Unit 3 – Continuity of species

Students investigate mechanisms of heredity and the ways in which inheritance patterns can be explained, modelled and predicted; they connect these patterns to population dynamics and apply the theory of evolution by natural selection in order to examine changes in populations

##### Unit 4 –Surviving in a changing environment

Students investigate system change and continuity in response to changing external conditions and pathogens. They examine homeostasis, infectious disease and its spread of at the population level.

#### Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Biology.

At the school's discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to ViSN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

#### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

#### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0006/10410/Biology-Y12-Syllabus-ACATAR.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0006/10410/Biology-Y12-Syllabus-ACATAR.pdf)

#### Student Voice



"I am enjoying doing ViSN Biology as I have the opportunity to do a course that I would not be able to do normally."

## Certificate III Business 11 VET, cont'. Y12

### Course Content



Students will complete 12 units of competency that will allow them to run their own small business venture in Term 3.

#### Units of Competency:

- Contribute to health and safety of others
- Communicate in the workplace
- Work effectively in a business environment
- Organise and complete daily work activities
- Produce digital text documents
- Create and use spreadsheets
- Use digital technologies to communicate remotely
- Participate in environmentally sustainable work practices
- Deliver a service to customers
- Process and maintain workplace information
- Deliver and monitor a service to customers
- Organise personal work priorities and development.

### Prerequisite



No prerequisite.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



The course levy is \$30.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



<https://training.gov.au/Training/Details/BSB30115#>

### Student Voice



"I get to complete work that has a real world application."

# CHEMISTRY

## 11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1 – Chemical fundamentals

Students use models of atomic structure and bonding to explain the macroscopic properties of materials. Energy changes associated with chemical reactions and the use of chemical equations are also examined.

#### Unit 2 –Molecular interactions and reactions

Students examine bonding models and the associated relationships, including the rate of chemical reactions. Unique properties of water acids and bases, and the use of chemical equations are also studied.

### Prerequisite



SCSA A grade in Year 10 Science and Maths.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA B grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/10603/Chemistry-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATARGD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/10603/Chemistry-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATARGD.pdf)

### Student Voice



“Chemistry is really interesting – I can see it’s application to life after school.”

**DESIGN  
(GRAPHIC  
DESIGN)**  
11 ATAR

Course Content



**Unit 1 – Product Design**

Students learn that the commercial world is comprised of companies, requiring consumer products, services and brands for a particular audience.

**Unit 2 – Cultural Design**

Students learn that society is made up of different groups of people who share diverse values, attitudes, beliefs, behaviour and needs; and that different forms of visual communication transmit these values and beliefs.

This course may include elements of digital media, interactive media, graphics technology, and visual communication.

Prerequisite



There are no prerequisites for this course but an aptitude for technology is recommended.

Students new to VISN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

Course Levy



The course levy is \$30.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the VISN booklist.*

Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/9214/Design-Y11-Syllabus-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/9214/Design-Y11-Syllabus-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf)

Student Voice



“I’ve really enjoyed learning new tech skills and being in a course that allows me to be creative.”

## EARTH & ENVIRON- MENTAL SCIENCE 11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1 – Earth systems

Students explore the understanding of Earth's formation, its structure and the processes that formed the oceans and atmosphere. They review significance of water at Earth's surface and the environments influenced by water, in particular, the oceans, ice sheets and groundwater.

#### Unit 2 –Earth processes

Students explore how the transfer and transformation of energy from the sun and Earth's interior impact processes within and between the geosphere, atmosphere, hydrosphere and biosphere.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in a Year 10 Science course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0009/141210/Earth-and-Environmental-Science-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD\\_pdf.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0009/141210/Earth-and-Environmental-Science-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD_pdf.pdf)

### Student Voice



"EES is interesting and I find the content very enjoyable the way it's delivered as a recorded lesson."



# EARTH & ENVIRON- MENTAL SCIENCE

12 ATAR

## Course Content



### Unit 3

Students examine non-renewable and renewable resources and review exploration, managed extraction and the availability of each. They learn about ecosystem services and how natural and anthropogenic changes of the biosphere, hydrosphere, atmosphere and geosphere influence resource availability and sustainability.

### Unit 4

Students examine Earth hazards, including volcanic eruptions, earthquakes and tsunamis over a range of geological timescales. They investigate the frequency, prediction, development of mitigation strategies and the local, regional, and global risks of each.

## Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Earth and Environmental Science.

At the school's discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to ViSN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

## Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

## Syllabus Link



<https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/syllabus-and-support-materials/science/earth-and-environmental-science>

## Student Voice



"I love learning about the earth and all it's processes, and examining all the different parts of the earths structure. There's lots of variety"

## ECONOMICS

11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1 - Microeconomics

Students explore the role of the market in determining the wellbeing of individuals and society. Students explore the workings of real world markets with an emphasis on the Australian economy.

#### Unit 2 - Macroeconomics

This is an introduction to macroeconomics and explores economic growth, inflation and unemployment with an emphasis on the Australian economy.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in a Year 10 HASS course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0013/10057/Economics-Y11-Syllabus-ATAR-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0013/10057/Economics-Y11-Syllabus-ATAR-GD.pdf)

### Student Voice



"It was good to learn more about the economy and how it impacts on me, my family and friends."

# ECONOMICS

## 12 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 3 – Australia and the global economy

The unit explores the linkages between economies and the concepts of globalisation, trade liberalisation and protection in relation to the Australian economy.

#### Unit 4 – Economic policies and management

The unit explores how economic policies and actions, such as fiscal policy, monetary policy and microeconomic policy operate in the pursuit of the Australian Government's economic objectives.

### Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Economics.

At the school's discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to ViSN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/10060/Economics-Y12-Syllabus-ATAR-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/10060/Economics-Y12-Syllabus-ATAR-GD.pdf)

### Student Voice



"The global context of our learning in Year 12 economics has been interesting. I also enjoyed discovering how the government impacts on a country's economy."

## ENGLISH

### 11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1

Students explore how meaning is communicated through the relationships between language, text, purpose, context and audience. Students focus on the similarities and differences between texts and how visual elements create meaning.

#### Unit 2

Students analyse the representation of ideas, attitudes and voices in texts. Through the creation of their own texts, students are encouraged to reflect on their language choices and consider why they have represented ideas in particular ways.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in Year 10 English.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0019/343234/English-Year-11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/343234/English-Year-11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf)

### Student Voice



"I really enjoyed the opportunity to create my own resource and learnt so much through the process. I was really proud of my final product."

## GEOGRAPHY

11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1 - Natural and ecological hazards

Students explore the management of hazards and the risk they pose to people and environments, including preparedness, mitigation and/or prevention.

#### Unit 2 - Global networks and interconnections

Students explore the economic and cultural transformations taking place in the world – the spatial outcomes of these processes and their social and geopolitical consequences – that will enable them to better understand the dynamic nature of the world in which they live.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in a Year 10 HASS course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



The course levy is \$20.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0005/10121/Geography-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD\\_pdf.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0005/10121/Geography-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD_pdf.pdf)

### Student Voice



"I love the course as the content is so practical and applicable to everyday life. To me, Geography is the study of our world and I love that."

# GEOGRAPHY

## 12 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 3 – Global environmental change

Students will assess the impacts of land cover transformations with particular reference to climate change or biodiversity loss.

#### Unit 4 – Planning sustainable places

Students will investigate how the outcomes of processes vary depending on local responses and adaptations, for example, population growth and decline, and economic restructuring. Students also examine the causes and consequences of urbanisation as well as challenges that exist in metropolitan and regional centres and megacities.

### Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Geography.

At the school's discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to ViSN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

### Course Levy



The course levy is \$20.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0007/10123/Geography-Y12-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-GD-june.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0007/10123/Geography-Y12-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-GD-june.pdf)

### Student Voice



"I've enjoyed being able to learn about things that I can see in real life and then know why it's like it is."

## HEALTH STUDIES 11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1

Students focus on the health of individuals and communities. Students learn about health determinants and their impact on health. Health promotion and ways to improve health are explored.

#### Unit 2

Students examine the impact of factors influencing the health of communities. Students learn about community development and how community participation can improve health outcomes.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in Year 10 English.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/9953/Health-Studies-Y11-Syllabus-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/9953/Health-Studies-Y11-Syllabus-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf)

### Student Voice



"This was my favourite course this year! I found it was really applicable to real life and it also connected well some of my other courses."

## HEALTH STUDIES 12 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 3

Students focus on the health of specific populations and reasons why some groups do not enjoy the same level of health as the general population. Students learn why this happens and how wellbeing can be improved.

#### Unit 4

Students study local, regional and global challenges to health. Students examine the impact of determinants on global health inequities and explore approaches to address barriers preventing groups from experiencing better health.

### Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Health Studies.

At the school's discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to VISN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

### Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the VISN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/9955/Health-Studies-Y12-Syllabus-ATAR-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/9955/Health-Studies-Y12-Syllabus-ATAR-GD.pdf)

### Student Voice



“Health Studies was really interesting and I particularly liked learning about why some populations are healthier than others.”



# HUMAN BIOLOGY

11 ATAR

## Course Content



### Unit 1 – The functioning human body

Learn how the structure and function of body systems, and the interrelationships between systems, support metabolism and body functioning.

### Unit 2 – Reproduction and inheritance

Learn about the reproductive systems of males and females, the transfer of genetic material from generation to generation, and the effects of the environment on our genetic makeup.

## Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in a Year 10 Science course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

## Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

## Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0008/11015/Human-Biology-Y11-Syllabus-ATARGD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0008/11015/Human-Biology-Y11-Syllabus-ATARGD.pdf)

## Student Voice



“Without the aid of ViSN, my passion and desire to study human biology wouldn't be possible. I look forward to my lessons each day and strongly believe it has given me the ability to fulfill high academic achievement.”

# HUMAN BIOLOGY

12 ATAR

## Course Content



### Unit 3 – Homeostasis and disease

This unit explores the various body systems and the mechanisms that help maintain the systems of the body to function within normal range. It also investigates the body's immune responses to invading pathogens (disease and infection).

### Unit 4 – Human Variation and Evolution

This unit explores the variations in humans in their changing environment and evolutionary trends in hominids. It will also examine the impact of gene pools on evolution.

## Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Human Biology.

At the school's discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to VISN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

## Course Levy



The course levy is \$40.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the VISN booklist.*

## Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0010/11017/Human-Biology-Y12-SyllabusATAR.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0010/11017/Human-Biology-Y12-SyllabusATAR.pdf)

## Student Voice



"I am fascinated by the way our body works! This course also worked well with some of my other courses, like Health Studies. I'd recommend it to anyone."

## ITALIAN: Second Language 11 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 1 – Relationships

Through the three topics: Family, friend and school relationships, Traditions, events and celebrations, and Communicating in a modern world, students further develop their communication skills in Italian and gain a broader insight into the language and culture.

#### Unit 2 – Travel, Let's Go!

Through the four topics: My holiday tales and plans, Destination Italy, Destination Australia, and Travel in a modern world, students extend their communication skills in Italian and gain a broader insight into the language and culture.

### Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in Year 10 Italian.

Students new to ViSN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

Schools must also meet the SCSA deadline and complete the paperwork, for permission to enrol students in a language.

### Course Levy



The course levy is \$40.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



<https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/syllabus-and-support-materials/languages/italian-second-language>

### Student Voice



“I love learning another language and I’m confident that it will help me in life after school.”

# MATHS SPECIALIST 11 ATAR

## Course Content



### Unit 1

Unit 1 of the Mathematics Specialist ATAR course contains three topics:

- Combinatorics
- Vectors in the plane
- Geometry

### Unit 2

Unit 2 of the Mathematics Specialist ATAR course contains three topics:

- Trigonometry
- Matrices
- Real and complex numbers.

## Prerequisite



SCSA A grade in the top level Year 10 Maths course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA B grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

## Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

## Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0003/141474/Mathematics-Specialist-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD\\_pdf.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0003/141474/Mathematics-Specialist-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD_pdf.pdf)

## Student Voice



“Maths Specialist has been a good challenge and I've enjoyed expanding on some key concepts from earlier Maths courses.”

## MATHS SPECIALIST 12 ATAR

### Course Content



#### Unit 3

This unit contains the three topics:

- Complex numbers
- Functions and sketching graphs
- Vectors in three dimensions

#### Unit 4

This unit contains the three topics:

- Integration and applications of integration
- Rates of change and differential equations
- Statistical inference

### Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Maths Specialist.

Students new to VISN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

### Course Levy



The course levy is \$22.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the VISN booklist.*

### Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0012/10740/Mathematics-Specialist-Y12-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0012/10740/Mathematics-Specialist-Y12-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-GD.pdf)

### Student Voice



“This course has set me up well for future uni studies. I’ve been appropriately challenged and have enjoyed the work.”

# MODERN HISTORY

11 ATAR

## Course Content



### Unit 1 – Understanding the modern world

This unit provides an introduction to significant developments in the modern period that have defined the modern world, and the ideas that underpinned them, such as liberty, equality and fraternity.

### Unit 2 – Movements for change (20<sup>th</sup> century)

This unit examines significant movements for change in the 20th century that led to change in society, including people's attitudes and circumstances.

## Prerequisite



SCSA B grade in a Year 10 HASS course.

At the school's discretion, a SCSA C grade may be acceptable.

All students are interviewed by their school to determine suitability to undertake online studies.

## Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

## Syllabus Link



[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0014/10292/Modern-History-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0014/10292/Modern-History-Y11-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-2016-GD.pdf)

## Student Voice



“Modern History has been fascinating and I was surprised to learn about the significant impact of the past on our current world.”

# MODERN HISTORY

12 ATAR

## Course Content



### Unit 3 – Modern nations in the 20th century

This unit examines the ‘nation’ as the principal form of political organisation in the modern world; the crises that confronted nations in the 20th century; their responses to these crises, and the different paths they have taken to fulfil their goals.

### Unit 4 – The modern world since 1945

This unit focuses on the distinctive features of the modern world that emerged in the period 1945–2001. It builds students’ understanding of the contemporary world – that is, why we are here at this point in time.

## Prerequisite



Successful completion of Year 11 Modern History.

At the school’s discretion, a student may be permitted to do this course without having done the Year 11 equivalent.

Students new to VISN courses will be interviewed to determine their suitability for online learning.

## Course Levy



There is no course levy for this course.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the VISN booklist.*

## Syllabus Link

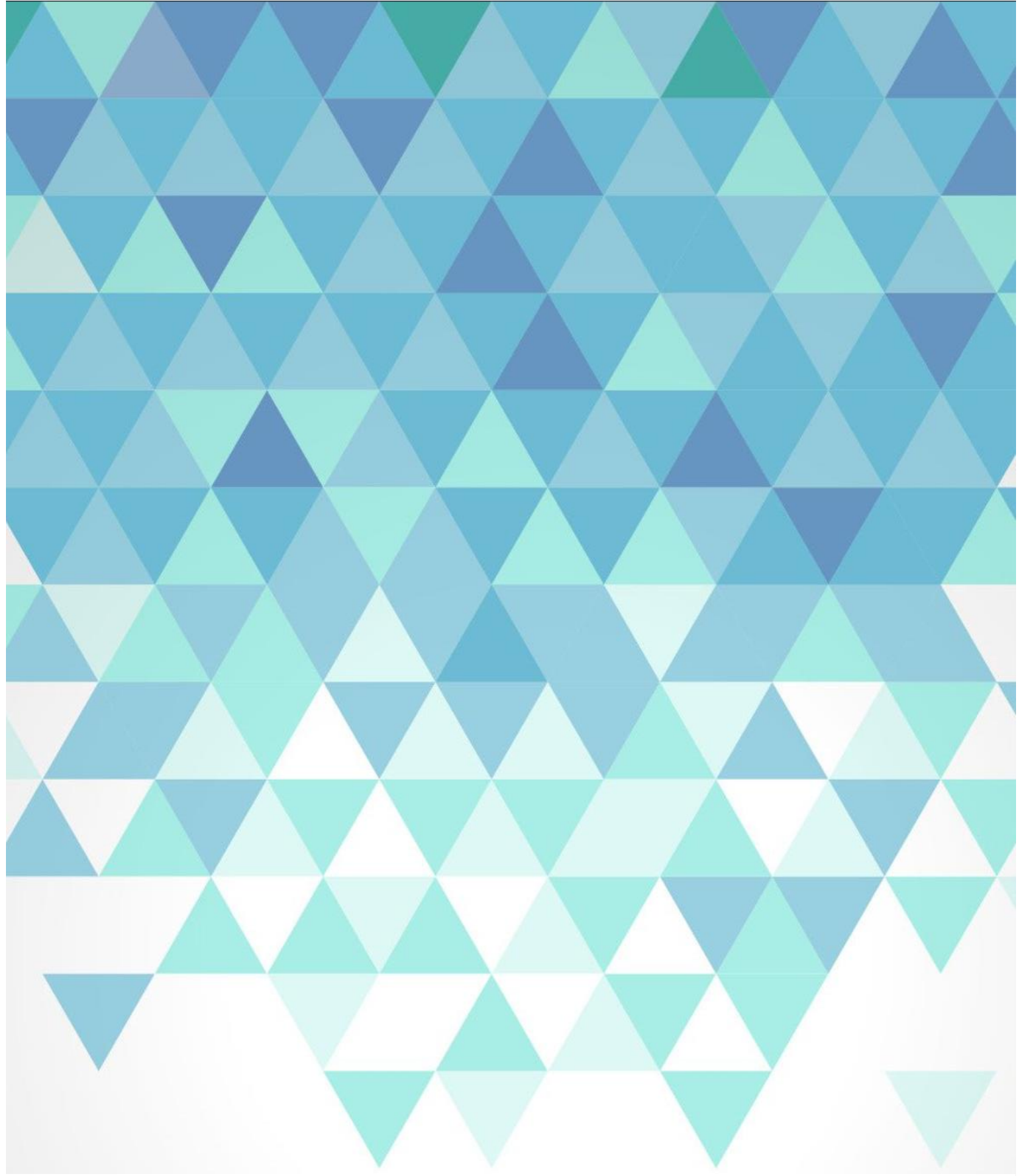


[https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/\\_data/assets/pdf\\_file/0016/10294/Modern-History-Y12-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-GD.pdf](https://senior-secondary.scsa.wa.edu.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0016/10294/Modern-History-Y12-Syllabus-AC-ATAR-GD.pdf)

## Student Voice



“It’s been fascinating to find out how decisions made in history have impacted on life today.”



CATHOLIC  
EDUCATION  
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

**ViSN**  
Virtual School Network

## 2020 Curtin UniReady ViSN Course Offerings



# Curtin UniReady

UniReady is an 'alternate entry to university', run by Curtin University. Students complete 4 units over Year 11 and Year 12 and upon successful completion of these units, are awarded an ATAR of 70. This ranking can then be used to gain entry to [particular courses](#) at Curtin University.

Students may only commence this course as a Year 11 student. Each unit below is taught by a school-based ViSN teacher, in line with Curtin University standards for delivery. As such, students considering this option should understand that they would be undertaking a university level course and will be assessed according to university standards.

## Course Structure

In the first year, Year 11 students complete 2 core (compulsory) units:

Fundamentals of Academic Writing  
Foundations of Communication.

See pages 44 - 45 for more details on each unit.

In the second year, Year 12 students select 2 elective units from:

Introduction to Health Sciences	Introduction to Commerce
Introduction to Humanities	Applying Mathematics

See page 46 for more details on each unit.

## SCSA Endorsed Program

The Curtin UniReady program has been endorsed by SCSA. Please refer to the SCSA website for [more information](#) on the use of this course for meeting WACE requirements.



# Competitive Course Information

## Student Application

The ViSN Curtin UniReady course is classified as a competitive one, meaning there are more students who apply than there are places available. To remain fair and equitable, limitations and special information for applications have been put in place.



### School Enrolment Caps

Schools may submit as many applications as they wish, but will be asked to rank their students. A maximum of 4 students per school will be selected.



### Student Suitability

Schools are responsible for ensuring students on their ranked list meet the suitability criteria. Evidence of this will be required during the application process (see page 42).



### Application Process

Application is via the normal online ViSN enrolment form, that must be completed by a school representative, during an interview with the parent and student.



### Prerequisites

Students must be studying ATAR English for the duration of the 4 units. Enrolment in ATAR English is the school's responsibility. ATAR English is offered through ViSN.

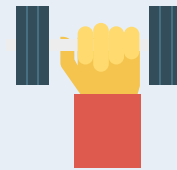
## ViSN Curtin UniReady Students...



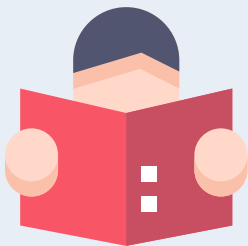
Have clear aspirations  
to go to university



Are enrolled in Year  
11 ATAR English



Are resilient and can  
'bounce back' from  
adversity



Are self motivated  
and independent  
learners



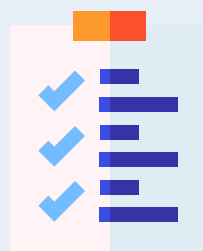
Show consistent  
effort and persistence



Listen to and act on  
teacher feedback for  
improvement



Often do well in class  
assessments but may  
not do well in exams



Are dedicated,  
hardworking and take  
ownership of their  
learning



Have a plan for what  
they'd like to study in  
the future

## Foundations of Communication Endorsed Program (Core unit, Y11)

### Unit Content



The focus of this unit is communication, specifically, looking at different ways of communicating information for different audiences and purposes.

Students will learn about email etiquette, group work, infographics, blogging, online communication and public speaking.

### Assessments



Assessments in this unit include course assignments and other assessments. There is no exam for this unit.

### Prerequisite



Students must be studying ATAR English for the duration of the Curtin UniReady program (all 4 units).

### Unit Levy



The course levy for this unit is \$75 per student.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Student Voice



"It's a good experience and helps you think things through and understand where you want to go next."

## Fundamentals of Academic Writing Endorsed Program (Core unit, Y11)

### Unit Content



The focus of this unit is learning about the skills needed to be able to write successfully at university level. Students will also gain a strong understanding of university protocols.

Content of this unit includes reading critically, plagiarism, academic integrity, paraphrasing and referencing, all in the context of developing essay writing skills.

### Assessments



Assessments in this unit include course based assignments and assessments. This unit includes an exam.

### Prerequisite



Students must be studying ATAR English for the duration of the Curtin UniReady program (all 4 units).

### Unit Levy



The course levy for this unit is \$75 per student.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

### Student Voice



“I feel like UniReady eased me into university life, a world unknown, in a way where I felt like I made the right decision for my career.”



**For Year 12, students will select 2 of the units below. More detail will be provided prior to enrolment.**

### **Introduction to Humanities**

This unit explores the interrelationships of people with and within systems. Students will explore themes related to society, culture, environment and technology and their reciprocal impacts. The unit seeks to develop students understanding of self as part of diverse and complex systems viewed

### **Introduction to Commerce**

This unit will provide an introduction to the fundamentals of economics, marketing, law, and accounting principles. The unit will focus on the basic concepts and techniques in accounting that apply to business; law with a business context; as well as giving attention to the basic principles relating to economics. Students will be shown how to apply basic economic, marketing, legal and accounting concepts to practical situations therefore shedding light on key commercial operations.

### **Introduction to Health Sciences**

This unit will provide students with a basic understanding of some of the human anatomy and physiology components of an undergraduate Health Sciences program. This includes an overview of the structure and function of human anatomy and physiology, focused on musculo-skeletal, cardiovascular, respiratory, nervous, digestive, endocrine and immune systems. Human cell biology and homeostasis will also be investigated.

### **Applying Mathematics**

This unit aims to develop a core set of numeracy skills that will aid students in further study - particularly in Health Sciences and Business. Students will be introduced to a variety of mathematical concepts from basic numerical to statistical to financial, and to their real-life applications in Health Sciences and Business. The unit begins with numeracy skills before moving on to cover univariate statistics, bivariate statistics, algebra and functions.



**CURTIN**  
**UNIREADY**  
12 Elective  
Units

# CURTIN UNIREADY 12 Elective Units

## Prerequisite



Students must be studying ATAR English for the duration of the Curtin UniReady program (all 4 units).

## Unit Levy



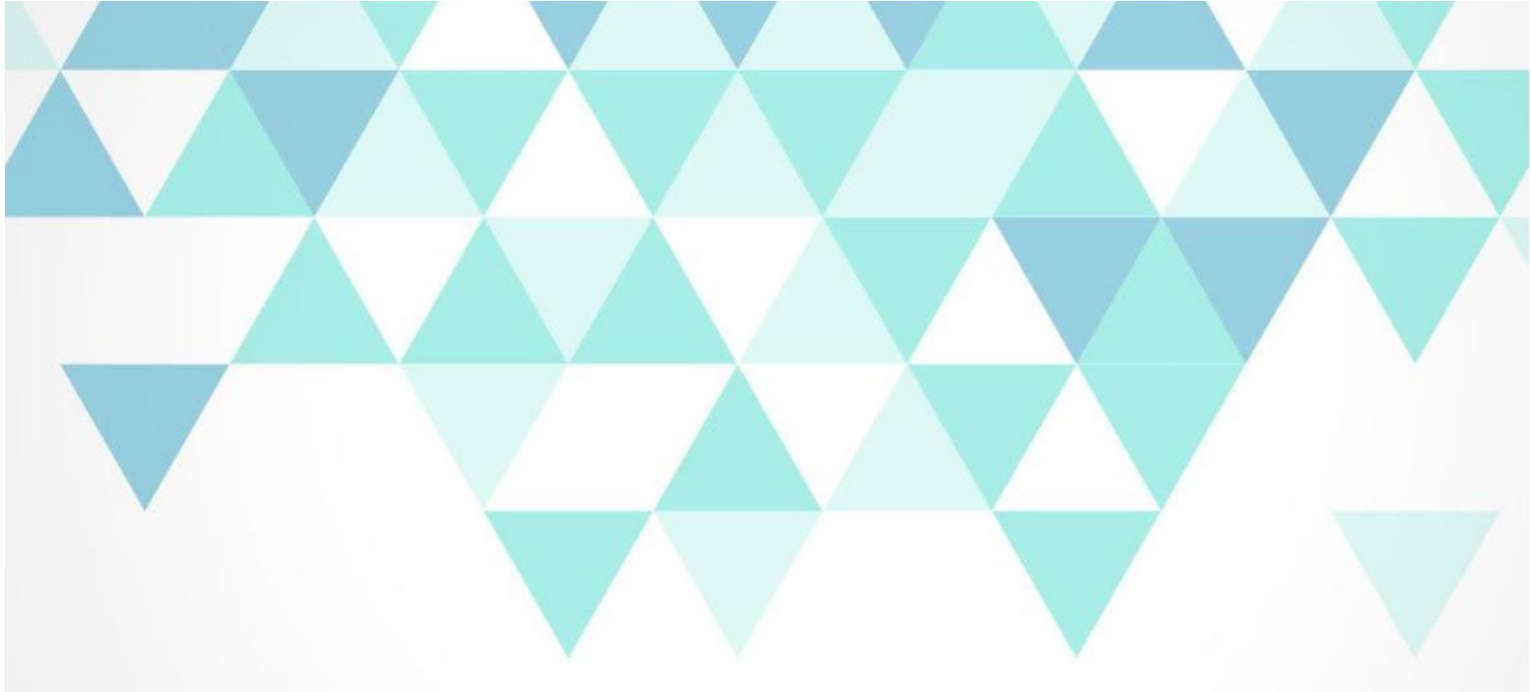
The course levy for each of the above units is \$75 per student.

*The course levies are correct at time of publishing but are subject to change. Final levies will be published in the ViSN booklist.*

## Student Voice



"I now study a double degree in disciplines I am passionate about, and mentor new UniReady students, too."



**ViSN**  
**Virtual School Network**